

19/201

Minutes of the COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE held at the Village Hall, Corfe Mullen on Tuesday 11th February 2020 commencing at 7:30pm

Present: - Chairman – Cllr Jefferies

Cllrs	Barron	P Holland	Lortie
	Craven	Honeyman	Mattocks

Officers in attendance: Katrina Blee (Clerk) and Claire Gamble (Assistant Clerk).
Also in attendance: Cllr A. Holland.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD

The Chairman announced that the meeting would not be broadcast due to technical issues, but that an audio recording will be made for the purpose of producing the minutes.

There were no members of the public present.

19/425 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Sowry-House.

19/426 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest at this point.

19/427 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2019 were approved.

Nem Con.

19/428 Accounts for payment

The following accounts were agreed for payment:

TOWN COUNCIL ITEMS		
IB	Fencing Centre - fencing materials for allotment site (retrospective)	556.18
IB	Wessex Fabrications - repair to vandalised height barrier at Springdale Road POS	162.00
IB	Dorset Council - Remembrance Day signage	33.60
IB	CMVH - room hire	217.69
IB	GLS - black sacks	112.74
IB	GLS - black sacks	47.98
IB	Rigby Taylor - line marking paint	504.00
IB	Arco - new trousers for groundsman	71.98
IB	Kingfisher Electrical - new light switch & time lag switch to g'staff building	78.00
IB	AJV Computing - fix file sharing issue & clean up laptop	50.00
IB	HMRC - PAYE/NIC Month 11	2488.51
IB	DCPF - Month 11 Superannuation	3195.25
IB	Payroll - Month 11	8603.77
dd 03.02.20	UK Fuels - fuel	62.87

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dd 25.02.20	Chubb - monthly fire extinguisher rental g'staff building	17.47
dd 10.02.20	ICO - annual fee	35.00
dd 10.02.20	UK Fuels - fuel	51.99
card 31.01.20	B & Q - Stanley air compressor	104.99
card 29.01.20	Post Office - stamps	29.28
card 31.01.20	Indeed - Clerk's vacancy advertisement	197.29
	TOTAL	16620.59

VILLAGE HALL ITEMS		
IB	Total Window Repairs - board up and supply new glass in front door	260.00
IB	ESPO - cleaning materials	23.10
	TOTAL	283.10

Nem Con

19/429 Dog Warden Reports

The dog warden's reports on his patrols of Town Council sites for November, December and January were noted.

Cllr P Holland reported that he understood that Dorset Council is currently consulting on a review of its Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) in relation to dogs, and that there may be changes, such as restrictions on sports pitches, as a result. The Clerk said that the objective is to consolidate all PSPOs following local government reorganisation but will check if any changes are proposed.

19/430 Request for natural play area at Cogdean

Cllr Barron chose to declare an interest in this item, as he is related to the resident that requested the play area. He left the meeting for this item.

The Council had been asked to consider seeking a licence from Dorset Council to enable it to install and manage a natural play area on land at the Cogdean estate. A resident had previously presented this idea and had support from other residents.

Members liked the concept of a natural play area, which is similar to an idea the Council has previously identified for Springdale Road Public Open space. However, they recognised the dire need for play facilities in the south of the parish and felt that if the Town Council were to make such a substantial investment and ongoing commitment it should be in that area.

It was noted that Cogdean is well served by its proximity to the recreation ground. In addition, the Clerk had received a lengthy objection from another resident of the Cogdean estate to the idea.

On balance it was agreed not to pursue this idea. The Clerk will advise the resident accordingly.

Nem Con.

19/431 Recycling bin at Recreation Ground

It was proposed by Cllr Lortie that a commercial recycling bin for the use of the grounds staff should be sited at the Recreation ground. Cllr Mattocks seconded the proposal. This was agreed.

Nem Con

19/432 Removal of telephone box on Wareham Road

BT is consulting on its plan to remove the payphone outside no.61 Wareham Road. This has been used for just 22 calls in twelve months to November 2019.

It was agreed not to object to this payphone's removal.

