

SOUTH TARRANT VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY, 8th March 2016
AT THE ANNE BIDDLECOMBE HALL, TARRANT KEYNESTON**

Present: Councillors Cossins, Eaton, Garland, Harding, Lee, Munford, Panter, Parker, Sweetland, Thomson and Thompson.

In attendance: District Councillor Mrs D Skipwith, Clerk Mrs K Huck.
2 members of the public were present.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All Councillors were present and therefore no apologies were given.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Cossins declared an interest in any planning matter concerning a property i.e., Greenacres which was being developed on land adjoining his own. Councillor Sweetland declared a pecuniary interest in item 9, grant funding, Blandford public conveniences.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2016 were approved and signed as an accurate record.

4. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillors considered a report from the County Councillor which had previously been emailed. A number of Councillors asked that the Clerk resend the email. The Chairman gave an overview of the report which included the following: Highway Maintenance Capital Block Funding & Highways Improvement Programme 2016\17; Rural Bus Review; North Dorset Financial Update 2016\17 and Dorset County Council Financial Update.

The Chairman also provided Council with information after his attendance at the Divisional meeting held on 25th January 2016. Dorset's Police & Crime Commissioner had been present and subjects covered were: a resume of his achievements whilst in office; victim support; mental health; domestic violence; cyber crime; road safety and Poole Harbour security as a 'border'. One Councillor asked for and received confirmation from the Chairman that the Divisional meeting was to replace the County Councillor's attendance at the Parish Council meeting.

5. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

District Councillor Skipwith apologised for the non provision of a report to the meeting and stated that she would be happy to receive any queries. The rise in District Council tax was queried. Councillor Skipwith replied that she felt the future of the District Council was uncertain.

6. OPEN DISCUSSION OF UP TO 30 MINUTES for members of the public to raise issues

The member of public present raised the issue of traffic exceeding the speed limits on the B3082 in Tarrant Keyneston. Discussion followed on the possibility of a speed camera and \ or concealed entrance sign being used, together with a request for more frequent traffic police activity. The Clerk was tasked with requesting further information and to report back to the next meeting.

FINANCES

7. Financial statements showing full details of the Council's income and expenditure for the

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months of January and February 2016 set against the budget together with a bank reconciliation were presented and approved.

8. (a) Council approved and instructed the signature of the following cheques:

548 Clerk's salary	At agreed rate
549 HMRC	£110.60
550 Clerk's expenses	£40.53
551 North Dorset CAB	£150.00

(b) A further payment was approved – Cheque 552 for the hire of the hall £80.00, with the invoice for this having been received at the beginning of the meeting.

(c) Council was also advised of an administrative error in the preparation of the November and December 2015 statement where a sum of £17.10 for mileage had not been added to the running budget total. This had been corrected and the Chairman duly initially an amended statement.

9. Grant allocations towards the funding of (a) Blandford Leisure Centre and (b) the public conveniences were considered. (Minute 10b of 19th January refers.) Information had been received with regard to (a) where £152,000 was shown to be the subsidy given by North Dorset District Council who had requested Parish Council support. Councillors noted that the sports centre in Wimborne may be the preferred choice of parish residents. It was also felt that the Parish Council's contribution of £100 or £150 would be very insignificant in terms of the subsidy and so could be used in a more impactful way. It was therefore:

RESOLVED that grant funding would not be allocated towards the running of Blandford Leisure Centre.

Information had also been received with regard to (b). It was considered that residents of the parish may likely make use of the public conveniences. A vote was taken and with one against and the majority for, it was:

RESOLVED that the sum of £150 be paid to Blandford Town Council to assist with the costs associated with the delivering of the service of public conveniences in the town in the 2016\17 financial year, with the sum to come from the Parish Council reserves.

10. Council considered the future external audit arrangements for the Parish Council and the recommendation of a Council working group on this. The deadline for a decision on the matter was 31st March 2016. It was reported that the group recommended that Option 3 be taken. As Councillors had previously received information on this matter, it was:

RESOLVED to accept the recommendation of the Council's working group and to select Option 3 (i.e., to be an Opted-in authority under the arrangements being made by the Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Limited).

PLANNING

11. Council considered the following new applications:

(a) 2/2016/0190/TPTREE Location: The Old Rectory, Valley Road, Tarrant Keyneston, Dorset, DT11 9JB Proposal: T1 (x2) - Elder - Remove because of overgrowing along drive way.

