

Toller Porcorum Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th July 2016 At Toller Porcorum Village Hall

Present:

Cllr D Ennals (Chairman)
Cllr J Miller
Cllr J Stavenhagen

Cllr C Baker
Cllr D Billen
Cllr J Knowles

In attendance:

Mrs K Sheehan (Clerk), Cllr R Knox (DCC) and Cllr J Haynes (WDDC)

413. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Alex Carstairs.

414. Declarations of interest and grants of dispensations

None.

415. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2016

The minutes were duly signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

416. Matters arising

Members noted that it was possible to have two representatives to DAPTC but decided that Cllr Baker would continue as agreed and would let members know should he be unable to attend a meeting. Cllr Miller stated that the WI had been successful in obtaining funding for the defibrillator but still needed additional funds towards the box. In response to questions from members, Cllr Haynes stated that the mobile library would be withdrawn between December and March 2017, except where users were not able to leave their house and sheltered accommodation, it seemed that arrangements would be made for ordering books on line and a delivery mechanism would be set up, which would probably rely on volunteers. She added that she was in talks with the Post Office and Maiden Newton shop staff to assist with ordering and collection of books. It was possible that a laptop and internet connection might be required by the Post Office. Members noted this point as a possible consideration for future budgets. Cllr Knox added that responses to the survey would permit pinpointing of users without transport or internet access. On the issues of the #73 bus it was reported that the service will stop with effect from September.

Actions: Cllr Miller to survey users of the mobile library to assess who needs support with changes to the service. Clerk to telephone Iain Gray of Dorset Community Transport to establish whether they intend to offer any replacement to the #73 bus service.

417. County Matters

Cllr Knox reported on the progress of the emerging 'Living and Learning' Centres, such as the one located at the former Beaminster Youth Centre. Councillors heard that the work of the Clinical Commissioning Group to deliver services formerly attached to GP surgeries may now operate out of these hubs. Discussions were starting around the future of a building which currently accommodates the preschool in Maiden Newton. Members heard that there would be a consultation on the future of the NHS services in the County starting in September or October and that following a 'requires improvement' rating from OFSTED,

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DCC was seeking to better engage with faith groups and training of representatives with responsibility for child protection. Cllr Ennals thanked Cllr Knox for her report.

418. District Matters

Cllr Haynes reported on the ongoing local government reorganisation, recognising that there was a perception from the public that 'one council' was a simpler concept. She noted that this would mean savings could be made, for example with a reduction of Councillors and allowances and highlighted an article in the current edition of 'Dorset For You' magazine, which explained it well. Members heard that the unitary bid would be consulted upon in early September, with a view to submitting the proposal to the Government in January 2017. It was noted that changes would entail more work for parishes to take on and may lead to the emergence of Area Boards. Cllr Ennals thanked Cllr Haynes for her report.

Cllrs Haynes and Knox left the meeting.

419. Finance and Procedure

i. To consider adopting the National Salary Award 2016-18 NALC

Members considered the NALC National Salary Award 2016-18 which would have the effect of raising the Clerk's salary by approximately 10p per hour, backdated to 1st April 2016. Cllr Ennals stated that the Council had always followed the NALC pay scales.

Proposed: Cllr Miller Seconded: Cllr Baker RESOLVED

ii. To consider the receipts and payments due

Members noted that the Toller Times payment listed was incorrect but it was proposed that it should be paid as listed and the difference deducted from the next payment.

Receipts

June/ July 2016-17

Total 0.00

Payments	Voucher	Chq No	
Toller times		150	14.40
K Sheehan Salary/mileage		151	290.22
DAPTC Subs		152	118.38
ICO Data collector		153 dd	35.00
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			458.00

iii. Press and Media policy

The Clerk explained that Cllr Ennals had requested this due to a mention of a 'Press and Media Policy' in the Council's Standing Order. The policy was a standard one used by a number of Parish Councils. Alternatively, the Standing Orders could be amended to remove the reference to the Policy. Cllr Knowles expressed reservations about the policy and it was deferred to a future meeting.

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Action: Review and confirmation of Clerk's contract to be scheduled for next meeting.

420. Planning

i. To consider any planning applications in circulation

a. 16/00925 Crooked Field, High Street – APPROVED

b. 16/001247 Dairy House Farm, Lower Kingcombe – single storey orangery to replace existing.

Members noted that Cllr Carstairs had not raised any objections and this was supported.

PROPOSED: Cllr Billen

Seconded: Cllr Baker

RESOLVED

421. Highways

Cllr Stavenhagen updated members on the response to his complaint to Andrew Martin, DCC Highways regarding the poor quality of surface dressing. It was understood that Highways officers were not satisfied with the work but that due to budget and time constraints, the work would not be put right.

Following on from the meeting of residents and DCC officer Blair Turner at Frogmore Lane it was noted that a complaint regarding the beech hedge and bird feeder on the triangle had been received by DCC Highways. Cllr Stavenhagen agreed to continue to liaise with Mr Turner and residents of Frogmore Lane to ensure a fair outcome is reached with reference to the deeds and boundaries of the properties in question.

Regarding the ongoing consultation on the designation of Badger Lane, members heard that there is a two year backlog of cases at DCC. Cllr Stavenhagen reported that he had contacted Lord Wynford in search of documentation relating to the land when it had belonged to the estate but had not had any success although he now planned to visit the Dorset History Centre.

Cllr Baker stated that Andrew Martin of DCC had spoken at length to a recent DAPTC meeting about having a Snow Plan in plan. Members queried the current whereabouts of the snowplough, recalling that this had been minuted in the past year.

Actions: Clerk to contact DCC highways about: grit bin refills and expectations of Parish Councils reference the proposed 'snow plans', Cllr Ennals to email measurements of large grit bin to Clerk to order replacement. Clerk to contact Highways reference the poor visibility at the T-junction on Toller Hill.

422. Toller Hill Memorial

No further updates.

423. To consider quotations for First Aid courses in the village

The Clerk reported back on two quotations she had obtained to run Emergency First Aid courses in the village. The third, from St John Ambulance had not been received. Some discussion took place around the issues of costs and value for money. It was agreed that between this and the next meeting, Councillors would engage with other community groups to assess interest and ask whether they would be willing to contribute towards the cost of the course.

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Action: Councillors to ask other community groups about interest in participating/contributing towards First Aid course in village. Clerk to chase St John Ambulance for outstanding quote.

424. Correspondence

Councillors reviewed correspondence received by the Clerk on behalf of the Council since the May meeting. No issues were raised.

425. Items for the PC meeting on Wednesday 14th September

- First aid courses
- Snow plan
- Public letterbox at 3 High Street – condition and security
- Press and Media Policy

The meeting closed at 20.45.