Nem Con

19/433 Defibrillator at the Recreation Ground

The defibrillator at the recreation ground, which was provided by the South West Ambulance Service is reaching the end of its support and the Council is asked to meet the costs of a new unit.

Standing orders were suspended so that Cllr Harrison could provide information regarding the cost of continued provision from South West Ambulance Service. A new unit could be provided for £1800 + VAT which would include servicing and replacement of any parts over a 4-year period before the unit required renewal, plus an annual training event for community volunteers. Cllr Harrison had asked two other providers for costs which are awaited.

It was unclear whether the cabinet itself needed replacing, or whether it might be more cost effective for the Council to purchase its own unit. In the light of the need for more information, Cllr Lortie proposed to recommend to Full Council that in principle the Council assumes responsibility for the cost of the replacement defibrillator unit, subject to costs and further information being provided. This was seconded by Cllr P Holland and agreed.

Nem Con

19/434 Pedestrian crossings on Lockyers Road

Standing orders were suspended so that Cllr Purvis could join this discussion on this item and the following item regarding Speed Indicator Devices.

The Clerk and Cllr Purvis reported on a recent site meeting with Dorset Council to look at crossings on Lockyers Road. This had been arranged following a resident's request to have an additional zebra crossing near the Cogdean estate and concerns about the safety of the existing zebra crossing at the Windgreen.

It had been ascertained that the current zebra crossing is located within the national guidelines, including the distance from the roundabout. In addition, as the majority of pedestrians would naturally cross near to the roundabout it was concluded that the crossing is located in the optimum location for pedestrian safety. A repair to the pavement by the crossing was identified and in addition it was felt that the high hedge of a property on the western side should be cut back to help motorists' sight line.

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At the Cogdean end of Lockyers Road there is an island crossing. It had been identified that the central refuge could be enlarged to make it more visible and safer for pedestrians, and also that the shrubbery on the western side of the pavement should be removed. Overall, very few pedestrians had been observed crossing, but it was identified that the natural crossing point would be where the island crossing is rather than further away from the roundabout. As a zebra crossing would have to be located further away from the roundabout under national guidelines, it would be better to try to make some improvements to the island crossing. Since the site meeting, Dorset Council had indicated that a proposal for a zebra crossing would probably not meet the required criteria, partly due to the low number of pedestrians crossing.

Dorset Council has agreed to look at removing the shrubbery and will undertake a 'prefeasibility study' to identify possible improvements, however the estimated cost is up to £30,000 and a contribution would be desirable from the Town Council. It was agreed to ask Dorset Council if chevrons elongating the island would have the same benefits, as this would presumably be a lot cheaper. The Clerk will raise this with the Community Highways Manager. If not, it might be better to await the removal of the shrubbery and monitor the crossing for safety. There is no collision history and this fact, combined with the low pedestrian usage, would indicate that it may not be the best use of resources when greater impact could be achieved with highway improvements elsewhere.

The Clerk will report back at the next meeting, after she and councillors have met with the Community Highways Manager.

19/435 The future of Speed Indicator Devices in Corfe Mullen

The Road Safety team at Dorset Council is currently phasing out the current SID (Speed Indicator Device) Programme across Dorset and has met with Cllr Jefferies and Lortie to discuss the possibility of a replacement community-owned SID Programme and members were given an overview of options and costs. The suggestion is to purchase one SID and use initially for two locations, with the SID being moved every six weeks. The costs would be:

1 x SID (m-SID VARIO)	£2495
Solar set up for poles (2 per pole)	£ 700
1 bracket	£ 55
Management of both locations by Dorset Council per annum	£ 800

Dorset Council would survey the Town Council's top five preferred locations and suggest the two optimum locations to start with. These are: Existing location on Blandford Road, by Old Rectory Close; Wimborne Road near the Lambs Green; Existing location at Springdale Road; Highfield Road, near Wayman Road; Pardys Hill.

Cllr Lortie proposed and Cllr Jefferies seconded that a recommendation is made to Full Council to support an ongoing SID provision in the parish on the above basis.

This was agreed.

Nem Con.

Standing Orders were unsuspending at this point.