(b) 2/2016/0291/CATREE Location: Address as above. Proposal: Small Privet - Remove T2 - Hazel (multi-stem) . Re-coppice, coppice has lapsed and is overgrown T3 - Holly (sapling) - Remove, probably self-sown T4 - Horse Chestnut (sapling) - Remove, probably self-sown.

(c) 2/2016/0260/DCC: Location: Field at Tarrant Hinton, south west of Turnpike Cottage Proposal: Variation of condition 3 of 2/2011/0554 to allow use of a temporary Gypsy caravan site for 3 weeks around the dates of the Great Dorset Steam Fair for a further 5 years.

(d) 2/2016/0292/TPTREE Location: The Old Rectory, Tarrant Keyneston. Proposal: Holm Oak – crown lift to 3m, crown reduce by up to 4m to previous pruning points.

The Council had no comments to make on any of the above applications.

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2/2014/1196/FUL (Minute page 0169 refers): Council had received a response from a Senior Planning Officer who confirmed that he was monitoring the situation with regard to the demolition of the existing property. It was:

RESOLVED that advice be sought from Planning as to whether there was a timeline in respect of the demolition work on this site.

12. There were no decisions or appeals to report.

13. WAR MEMORIAL

Council had received emailed information on the progress of the grant funding application being made to the War Memorial Trust (WMT) by Cllr Ray Thompson. The WMT had confirmed that a decision would be notified to the Council by mid May. Cllr Thompson stated that a

revised and slightly increased quotation had been received from one of the original suppliers which reflected the length of time since the first quote. Cllr Thompson was again thanked for his perseverance in obtaining funding for the refurbishment of the Memorial.

14. DIRECTIONAL FINGERPOSTS IN THE PARISH

Council considered the condition of directional fingerposts in the parish and many were highlighted as being in poor condition. It was noted that Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty was running a project which supported the refurbishment of the posts and Councillors had received information on this which stated that funding may be available. The Clerk was asked to enquire further into this and that it be an item for the next agenda.

15. SUPERFAST BROADBAND (Sbb)

It was noted that Sbb was available in Tarrant Keyneston and Crawford with Rushton and Rawston due to receive the service in 2017. However, some parts of Tarrant Rushton were already enabled and online with varying speeds.

16. COUNCIL WEBSITE

The current use and format of the Council's website was discussed. Whilst it was confirmed that the website was meeting the requirement under the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities, it was felt that its further potential was not being met. It was suggested that consideration be given to whether it could function as a village website as opposed to purely a Parish Council one and that a decision on this may direct its future format. It was:

RESOLVED that information on the number of visits received by the website be brought back to the May meeting so that the matter could be considered further.

17. RIVER TARRANT

There were currently no matters for report on the River Tarrant, though it was confirmed that no local flooding had occurred.

18. DAPTC

There had been no meeting to report on, with the next scheduled for 10th May which would coincide with the Council's own Annual Meeting and the Parish Meeting.

19. DT11 FORUM

Councillors confirmed receipt of emailed information. Cllr Eaton reported that she would be unable to attend the meeting on 18th May and invited a stand in to attend should there be a volunteer for this. The meeting would be held on Blandford Parish Rooms. It was reported

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that the Trailway was being used by approximately 150,000 per year and that funding was being sought from DCC for brown tourist signage with the intention of raising awareness of the area for visitors to Dorset.

20. FOOTPATHS

DCC's Report MNT33592 was ongoing in respect of works to the footpath behind the bungalow to the hill. Cllr Thompson would follow the progress on this.

21. HIGHWAYS

Works on Tarrant Rawston bridge – it was noted that there was yet to be any Dorset County Council (DCC) advisory signage in respect of the imminent bridge closure.

(a) Tarrant Crawford – potholes and (b) Tarrant Rushton village road surface (matter ongoing) - it was:

RESOLVED that the Clerk report (a) to DCC and send a hard copy letter to the officer in charge of the DCC Highways department in respect of (b).

22. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence as follows was reported on:

An update on the Rural Bus Service Review with recognition that the X12 bus service would continue.

Tarrant Valley 10 km race Sun 17th July: it was noted that this was the same day as the Tarrant Keyneston's Open Gardens event though confirmation had been received that the two should not impact on each other.

The Queen's 90th Birthday – The Open Gardens would be held in connection with this.

23. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Superfast Broadband; Fingerpost signs; War Memorial; Planning (2/2014/1196/FUL); traffic speed matters; Council's website; Tarrant Crawford historic church sign; Ashley Wood bus shelter

24. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of next meeting was confirmed as being Tuesday 10th May 2016 (Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm, followed by Annual Council Meeting at 7.30pm)

Signed(Chairman)

Date.....