**Iwerne Courtney & Stepleton Parish Council Meeting Minutes**

**Date: 20th March 2024 Venue**: Shroton Village Hall.

**Present:**  Cllr Gredley (Chairman) Cllr Hewitt (Vice Chairman), Cllr Christmas, Cllr Barrett **In attendance**: The Clerk, Cllr Somper

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| **Agenda Item** | **Discussion Points** | **Action** |
| **1. Apologies** | Cllr Gibson-Fleming |  |
| **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting** | The Minutes of the meetings held on 17th January & 22nd February , having been previously circulated, were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman. |  |
| **3. Chairman’s Announcements** | The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting, noting updates in relation to water quality in the River Iwerne and drains issues.  The Council agreed, following a proposal by Cllr Hewitt, that a card be given to Maria Sullivan marking the year since Tim’s passing. |  |
| **4. Declaration of Interests** | None declared. |  |
| **5. Matters Arising** | It was noted that the Deer Farm planning application had been withdrawn and the issue of mud on Bessells Lane had been satisfactorily resolved with the assistance of a landowner. |  |
| **6.** **Democratic Period:**  a. Dorset Councillor Somper  b. Public & Parish Council | 1. **Dorset Councillor Somper**  - had submitted a written report prior to the meeting.      * Cllr Somper noted the potential importance of a producing a Neighbourhood Plan in light of possible future planning policy changes, under for example, a new Local Plan. It was agreed that Shroton, not being deemed a ‘sustainable location’, was largely protected from development but the question would be kept under review. * There is a ‘pop-up’ event taking place in Iwerne Minster on 11th April 10-12 am involving multi-agencies, the Police, Dorset Council and others. * Cllr Somper has conducted a village walkabout with the Community Highways Officer and noted flooding issues, some of which were groundwater issues and others were attributable to drainage problems. A high pressure jetter has been requested to deal with problem drains; a ‘lost’ drain had been located and was being investigated. * The success of Dorset Council in being the 2nd best waste recycling authority in the UK was noted.  1. **Public Participation -** There were no questions 2. **Parish Council Participation -** There were no issues raised |  |
| **7. Correspondence** | The Clerk had circulated a list of correspondence received in the period 17/01/2024 to 19/03/2024 and highlighted items noted within the minutes. |  |
| **8. Elections 2024** | The Clerk received nomination forms from those present and confirmed that he would be taking these to Dorset Council on 25th March 2024. | **Clerk to take forms to DC** |
| **9. Parish Council Representatives** | **a) Play Area Report**  It was noted that the Play area inspection was scheduled for June 2024. There were no other issues arising.  **b) Parish Footpaths and Bridleways**  Cllr Hewitt has made both landowners aware of the broken stile at the bottom of Ranston Hill footpath ( the Hanging onto Hill Floor fields) and also the insecure gate from Chapel Lane into Cow Ground footpath. Assurances have been received that pool of water under the small gate in Cow Ground footpath will be filled with rubble.  **c) The Glebe & Parish Trees**  **Lombardy Poplars** – The Tree application has not yet been approved by Dorset planners and it is now unlikely that felling work will be able to proceed until the autumn after the nesting season ends.  It was noted that the family of the late Tim Sullivan are very happy to have a tree planted in his honour. Dorset Councils new tree planting grant scheme will be looked at when the felling of the poplars has taken place.  A request had been received for use of the Glebe for the Shrotonbury Festival at the end of May. It was unanimously agreed that that this should be approved subject to the provision of a satisfactory risk assessment & insurance cover.  **d) Highways issues**  Cllr Barrett had discussed the question of access bar (white lines) road markings with the Community Highways Officer and confirmed that the cost of these would be £ 226 per line, which would be a charge to the Parish Council. It was agreed that these lines are effective in dissuading thoughtless parking; it was proposed and agreed that the PC would proceed with making an order for these to be painted in one location.  