

SOUTH TARRANT VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY, 12th March 2019
AT THE ANNE BIDDLECOMBE HALL, TARRANT KEYNESTON AT 7pm**

Present: Councillors Cossins (Chairman), Deketeleare, Eaton, Garland, Harding, Lee, Munford, Sweetland and Thomson.

In attendance: District Councillor Skipwith, Clerk Mrs Huck, one member of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Parker and Thompson.

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th January 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. County Councillor's Report

No report had been received for this period.

5. District Councillor's Report

Cllr Skipwith reported on the Dorset Council budget, social and childrens' care cost challenges and council tax harmonisation.

It was noted that, with the advent of the unitary council, this was the last meeting to be attended by District Councillor Skipwith. The Parish Council expressed their thanks for all her support and work on their behalf.

6. Open discussion - members of the public may raise issues

WWI Silhouette by the War Memorial, Tarrant Keyneston – Council discussed the concerns of a neighbour to the site with regard to the commemorative silhouette of an armed soldier placed there in November 2018. It was felt the majority of residents may be supportive of its presence, though, without a referendum, considered difficult to conclude a preference and so it was:

RESOLVED the silhouette be removed for safekeeping for ten months of the year and subject to practicality, be placed at the War Memorial site for the months of October and November each year.

The Council thanked Cllr Eaton for arranging the purchase of the silhouette with donated funds. Health and safety aspects with regard to its fixings etc was discussed and it was:

RESOLVED the Council take ownership of the WWI silhouette.

7. To receive feedback from the Chairman on a Roundtable meeting hosted by MP

The Chairman reported on a meeting held on 1st March with Simon Hoare MP which had covered traffic speed concerns; road signage; superfast broadband; planning and development and business rates.

8. Local Government Reform

Council had received regular updates on the new Dorset Council formation. It was noted council tax harmonisation had resulted in North Dorset seeing the highest rise.

Chairman

9. Local Government Elections

The Chairman thanked Councillor Ian Lee and Councillor Ray Thompson for their proactive work with the council and for the parish of Tarrant Keyneston, both having served two terms of office.

Completion of nomination papers for those wishing to stand was discussed and confirmed the Clerk would send information on obtaining appointment dates for handing them in, with a closing date of 3rd April by 4pm. It was also AGREED the hand in would be done on an individual basis to eliminate any difficulties around incorrect completion.

Councillors were reminded they would be required to return the expenses form, even if none were incurred.

10. Presentation of financial statement for January-February 2019

The Clerk had previously emailed a statement showing expenditure set against budget, together with a bank reconciliation. The reserves figure was highlighted as being healthy and this situation prudent given the unknown effects of the new unitary authority and any future devolvement of services.

It was noted there had been expenditure of £810 on two recycled plastic fingerpost signs (Min 10, pg 0242 refers) and donations from residents had been arranged to cover this prior to the order being placed.

Councillor Thompson had previously queried a possible discrepancy between a cheque (no 639) given to him in reimbursement and the figure shown in the statement – Min 7, pg 0242 refers. The Clerk explained to the Chairman this related to the invoice being split over two pages and a subsequent error showing in the statement. There was no impact on the reconciliation figures as the cheque had not been processed at that point.

11. To approve cheques for payment as per schedule, including grant to North Dorset CA as per budget

RESOLVED a grant of £150 be made to North Dorset Citizens Advice in appreciation and support of their work for the residents of the grouped parish.

The Council then approved and instructed the signature of the following cheques:

642	ICL	23.98
643	DAPTC	40.00
644	BPI Products	810.00
		At
		agreed
645	Clerk's salary	rate
646	K. Huck	36.90
647	K. Huck	60.00
	North Dorset	
648	CA	150.00

12. To consider the allocating of a grant to support funding for Blandford Public Conveniences

Council considered the allocating of a grant to Blandford Town Council to support the operating of the town's public conveniences. The grant would come from reserves and, with an awareness of the level of these as the financial year end approached, it was:

RESOLVED the amount of £100 be paid to Blandford Town Council to support funding for the town's public conveniences.

Chairman

13. Pay scale of the Parish Clerk

The Chairman had previously consulted councillors on the current and proposed pay scale of the Council's Clerk. All had considered the information provided and it was:

RESOLVED the Clerk be moved to the next pay scale as per NALC Scales.

14. Fingerpost directional signs

Cllr Harding (project lead) advised Council the sign at Tarrant Keyneston Mill junction was now in situ, this having been achieved within budget and on time. The Council thanked Cllr Harding for his work in this respect and in turn, he acknowledged the contribution made by the Men's Shed organisation in Blandford. It was AGREED a photograph \ article appear in the May Tarrant Times.

Cllr Harding reported a level of concern shared with Normtec with regard to the placing of the post, in that there was a possibility of damage from overly wide traffic. The Clerk confirmed the matter of ownership, responsibility and insurance was being investigated with Dorset County Council.

The Cliff and Hogstock – it was confirmed the two recycled posts had been ordered. (Jan – Feb financial statement refers. As these were to be paid for by private donation, the Clerk was asked to write to the donors expressing the thanks of the Parish Council.

The signs at Tarrant Rushton village entrance and Ashley Wood were considered to be the next needing replacement.

15. Highways

(a) traffic data survey results

Cllr Stuart Thomson provided collated information from the survey which had been carried out by radar in the week commencing 4th February on a position on Blandford hill on the B3082.

