

07/06/2024

**WORTH MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 4 JUNE 2024**

Present Chairman Cllr J Burden, Cllrs I Bugler, J Hooper. T Peacock Mrs. C Vosper, Mrs L Hemmings Dorset Cllr B Wilson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr C Melville

Declaration of Interest. Cllr Bugler item 7 f

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD None

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

3350 The draft Minute of the PC 14 May 2024 was formally accepted by all Cllrs as proposed by Cllr. Vosper and seconded by Cllr Melville. These Minutes were signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of their decisions and a summary of their communications

CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3351 Cllrs noted the Actions and Clerks update on matters arising from the meeting of 14 May 2024. The Overhanging vegetation reported on the road between this pub and the village centre from private land adjacent. into the carriageway had been cut back by the PC contractor

3352 Volunteers at Worth Fete on 27 May 2024 had managed the PC car park entrance by the Square and Compass collecting at least 50% more income than is usually volunteered as donations. . The Clerk informed the PC of his recent experience of using remote parking payment at Wareham Railway car park and agreed to seek further responses on such methods of encouraging donations towards the £20,000 a year costs of running the car park and toilet facilities for visitors **Action** Clerk

3354 The PC noted the ongoing issue of increasing damage being caused to the corner of the junction by the Square and Compass, subject to safety considerations, the PC had no objection to the owner of the Square and compass taking remedial action to protect his land on this corner. **Action** Clerk

DORSET COUNCIL

3355 Cllr Wilson had provided in advance a full and comprehensive report from Dorset Council on including the new Cllr Chairs and their responsibilities.

3356 He reported back with the advice he had received from Dorset Council and the Dorset national Landscape partnership that it was not currently a priority to seek further areas under a Dark Skies policy or as a Dark Sky Reserve as in Cranbourne Chase. They were unable to deal with light pollution or overall levels of diffuse light emanating from manmade sources within a locality albeit action could be taken under Environmental nuisance where it interferes with the enjoyment of living spaces in private residences.

3357 Cllrs raised with Cllr Wilson their concerns about traffic speeds in the Parish notably on the Kingston to Langton road and through Worth village. Both of these road sections had 60 mph speed limits which Cllrs especially from Worth village around the Church bend and the Haycrafts lane junction felt totally inappropriate .

The PC had on its own land put up ‘**20 is Plenty**’ advisory signs in the village but would wish to see Dorset Highways reconsider their previous application refused some years ago.

3358 He had received the following report from the DC Greenspace team that they are busy around the county managing roadside verges. Their team are making good progress and are on track with their cutting schedule for full verge cutting and weed spraying programme for 2024.

CORRESPONDENCE

3350 The PC noted the advice from the Clerk regarding personal and public liability concerns for any use of Church Field rear of Worth playground area for overspill parking. Any proposal for future parking use on this area was agreed as unacceptable in principle. The Clerk would arrange to secure this access to prevent any future parking taking place. **Action** Clerk

3360 The PC considered the **HXVH proposal to install electric cable across the field for the permanent installation of and electrical supply point on the opposite fence** It noted advice that from Cllr Peacock that the construction work for the supply across the Open Space work would be done by licensed local contractors including the current WMPC contractor. The proposal was agreed in principle subject to confirmation that all public liability issues were fully covered by the HXVH Insurance policy. **Action** Clerk.

3361 The PC noted the success of WMVH volunteer who had manually collected WMCP parking donations from 0900-1300, on their Fete Day 27 May 2024. These takings with users being requested on the gate to donate were a good comparison as it led to a 50%+ increase in revenue donations. These were recorded as WMPC income and subsequently donated to the village hall as in previous years **Action** Clerk.

HIGHWAY MATTERS

3362 The PC noted the report back from Cllr Wilson and the further thanks received from a local resident for the PC contractor's clearance of bushes previously blocking the visibility out of Springbrook Lane onto the Valley road.