Cllr Gredley had noted that there an issue had arisen in General Wolfe Close when an ambulance had attended and it had been evidently difficult for a stretcher to surmount the kerb. It was understood that the landowner was the Sovereign Housing Association . Cllr Gredley agreed to write to the Sovereign to raise the issue and ask for a dropped kerb to be considered.  **e) Parish Council Website Development**  HC will be discussing possible links between the Village Hall website and the new PC website. The Clerk requested that Cllr Somper’s reports be added to the website.  **f) DAPTC**  Nothing of note other than additional training schemes.  **g) Old Post Office Noticeboard**  A resident has the material for renovation. This will be discussed further  h) **PC projects**  **Chalk Stream Water**  Cllr Gredley had written to the Environment Agency (EA) expressing concerns regarding the quality of the water in chalk stream; the EA had replied indicating that there were no issues of concern. Cllr Gredley has subsequently pointed out to the EA that there were no fish in the stream, only invertebrates.  Iwerne Minster PC had confirmed that the Trout Farm at Iwerne Minster regularly takes water samples and had not detected any issues. The Clerk noted the contents of the Wessex Water Improvement Scheme schedule to 2030, which indicated that phosphorous levels were under review and may be targeted for reduction. It wasn’t clear what action, if any, would be taken.  It was noted that the river runs through a community and the question must be asked as to whether the water is safe to drink. Cllr Gredley will take up these issues with the EA including the contents of Wessex Water’s improvement scheme report.  **Electric Vehicle charging point**  The question had been asked by a resident whether the PC would be requesting a site survey with a view to installing an Electric Vehicle charging point under a Dorset Council initiative.. It was noted that there were few, if any, suitable locations within the village for a point. The Clerk noted that Shroton had not been advised that any funding for a space had been allocated. | **CB will place the order for white line with the CHO**  **JG to write to the HA**  **HC to action**  **JG to follow up**  **JG to write to the EA**  **JG to discuss with resident** |
| **10. Planning Matters** | 1. An updated version of the register had been circulated to the Parish council   Updates notified:   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Status** | **Date** | **Ref** | **Address** | **Work** | | **Non -determination** | 21/02/2024 | P/PAPA/2024/00037 | Track running up Hambledon Hill from the Fairfield | Reinstate track. | | **Withdrawn** | 29/02/2024 | P/VOC/2024/00076 | 5 Courtney Close Shroton Blandford Forum DT11 8RD | Erect two storey rear extension and front porch and form pitched roof over bay window (with variation of condition No.2) | | **Withdrawn** | 15/03/2024 | P/PAAC/2024/00641 | Deer Farm Gallows Corner To Farrington - Lane | Change of use & conversion of agricultural building to 5no. dwellinghouses (use class C3) |   **b) New applications:**  **P/HOU/2023/03163 - Stepleton House A350 - Erect conservatory to the west side of the west wing**  **P/LBC/2023/03164 - Stepleton House A350 - Erect conservatory to the west side of the west wing**  There were no objections to these application under the major renovation scheme being undertaken. | **Clerk to return suitable comments** |
| **11. Finance Matters** | 1. **Retrospective payments approved:**  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Date** | **Supplier** | **Description** | | **Cost** | | 12/01/2024 | HMRC (PAYE) | Q3 PAYE | £241.80 | | | 19/01/2024 | DAPTC | Email server upgrade | £45.00 | | | 19/01/2024 | Shroton Cricket Club | Mowing fees 2023 | £200.00 | | | 28/01/2024 | David Green | January 2024 pay | £290.80 | | | 28/02/2024 | David Green | February 2024 pay | £290.80 | |  1. **New Payment approved:** Clerks expenses - £ 39.24 |  |
| **12. Other Matters for discussion/information and tabling for next meeting** | 1. D-DAY 80 project funding 2. Water quality project progress 3. Noticeboard refurbishment progress 4. Adoption of the General Power of Competence 5. Next meeting date –**Wednesday 22th May at Shroton Village Hall 7.00 pm – to include the Annual Parish Meeting, the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and a Parish Council Meeting** |  |

**The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:10 pm**

**Chairman ………………………………………… Date…………………………………………….**

**Iwerne Courtney & Stepleton Parish Council**