

Minutes of the Meeting of Knowlton Parish Council
12th April 2023 at 7pm
Horton & Chalbury Hall

Item	
384	<p>Attendance & Apologies</p> <p>CLlr Trevor Brown CLlr Steve Butler (Chairman) CLlr Nicky Sherwood CLlr Linda Stocks Mrs Lisa Goodwin (Clerk) CLlr Robin Cook – Dorset Councillor Stour & Allen Vale Ward (Horton & Chalbury) CLlr David Tooke – Dorset Councillor Cranborne & Alderholt Ward (Woodlands & Wimborne St Giles)</p> <p>Apologies received from:</p> <p>CLlr Rupert Andrews CLlr Morgan Antell (Vice Chairman) CLlr Caroline Barnes CLlr Anthony (Sam) Keet CLlr Jerry Laker Mr Ian Potentier</p>
385	<p>Co-option to fill vacancy for Councillor for Horton</p> <p>Members have considered the application to fill the vacancy for Horton. It was proposed by CLlr Steve Butler, seconded by CLlr Trevor Brown and resolved unanimously to co-opt Mr Ian Potentier.</p>
386	<p>Public Open Session</p> <p>None present.</p>
387	<p>Declarations of Interest & Grants for Dispensation</p> <p>None.</p>
388	<p>Confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 8th March 2023</p> <p>It was resolved unanimously that the minutes, having been circulated to members prior to the meeting, are confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p>
389	<p>Accept the Minutes of the Knowlton Parish Community Benefit Fund Committee Meeting held 24th March 2023.</p> <p>Members accepted the minutes of the meeting and authorised the Clerk to make the approved grant payment of £200.00 to Shaftesbury Estate to restore the historic village sign.</p>

390	<p>Matters Arising from the Annual Meeting of Electors</p> <p>There were no matters arising to report.</p>
391	<p>Dorset Councillors Reports</p> <p><u>Cllr Robin Cook – Dorset Councillor Stour & Allen Vale Ward (Horton & Chalbury)</u></p> <p>Please see Appendix A of these minutes.</p> <p><u>Cllr David Tooke – Dorset Councillor Cranborne & Alderholt Ward (Woodlands & Wimborne St Giles)</u></p> <p>Please see Appendix B of these minutes.</p>
392	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Clerk has contacted English Heritage to advise there has been a report of dog poo on the slopes of Knowlton Church and suggest additional signage to remind visitors to clear up after their dogs. <i>This request has been acknowledged.</i> • The Clerk has forwarded a query from a resident regarding parking on either side of this narrow road for events at Knowlton Church impeding access for residents to their properties, to Cllr David Tooke as this is a Dorset Council highways matter. • The Blandford Neighbourhood Plan Review Consultation is open from Friday 14th April to 26th May 2023. • NALC will be responding to the DLUHC Consultation on the new infrastructure levy and members are invited to comment on their response by 19 May 2023. • NALC will be responding to the DLHUC consultation on permitted development rights and members were invited to comment on the draft by 6th April 2023. • Members invited to attend Community Meeting this evening at Wimborne St Giles Village Hall regarding the We Out Here Festival. <i>Cllrs J Laker, Caroline Barnes and Morgan Antell attending.</i> • Members were invited to join the Dorset Climate Change meeting on 13 March 2023.
393	<p>Planning Applications & Matters</p> <p>P/HOU/2023/00536 HEDGEROW, VERWOOD ROAD, WOODLANDS, BH21 8LJ Proposal: Raise the ridge height to form new habitable accommodation on the first floor with dormer windows and Juliette balcony and single storey rear extension and side extension to form annexe. Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p>P/PAAC/2023/01956 SUTTON FARM, SUTTON, BH21 8NQ Proposal: Convert barns into one residential dwelling. This is not a planning application but a request for the council to determine whether or not prior approval is required for the proposal. <i>Noted.</i></p> <p>P/FUL/2022/03829 LAND AT VERWOOD ROAD, WOODLANDS, BH21 8LS Notification of Appeal against the refusal by Dorset Council to erect two dwellings with new vehicular access and associated car parking. Further representations can be made to the Planning Inspectorate by 3rd May 2023.</p>