19/436 Request from Beavers Group to plant 17 tree saplings around the Recreation Ground

Cllr Craven proposed that the Council grants permission for the planting of 17 tree saplings at the recreation ground and that the Clerk and Head Groundsman be delegated with the authority to agree species and locations with the Beaver Group Leader. Cllr P Holland seconded the proposal which was then agreed.

Nem Con

It was noted that the committee will be considering the Council's own tree planting scheme and the possibility of a 'tree for every birth' scheme at its next meeting. Cllr Barron will also investigate if DCC could provide any funding for tree planting ahead of this meeting.

19/437 Update on other actions from the last meeting

Community Orchard	The quince has been felled. This was noted.
Dropped kerbs survey	Surveys largely done. Meeting with Dorset Highways arranged for early March to discuss findings and devise a programme of works. The cost of one dropped kerb is approximately £2500. This was noted.
Street sign cleaning	Councillors are reminded that the hi vis jackets have been received and any councillor wishing to clean signs to please pick one up. This was noted. It was also noted that some street signs actually need replacing. The Clerk advised that these should be reported to Dorset Council.
Other Highways matters	<p>Pavement repairs – cost is £600 per square metre. This was noted.</p> <p>Hillview roundabout – to be looked at by the Highways Improvement Team and some further anecdotal evidence from road users has been passed to Highways by the Clerk. This was noted.</p> <p>Lengthsman – Ferndown has a lengthsman which West Parley buys into and this is something the Council could consider. Members felt that the possibility of employing a lengthsman could be considered in the future, however this should await the review of staffing.</p> <p><i>Nem Con.</i></p> <p>Country lanes – Standing Orders were again suspended in order to allow Cllr Purvis provided an update on the works to gullies, ditches, grips along lanes. Further work will be undertaken in the spring including installation of hazard lines and 'slow' markings at key locations and some additional signs. The Committee noted this information and thanked Cllr Purvis for his efforts in this regard.</p> <p><i>Standing Orders were unsuspending at this point.</i></p>

Rec toilets	<p>Not progressed as Mayor of Council suggests it is left until the possible reorganisation of the recreation ground.</p> <p>Noted – however the Chairman was concerned that this might mean a long delay in the provision of additional toilet facilities was not addressed for some time and it was therefore agreed that this would be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee.</p> <p><i>Nem Con.</i></p>
Bus shelter by Corfe View Road.	Order now placed, should be installed within 8-10 weeks. This was noted.
Cricket high fence repair	The Council's main grounds maintenance contractor has now confirmed it can assist with the installation of new restraining wire and replacement poles. Work to be programmed in shortly, weather permitting, but should be in place for the start of the cricket season. This was noted.
Finger post restoration	Site meeting with relevant Dorset AONB Officer. Awaiting costs. Restoration hopefully to start late Spring. This was noted.
Weed spraying	Respraying was undertaken followed by ripping of vegetation and sweeping. Councillors to continue to inform Clerk of problem areas. This was noted. The Clerk asked that any roads that need weed ripping be reported to the office so that a request can be submitted to Dorset Waste Partnership.
Towers Way Amenity Area	<p>Quotations for removal of hedge and replacement awaited. Advice on replacements are a hawthorn hedge interspersed with wild crab apple to give height. It was felt that wild crab apple might cause mess along the amenity path and other suggested options for native planting were limited. It was therefore agreed that Cllr Jefferies will speak with Jane Adams who provided the suggestions to establish other ideas.</p> <p><i>Nem Con.</i></p> <p>Vox pop with teenagers still outstanding: Cllrs Craven and Sowry-House are planning to do this on lighter evenings. This was noted.</p>
Allotments	<p>Most of the remedial works have been completed, confirmation on one or two points is outstanding.</p> <p>Rotovation of plots has not yet taken place, as the ground is too wet.</p> <p>3 full, 4 half, 2 starter and 4 raised beds available.</p> <p>This was noted.</p>

19/439 Date and time of the next meeting

The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 10th March 2020 at 7:45pm (*time subject to change.*)

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.