3363 A temporary road closure by Dorset Highways would be taking place on A351 Valley Road - Corfe Castle, Worth Matravers and Langton Matravers from junction with the private access road leading to Wilkswood Farm to junction with B3069 Kingston Hill (in both directions), a distance of approximately 3950 metres will come into operation overnight between 20:00 and 06:00 from 20th June 2024. It is anticipated that the works will be completed by 28th June 2024. This Order will enable Dorset Council to carry out carriageway maintenance and resurfacing works. The PC expressed concerns at the start time of 2000 for the DC Highways had been requested to ensure access to the HX Village Hall was maintained with adequate advance signing **Action** Clerk

PLANNING AND TREE WORK APPLICATIONS

3364 P/FUL/2024/02697 Location: Barn Opposite Old Quarry Close Worth Matravers
Proposal: Partial demolition and conversion of existing barn to form three dwellings, with associated landscaping and parking. The PC would reiterate its previous objection on this site as there is no material improvement regarding the previous application on this site no ref P/FUL/2024/00712. The PC continues to Object in principle and on planning policy grounds to the size and scale of this new application proposal. The current very high barn structure, a replacement for a barn, burnt down a few years ago, is not considered to be a reasonable comparison size and height to justify this residential proposal for three new three story terraced properties.

The current application for this site unlike the one built opposite offers no affordable housing and being on the outskirts of Worth village would if approved give rise to unwanted further private development pressure and impact on open land and gardens in the immediate area of Worth village

FINANCIAL MATTERS

3365 The PC noted with thanks the donation of £5000 from WMVH towards running and maintenance costs of the Open Space and car park facilities provided by the PC for HXVH

3366 The PC noted the cash book Reconciliation for the PC accounts to 30 May 2024

3367 The PC received and noted the Cashbook return for 2023-24 Budget & Expenditure

3368 Following consideration of the Internal Audit report and the WMPC Accountancy Statement 2023-24 BDP Annual Audit and Conflict of Interest returns the 2023-24 BDO Annual Audit was agreed and formally signed off by the Chairman

3369 Agreement to payment of Invoices received and checked 15 May – 30 May 2024

R Khanna	£ 882.58	Clerk's salary, NI, PAYE, and expenses.
WMPC Office	£ 66.00	Web site Internet and phone,
J. D. Facilities.	£ 699.13	April WM Toilet Cleansing
J. D. Facilities.	£ 699.13	May WM Toilet Cleansing
ITB Gardening	£ 1039.20	Grounds maintenance
ITB Gardening	£ 3870.00	Worth Playground boundary fencing
Canford Drains	£ 294 .00	WM Toilet pipe clearance

The appropriate cheques were prepared as pre noted by the Clerk. These were subsequently signed with two approved and independent signatures **Action** Clerk.

3370 Collection of WM & HX Car Park Donations for June 2023 would be carried out by Cllr Bugler with the Chairman assisting when he was temporarily absent. Cllr Peacock had agreed to collect the HX Car Park donations **Action** Clerk

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

3371 Cllr Bugler expressed his concern about new re wilding policies being introduced by landowners notably the National Trust especially in and around their recent Weston Farm acquisition. The failure through this neglect to control invasive vegetation was resulting in widespread damage to the environment. It was as encouraging increasing and widespread dispersal of destructive spores many of which such as brambles gorse thistles and ragwort would progressively take over grasslands and private gardens. Many of these destroyed all the vegetation and ground fertility below their canopy. These land areas had for centuries been previously grazed down to ground level by sheep, now increasingly absent and dealt with by farmers for many generations with selective removal. More rather than less active management of the countryside rather than benign rewilding neglect should be the priority. It was agreed this concern should be publicised and referred on to the National Trust. **Action** Clerk

3372 The Chairman raised a number of issues notably the need for more urgent action to place an additional exit mirror for the Worth car park exit and his conversation with a Traffic Warden in Worth village who did not know where to park. The PC advised that the old unused but TRO protected bus stop clearway would be a spot he should use. Similarly the Clerk was requested to follow up on the proposed advisory no parking sign by the Lookout on the layby immediately adjacent. **Action** Clerk The Parish Council Meeting closed at 2040

Post Meeting note

The Clerk reported that sadly a 'Stag party' on a pub crawl recently descended on Worth village causing noise and disturbance at the Square and Compass. Following that they moved on to the Kings Arms in Langton causing further noise and disturbance. Regrettably on their way they stole/abducted/kidnapped from a house frontage 'Bob the minion' the large and much loved local doll. This for a long time in Worth had been putting smiles on little childrens and adult faces passing by. Any information on its current whereabouts or help via the Clerk in "bringing Bob back home" to resume his post on this mini digger would be very much appreciated.

The next PC meeting will be at Worth Matravers Village Hall 2 July at 1930

Roger Khanna. Parish Clerk 439044 worthmatraversparishclerk@gmail.com