	<p>Members have been invited by Cranborne & Edmondsham Parish Council to prepare a joint response with neighbouring parishes to Dorset Council highlighting the issues the Alderholt Meadows development of 1700 homes will have on the surrounding parishes.</p> <p>Members agreed the Chairman will be the point of contact with Cranborne & Edmondsham PC for this and separately the Clerk will respond directly to Dorset Council with our concerns as follows:</p> <p><i>We object to the proposal; we are concerned with the necessary infrastructure to support 1700 homes in this rural area (dentist, doctors, school places etc) and the environmental impact of traffic overspill and air pollution from this many homes with drivers travelling through Knowlton Parish to access the already busy B3078 to Wimborne to access services and places of employment.</i></p> <p>Cllr Robin Cook left the meeting.</p>
394	<p>Highways Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new Speed Indicator Device has been set up with Dorset Council and located in Verwood Road, Woodlands. The old unit is now deployed on the new post at Wigbeth 40mph. Members will consider next month whether to purchase another Speed Indicator Device to replace the old unit. Cllr Nicky Sherwood feels the SID at Woodlands is ineffective and additional signage to encourage drivers to drive carefully might be more beneficial. Cllr Trevor Brown suggested chicanes both here and on the western approach to Horton would be far more effective to slow traffic and the C2 deserves more action. It was agreed to discuss this further next meeting. • Members have been consulted on the proposed temporary closure of un-named lane at Horton to allow Openreach to carry out pole testing on 3rd May 2023 from 09:30 – 14:30. • Other Highway matters listed in Actions List below.
395	<p>Rights of Way/Open Spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice of the Modification Order by Dorset Council to modify parts of Footpath 17 at Slough House, Woodlands which members have previously commented on in the consultation process. Legally relevant comments can be made no later than 12 May 2023. • Rights of Way matters awaiting action listed in 'Actions List' below.
396	<p>Burgess Field Play Area, Woodlands – Inspections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly visual play inspections completed by Cllrs Morgan Antell and Linda Stocks. • The Clerk will ask the contractors to cut the grass.
397	<p>Tree Matters</p> <p>P/TRC/2023/01793 Mainsail Haul, Bottlebush Lane, Wimborne St Giles, BH21 5NH proposal to Fell 1 x Ash; 2 x Yew; reduce Beech by 3-4m and reduce group of Yew back from property by 2-2.5m.</p> <p><i>Noted, no comment.</i></p>

398	<p>97 Bus Service & Plus Bus Service</p> <p>Members were provided with a recommendation by the 97 Bus Working Group to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support the transition from the regulated 97 bus service to the PlusBus services from 2023/24 onwards. • agree a contribution of £2000 from Community Transport Reserves be allocated to support PlusBus services provided by Ealing Community Transport during 2023/24. • The 97 Bus Joint Working Group terms of reference to be reviewed to enable a Community Transport Working Group to monitor and support the project beyond 2023/24. <p>Members accepted the recommendations which will provide greater choice and flexibility to meet customer needs. The PlusBus service will need promoting.</p>
399	<p>Register of Data Processing</p> <p>Members reviewed the Register without amendment. Review April 2024.</p>
400	<p>Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>The Consultation period has now closed and responses have been received from the necessary organisations including some useful suggestions. Documents are available to view at www.knowltonparishcouncil.org.uk</p>
401	<p>Actions List</p>
Sept 2018	<p>E59/22 Report missing fingerpost at footpath by Haythorne Nurseries. MNT42137/45415/48272 Feb 2019: DCC has written to Landowners. Aug 2019 – recent correspondence with DCC forward to Cllr David Tooke. Oct 2019 – TB to monitor. Jan 20: Clerk to report fingerpost still missing and not sure if access is clear along this path. <i>Feb 21 Ranger has confirmed the way-marker will be done (priority 6).</i></p>
July 2019	<p>E59/15 Horse safe path needs extending on incline as tarmac not safe for horse. MNT41120 Dorset Council met with Landowner March 3rd and have agreed actions to resurface where necessary and place appropriate signage for horse riders. March 21: Dorset Council advises funding is hoped to be allocated out of 2021/22 maintenance budget. Dec 21: The Ranger is awaiting an amended quote as one crossing was omitted, then put Contractor in touch with the Golf Club to arrange timings etc. Apr 22 – awaiting update from the DC Ranger.</p>
Nov 2020	<p>E59/7 Woodlands off Jubilee Hill behind houses is waterlogged all year round, suspected sewerage. Cllr MA to investigate further, take photo evidence and report to Dorset Council. Public Health visited but too wet from rainfall to establish source of contamination. Officers will visit again in Summer. Clerk to report to Rights of Way for inspection. MNT50385 June 2021 Clerk to report again as waterlogged now and request site visit. July 21: Ranger has visited with MA and will consider a stone surface to improve this path. Dec 21: Ranger has agreed to this work and the Landowner is on board with helping, ground conditions might mean this has to wait.</p>
Dec 2020	<p>E57/5 Maldry Wood, rotten bridge reported to Dorset Council. MNT50359 (priority 3) June 2021 DC has suggested the landowner is contacted directly as the bridge is on a permissive path. DC happy to install sleeper bridge if either the PC or Landowner provide sleepers. The definitive path is not accessible due to five bar gate and wire fence. Nov 21: Land is understood to be for sale so no further developments. Oct 22: bridge has collapsed and is dangerous also stiles at each end need repairing and there is a tree down. Clerk to report to DC MNT57858 Nov 22: A countryside officer has visited and agreed DC actions on this path. The landowner will also be made aware of their responsibility to repair the stile on the permissive path. April 22: DC cannot enforce work to be</p>

