

MILBORNE ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Full Council held at the Village Hall, Milborne St Andrew on Wednesday 03rd July 2024 commencing at 1900 hours.

Present:

Cllr's Richard Macnair, Amy Stephens, Rob Greening, and Jane Macleod

4 members of the public

Full Council

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr's Poet and Badger sent apologies along with Cllr Parker (Dorset Council)

2. Declarations of pecuniary or other interest

No declarations were made.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting(s) held on 05th June 2024

These were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Clerk's report

The Clerk updated on matters from the minutes, correspondence, and other matters.

Members had received a paper on traffic calming proposals as the regards the inbuild on the A354 by The Royal Public House.

All were in agreement that Option 2 – priority given to traffic moving up Dorchester Hill was the preferred option.

In addition, it was requested that the simpler items of the traffic calming project – such as painting the bus stop and a new speed indicating device could be brought forward.

The Clerk would write to Dorset Council.

Councillors also agreed to a public engagement session once a formal proposal had been received from Dorset Council.

5. Chair's update

The Chair thanked the Reporter for the new, high-quality, bench on the A354.

6. Public participation (items on the agenda)

There were no matters at this point.

7. Parish Council Task Tracker

The Clerk updated on the task tracker.

Note agenda items 12 and 14.

8. Dorset Councillors report

Cllr Parker (via email) supported option 2 on the traffic calming in build proposal.

She had also contacted planning enforcements as regards Fox View, No reply received.

9. Planning

There were no new planning applications.

10. Financial matters

a. Payments for authorisation

There were **6** payments (**PV's 12-17**) totalling **£ 2189.26** that were approved and authorised for payment.

b. Q1 budget report

It was confirmed that the Precept spend at the end of Q1 was **26.38%**
The general reserve sat at **£ 7578.05 (£ 7375.00)**

11. Discussion on new grass cutting contract

Cllr Greening briefed on the new grass cutting contract proposal.

This included a reduction of cuts from 10 to 8, and the inclusion of two further areas on Land End. It also included the removal of the direct support via the contract for the Village Hall and Church.

On the first matter, members were comfortable with the proposal but requested that the residents on Land End be contacted to ensure that they were content.

Resolution was passed to go to procurement, which would include offering to current contractor, another local, external contractor, and a larger company.

Members wished to continue to support the Village Hall and Church but in the form of LGA 1972 s137 donations.

To ensure that value for money was achieved for the public purse, it was suggested that quotes were received from both the Village Hall and Church, and a budget be set based on these.

Resolution was passed to inform the Village Hall and Church of this matter.

It was agreed to have further discussions in September.

12. New bench for A354 / Milton Road junction

A statement of thanks was made on behalf of the Community.

The Parish Council offered to place this on the asset register if the Reporter donated the bench to the Community. This would ensure any future insurance liability.

Members also agreed to remove the old bench from the asset register.

13. Internal audit report

The audit report was passed with no concerns.

14. New road naming policy

The draft policy was adopted with no amendments.

This can be found on the Parish Council website.

15. Review of Clerk's contract

The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sec 1 (2)

A body may, by resolution, exclude the press and public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings; and where such a resolution is passed, this Act shall not require the meeting to be open to the public during proceedings to which the resolution applies

Members agreed that discussions over the Clerks contract were confidential and that press and public would be asked to leave the meeting.

16. Parish notices

The question was raised as to regards the review of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Chair explained that momentum had been lost as no volunteers had come forward. The Clerk explained that NPs had stalled until the new Dorset Plan had been completed – not due until 2027-28.

17. Items for next meeting

Further discussions on grass cutting contract with a view to procurement and budgeting.

18. Date of next meeting

**04th September 2024
Milborne St Andrew Village Hall at 7pm**

19. Review of Clerk’s contract

The current contract included annual incremental progression until the end of the scale band. This would take the Clerk to SCP 32.

The new contract template from NALC recommends 5 scale point increase or a ceiling of the scale band range.

This would take the Clerk to SCP 23.

Members and the Clerk all agreed to amend the contract in accordance with the new template.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2010 hours.

Richard Macnair _____ **Chair to the Milborne St Andrew Parish Council**

Date _____