From the large amount of data collected the following is a summary:

- 7000 cars daily used the B3082 through Tarrant Keyneston during the week of the survey
- Traffic is lighter at weekends, especially Sundays
- 76% of all vehicles exceeded 30mph
- Average (mean) speed through the village was 33.6mph
- 12% of vehicles exceeded the 30mph limit by more than 10mph
- Highest speeds were recorded late at night or early morning
- 59 drivers exceeded 50 mph including 32 between the hours of 0700 and 1900
- There was little variation in average speeds within the period 0700 to 1900 hours
- 85% of vehicles exceeded limit while heading to Wimborne – average speed 35.4mph
- 67% of vehicles exceeded limit while heading to Blandford – average speed 31.9mph

The Clerk highlighted future decision making around this would rest with the council formed following the elections on 2nd May. Ahead of this, enquiries around the purchase and installation of village gateways was being investigated by the Clerk with Dorset Highways.

(b) meeting with Community Highways Officers

Councillors had been provided with notes on the meeting between Cllrs Lee, Thomson and the Clerk with the Community Highways Officer (CHO) on 18th January. The meeting had been productive and the CHO would take forward remarking of road signage and support village gateway initiatives should the council take this action.

Chairman

(c) potential joint parish working on Great Dorset Steam Fair \ Valley Road

The Clerk stated this had been brought forward from the previous meeting for consideration. After further discussion on the usefulness of this, it was AGREED the Chairman would consult the neighbouring parish on potential initiatives and report back to the May meeting.

In addition to the above, the road drain adjacent the True Lovers Knot was reported as being blocked, causing flooding during heavy rain. The Clerk undertook to reporting it online to DCC.

16. Footpaths

Cllr Thompson had provided, in his absence, reporting numbers for a defective stile and a partial blockage of the Crawford Drove bridleway. The Chairman commented the latter had been carried out due to trespassing on the land, but considered the bridleway remained open to those on foot and on horse.

The Clerk reported a Tarrant Keyneston resident was working with Highways in marking out and so protecting the wildflower verge on Blandford Hill and in particular the wild orchids flowering there. The Council expressed their thanks for this.

17. GDPR – Subject Access Procedure

Council considered the draft procedure which had been compiled and circulated by Cllr Thomson, who was thanked for his work on this matter. It was:

RESOLVED the Subject Access Procedure be adopted and form part of the documents in support of compliance with the GDPR.

18. Annual Risk Management meeting

The Clerk had previously circulated notes from the working party meeting held on 12th February which had considered the council's risk assessment, insurance cover, internal audit arrangements and asset register. Those attending were Cllrs Cossins, Garland, Thomson and the Clerk.

Councillors were reminded of the need to check personal car insurance in respect of voluntary work where it was carried out on council business. It was:

RESOLVED to accept the proposals contained in the notes which included the addition of a risk in terms of preparation for Local Government Reform and possible devolvment of services.

19. Planning – Ref 2/2019/0140/FUL Denham Lodge Valley Road Tarrant Keyneston DT11 9JB - conversion of outbuilding to guest accommodation with extension to provide a carport and storage

Councillors were advised this application differed very little from a previous one granted in January 2019. The Clerk had spoken with the agent who confirmed there was merely an addition of a carport and garden store. Given this information, it was:

RESOLVED there was no objection to planning application ref 2/2019/0140/FUL though it was desirable the previous condition of ensuring the guest accommodation remain an integral part of the property should also be applied to this application.

The Clerk brought forward planning application 2/2019/0177/LBC - Tarrant Rushton House Rawston which had a response date of 29th March and asked councillors to confirm by email whether a site visit was required.

Chairman

20. Blandford & Rural TAG

Council had received circulated notes on the Transport Action Group attended by Cllr Thompson. Attendance had been poor and the group's future was in doubt. In part it was felt the reduction in public transport had been accepted as an unavoidable budgetary casualty.

21. DAPTC

Cllr Eaton had attended the Northern Area meeting on 16th January 2019 and the minutes had been circulated to councillors. There were no questions.

22. River Tarrant

It was noted a comprehensive report on the state of the river and its management had been published in the March Tarrant Times. Council was pleased to note the flow was good and would be interested to hear the results of the abstraction trials due to take place in 2019 ahead of instigation in the following year.

23. Correspondence

The Clerk confirmed all general correspondence had forwarded to councillors. The only other item to report was receipt of a letter from Royal Mail with regard to the stolen Tarrant Crawford mail box stating it would not be replaced. The letter had been forwarded to Cllr Parker, Tarrant Crawford's councillor. The Clerk highlighted there may be possibility of its being reinstated if a site could be offered in the village which would provide greater security.

24. To decide items for next agenda

As the next meeting would be the first for the new council and would also be the parish meeting, the format would follow that of previous years. Fingerposts and Highways would feature.

25. To confirm the next meeting dates as 14th May 2019 - 7pm Annual Parish Meeting followed by 7.30pm Annual Council Meeting

There was some discussion on the use of the Annual Parish Meeting to receive feedback from residents on the council's work in the future, ensuring any desired initiatives were highlighted.

The Chairman reiterated grateful thanks on behalf of the Parish to District Councillor Skipwith, Councillor Ian Lee and Councillor Thompson for their service.

Chairman

Date