	carried out on the permissive path, only advise and remind landowners of their duties of care and maintenance. Definitive line unobstructed.												
July 2020	Water rising in Woodlands opposite 'Four Oaks,' unsure if a spring or mains water leak. Feb 22: DC advises coming from BT Openreach plastic ducting. It would cost in the region of £5000 to install a brand-new drainage system. March 22: problem is worsening, Clerk to ask DC to continue to investigate and add to Requests List if necessary for new drainage scheme. May 22: Clerk to request update. Aug 22: Clerk to forward correspondence to Cllr David Tooke to take up with DC Highways as this is still a problem. Dec 22: a new leak has now appeared on opposite side of the road, Clerk to report to Highways Team Leader with photos.												
Feb 22	Clerk to report extremely poor surface on Horton Road at Haythorne end, edges of road breaking up further along and at Woodlands Crossroads. 1187924 Mar 22: DC has marked up areas for repair. TB has contacted DC. TB very disappointed that Grange at Furzehill has been prioritised for resurfacing over this area as has Kings Lane and will write to Cllr David Tooke on this. Clerk will report again so that it will be inspected again 1214291. DC agree there is some fretting on this road and have marked some areas up for repair.												
	Water leak opposite Meadow Cottage, Horton Road, Woodlands. Cllr Trevor Brown has reported to Water Co. Apr 22: not yet resolved. Feb 23: Clerk to chase up SW Water.												
	E59/3 access blocked by fencing. Clerk to report MNT57859												
Nov 22	Verwood Road, Woodlands outside 'Four Oaks' new water leak appeared. LS will supply photos. Clerk reported to Bournemouth water who confirmed 4 Jan that no leak found. Aug 22: DC plan to install a new gully which is then piped into the water course with Verwood Turf's permission, when funding available.												
Dec 22	Overgrown hedges Haythorne 1200765 Cllr Trevor Brown met on site with CHO who has written to landowner. March 23 DC spoken with landowner and asked to cut back however on inspection do not believe problem is at intervention level. April 23 Members believe DC has legal obligation as in their view it is overhanging, Clerk to chase up.												
April 23	1217124 Reported Water is draining from the field from the property Little Haythorne via a gully in the verge onto the highway - we would like to suggest the gully is filled and water is diverted along the line of an old ditch to a manhole cover.												
402	<p>Financial Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members resolved unanimously to pay items below including Clerk's Salary: <table border="0"> <tr> <td>ONLINE Dorset Planning Consultants</td> <td>Project Work WSG Neighbourhood Plan</td> <td>£1262.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ONLINE Dorset Council</td> <td>Supply & Install SID Posts Wigbeth & Woodlands</td> <td>£1731.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ONLINE Parish Online</td> <td>Digital Mapping Annual Fee</td> <td>£144.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ONLINE Clerk</td> <td>Reimbursement of Expenses Jan – March 2023</td> <td>£95.49</td> </tr> </table>	ONLINE Dorset Planning Consultants	Project Work WSG Neighbourhood Plan	£1262.76	ONLINE Dorset Council	Supply & Install SID Posts Wigbeth & Woodlands	£1731.60	ONLINE Parish Online	Digital Mapping Annual Fee	£144.00	ONLINE Clerk	Reimbursement of Expenses Jan – March 2023	£95.49
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403	<p>Information for Report Only</p> <p>None.</p>												
	Next Meeting will be the AGM on Wednesday 17th May 2023 at 7pm in Horton & Chalbury Village Hall. <i>Members are reminded to submit nominations to the Clerk for Chairman and Vice Chairman 10 days in advance.</i>												

