

Wayne Lewin – Clerk to the Parish Council

**CERNE VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of Full Council held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at Cerne Abbas Village Hall**

**Councillors present:**

**F. Horsington, S. Beresford, L. Prowse, C. Crosbie, C. Paul, and K. Marshall.**

12 members of the public

**FULL COUNCIL**

**1. Co-option of Parish Councillor for the Cerne Valley Parish Council**

Wendy Coward was proposed, seconded and duly coopted as a Parish Councillor for Cerne Abbas.

**2. Apologies for absence**

Cllr's Bolt and Burghart sent apologies, along with Cllr Haynes (Dorset Council).

**3. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests**

Cllr Horsington declared an interest in any matters to do with the allotment field.

Cllr Beresford declared an interest in agenda item 10g (1)

Cllr Horsington declared an interest in agenda item 10g (3)

**4. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

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

**5. Parish Council matters arising**

There were no matters arising

**6. Update from the Chair**

Despite the Ward Councillor and portfolio holder both in principle in agreement to white lines across the road from the school to the playing field, this proposal was rejected by the road safety team. It was agreed that this must now sit with the school, but the Parish Council would support any further proposals to ensure safe crossing for the children.

The thick, bold lines on Duck Street were now replaced with the more in keeping thin, pale lines. All were in agreement this project was complete.

The Chair thanked Mike Keating for all of his endeavours whilst a Councillor – including defibrillator, honesty box and Chair of allotments committee to name but a few.

A seat would always be there if his circumstances allow.

**7. Public Discussion Period**

There were no matters at this time.

**8. To receive a report from the Dorset Council**

A report had been received and distributed.  
There were no matters for Dorset Council.

**9. Financial update**

**a. Payments for authorisation**

There were **25** payments (**PV's 31-54**), totalling **£ 5767.41** were authorised and approved for payment.

**b. Q1 budget report**

The budget was on track with a **25.54%** spend at the end of Q1.

**10. To receive committee reports and to agree action(s) in response to proposals and repairs**

**a. Allotments**

The committee sat on the 02<sup>nd</sup> of September. The followings actions were agreed:

Resizing of plots

Invoicing based on above (XL, L, M, S)

Trial of allotment shop (not for profit)

New shed door

Additional newsletter

**b. Burial Ground**

Cllr Beresford confirmed a contractor was going to attend to the gate at Beauvoir.

A quote was being discussed to widen the path from Abbey Street to Beauvoir.

A volunteer would be requested to look after (and put out when needed), the funeral cones as the current person is moving.

The war graves had been tidied up.

**c. Car Park**

The committee sat on the 02<sup>nd</sup> of September. The followings actions were agreed:

Cllr Prowse confirmed that the EA works were likely to finish the week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> September. They also agreed to back fill some potholes and cone off the area for the installation of the EV charger.

On that note – this project was due to start the week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

The grant had been received from Dorset Council.

There would 1 charging point with two bays.

There was also the possibility that a cheaper overnight tariff would be introduced.

Signage and light would be provided at source.

The contract was for 15 years, and all maintenance conducted by company.

Once again, Cerne Abbas are to be the first village in Dorset to complete this project.

In the picnic area, a gap in the trees would be fenced off to avoid any incident on Kettlebridge Lane and some bark would be placed at the jubilee tree to cover for the winter.

The permissive path would be cut back 4 times a year. It was likely that this would not cost any more than the current 2 cuts.

A new bench had been installed, which directly opposite the Giant.  
No further signage was needed.

The wildlife area would be managed as a woodland glade and had been allowed to settle.  
Wild daffodils and wood anemone would be purchased in due course.

It was noted that the honesty had been broken into. The Clerk would inform the PCSO.

**d. Children's Play Park**

The committee sat on the 02<sup>nd</sup> of September. The following actions were agreed:

The roundabout to be cleared of water by a contractor.  
Part of the play park was offered to the school for storage.  
The overgrowth was to be cut by a contractor.  
The entrance from the path by the river was offered to be fenced and closed.  
An inspection was due in October.

**e. Footpaths and Environment**

Cllr Prowse updated on the tree works at Cerne Park Wood.  
In short, a permit had been obtained from the forestry commission.  
Cllr Marshall confirmed the signpost by the Tithe Barn had been realigned.  
Cllr Crosbie mentioned that the snicket had been cut back.  
It was noted that the handrail and signage off Duck Street right of way behind Swanhills had been repaired.  
A report would be made to F&E committee on the Chescombe hedge.

**f. Burial Ground Extension (change of use)**

Cllr Horsington agreed to send the findings to the Sheffield University to Brian Twigg Planning with a view to submitting the planning application.

**g. Planning**

**See Annex A**

In other matters, the Hayward family asked for assistance on to planning applications that were sat 'awaiting sign off'. It was noted that the Parish Council could not change comments made but very happy to write to Dorset Council to expedite a decision from Dorset Council.  
It was suggested Cllr Jill Haynes was contacted first.

**11. Internal audit report**

The report had been distributed. Other than one minor error on VAT reclaims (which would be adjusted in H1 2024), the internal audit was approved.

**12. External audit report**

The report had been distributed. Other than one minor omission on the AGAR (11a), the external audit report was approved.

**13. Purchase of a new noticeboard for Goose Green (to include location)**

F&E committee had approved the purchase of a new noticeboard.  
Full Council agreed the location must be between the bench and telephone junction box.  
Cllr Prowse had looked at 4 options (recycled plastic, oak, and metal) – all very expensive.

It was recommended to go for Parish Noticeboard Company at a cost of £685 + delivery).  
The cost be paid from CIL (£ 504.15) and F&E reserve (remainder).

**This was approved on a majority vote.**

**14. Request for release of allotments reserves for clear up of communal areas**

These areas, including outside areas, communal edges, around the green waste deposit area and the shed.

**The amount of £600 was agreed (40 hours work), on a unanimous vote.**

**15. Request for release of play park reserves for surfacing and bin move**

The last inspection report highlighted major deterioration at the edges of the play park.

A quote of £ 924.00 from Dorset Council for jungle mulch had been received.

In addition, a quote of £ 200.00 from Dorset Council had been received for the removal and installation of the waste bin.

**These were both unanimously approved with funds from play park reserves.**

**16. Items for the next meeting**

None at present.

**17. Date(s) of next meeting**

Further to item 16, it was agreed that an October meeting was not needed.

**Full Council  
Godmanstone Village Hall  
14<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2055 hours.

**Cllr Fred Horsington** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chair of Cerne Valley Parish Council**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_