Meeting closed at 20:17

These minutes are to be signed by the Chairman after approval at the next meeting of the Parish Council

Signed;..... 17th May 2023

Appendix A

Household Support Fund – Round 4

Low income households in the Dorset Council area will be able to apply for the next round of the Household Support Fund to help with rising costs. Unlike round 3, which saw two application windows, spread over six months, allowing more residents to have a chance to apply.

Dorset Council residents will be able to apply if they have:

- An annual household net income of less £30,000 and
- Savings of less £16,000 and
- Not applied for a previous HSF payment within the last six months

Full details on this link <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/household-support-fund>

Help with childcare costs

HM Revenue and Customs is reminding families not to miss out on government help to pay for childcare. Tax-Free Childcare can pay for any approved childcare for children aged 11 or under, or 16 if the child has a disability.

Working families, where each parent or carer earns up to £100,000 can use it, meaning for every £8 paid into an online account they will receive an additional £2 from the government. This means parents and carers can receive up to £500 every 3 months (£2,000 a year for each child), or £1,000 (£4,000 a year for each child) if their child is disabled. Opening a Tax-Free Childcare account is quick and easy.

Further details on this link <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Council Tax and second homes - update

A decision whether to recommend a 100% premium in council tax on second homes in the Dorset Council area was due to be considered by full council at their meeting scheduled for 30th March. However Westminster ran out of time needed to get the bill ratified in order for this proposal to go ahead, if adopted, in 2024 so it is not likely to resurface until later this year for adoption in 2025.

Landowners asked to submit land for consideration

Dorset Council is asking landowners to submit land for consideration as part of the next stages of preparing the Dorset Council Local Plan. We have a statutory duty to maintain an up-to-date register of available land for all types of development for the future of the council area.

Boundary Commission

We expect Parliament to approve the new parliamentary boundaries by July 1st this year. There are several suggested changes and some recent alternatives have been proposed. The consultation period on this has now closed so we await the conclusions with interest. Locally, the proposal is for the Stour and Allen Vale Ward to move into the Mid Dorset and North Poole constituency, it is currently within North Dorset.

Litter picking

I thought it might be useful for members to have some detail about how Dorset Council deals with litter picking.

We receive many queries regarding litter on verges and at the roadside throughout the year, however these issues always peak in early spring. As the vegetation is cut back by both public and private landowners, the litter that has accumulated in bushes, shrubs and long grass becomes an eyesore. Litter picking roadside verges takes place at various times throughout the year. Most works, however, take place in the spring when the weather improves but vegetation hasn't begun growing yet.

It's a far more complicated operation than most people realise, with extensive training and measures needed to be booked in advance and put in place to protect motorists and our employees.

For example, we can only litter pick on roads up to 30mph before we have to implement health and safety measures. Picking on high-speed roads requires a great deal of planning including applying for Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTRO) around 3 weeks in advance to ensure we can implement the appropriate safety measures to protect our staff. On some roads such as the A31, we are required to use approved contractors to provide traffic management. We often litter-pick overnight when traffic is at a minimum and/or we can close the roads entirely. We also need to get permission from Highways England to work on the road overnight, which can be revoked at late notice if affected by accidents and incidents. If Dorset Council know about planned closures for road maintenance, we do try and litter pick at the same time. We also coordinate with grass verge cutting contractors where possible. We have an ongoing training program for staff to qualify them to work on the highway undertaking litter picking and cleansing.

Costs can vary but, as an example, in East Dorset alone we spend about £25k each year litter picking and using traffic management just on the A31 and A338, not including disposal costs.

We have a recycling team tasked with engaging with local communities (including schools) about waste reduction, recycling, and reuse, and we work with Litter Free Dorset to promote campaigns to reduce litter. We provide support to community litter-picking groups through the provision of guidance, equipment, and rubbish collection. The team have also been leading work with 'Litterlotto' and introduced a competition where residents can win £100 each month for putting litter into a litter bin.

Dorset Council encourages people to report litter issues via our website, and we are also keen for people to submit dashcam footage of littering from cars that we can use to take further action against offenders. We are one of the first local authorities in the country to tackle and fine those caught throwing litter from vehicles. Our enforcement team are able to fine the owner of the vehicle (£100) from which litter has been thrown, and we have so far issued 29 fines to offenders.

Cllr Robin Cook

12th April 2023

Appendix BPoole Harbour Pollution

I'm sure everyone is aware of the pollution spill from Wytch Farm into Poole Harbour, which has created a lot of concern across the region. The authority responsible for fixing this is the Poole Harbour Commissioners, rather than the two Unitary Authorities, Dorset Council and BCP Council, however both Councils have been heavily involved in resolving the problem.

As a result of the progress of the clean-up operations, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has now indicated that people are able to once again use the beaches and water in the Poole Harbour area for recreational use.

This includes swimming, bathing and water sports.

Pets are now safe to walk near the water in the Poole Harbour area.

The public are however requested to stay clear from Ower Bay.

Shellfish harvested from Poole Harbour from Sunday 26 March onwards should not be relayed or marketed.

PHC will continue the clean-up. Any sightings of oil on the water should be reported to Harbour Control on 01202 440 230 or via pooleharbourcommissioners@phc.co.uk

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council is removing the signage at harbour beach areas and slipways that previously advised visitors not to swim in those areas until further notice.

In the Dorset Council area, signage is being removed from the various Studland beaches that previously advised visitors not to swim in those areas until further notice.

Fishing and/or netting for fish in Poole Harbour can resume.

Those fishing should avoid any areas of the harbour, which are evidently contaminated with oil (spill site). Any fish found to be dead, dying or visibly contaminated with oil residues should not be consumed or marketed.

Shellfish harvested from Poole Harbour from Sunday 26 March onwards should not be relayed or marketed. This advice regarding shellfish remains unchanged, due to the difference in metabolism between fish and shellfish. Whilst the situation does appear to be improving, the long term effects of this spill are unknown, and long term monitoring will be required. This type of petro-chemical pollution can have long term effects, often being locked into harbour sediments for many years and being released slowly over long periods.

Portland Migrant Barge

The Government has confirmed that a barge will be moored in Portland Port to house around 500 asylum seekers.

The barge, the Bibby Stockholm will be moored there for around 18 months.

Dorset Council has raised objections and has serious reservations about the plan. The Council is awaiting answers to a number of questions; however, the Council cannot prevent the Government mooring the barge at the private facility at Portland Port.

Child Poverty in Dorset

Department for Work and Pensions figures show more than 9,000 children in Dorset were living in relative poverty in the year ending April 2022.

This means that 16 per cent of children in the area were in a family whose income was below 60 per cent of the average household income and claimed child benefit and at least one other benefit.

Of these children, 6,962 were living in absolute poverty, where household income is 'below a necessary level to maintain basic living standards'.

Dorset Council Foster Carers

Dorset Council foster carers and supported lodgings carers now benefit from an increase to their financial payment of 15 per cent from 1 April with a further increase of 12.43 per cent being added to the allowance part of the payment.

Foster carers play a vital role in Dorset by providing care for children who find themselves in need of a home, through no fault of their own. The uplift in payments will help foster families cover the increasing costs of caring for a child in their home.

Help for Low Income Families

Dorset Council has been awarded further funding from the government's Household Support Fund to help households in the most need with their energy, food, and water bills.

The support will be in the form of supermarket vouchers.

Citizens Advice will be allocating this fund on behalf of Dorset Council and vouchers will be issued to residents who meet the eligibility criteria within six to eight weeks.

Round 4 will be split into multiple different windows, spread over six months, allowing more residents to have a chance to apply.

Opening dates for applications will be:

- Wednesday, May 3 2023
- Tuesday, June 6 2023
- Tuesday, July 4 2023
- Wednesday, August 2 2023
- Thursday, September 7 2023

Dorset Council residents will be able to apply if they have:

- An annual household net income of less than £30,000, and
- Savings of less than £16,000, and
- Not applied for a previous HSF payment within the last 6 months

Calculations for the annual net income should not include Personal Independence Payments, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Carers Allowance or Child Benefit. Applications are limited to one per household.

CLlr David Tooke

12th April 2023