



**Minutes of the Community Services Committee held on Tuesday 12 November 2024
at 19:00 in the Small Hall of the Village Hall, Towers Way, Corfe Mullen**

Present: **Councillors**
A Craven (Chair)
P Cuckston
P Holland
S Jefferies
A Joyce
J Lortie
V Papilio
D Sowry-House

In Attendance: Catherine Horsley (Town Clerk & RFO)
Daryl Pearce (Deputy Town Clerk) - minute taker

Public Participation

There was one member of the public present, who did not wish to speak.

CS 24/27 To Receive and Accept apologies for absence (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

There were no apologies for absence.

CS 24/28 To Record any declarations of interest Members to declare any interests
including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, they may have in agenda items that accord with
the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests
from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e) (NB this does
not preclude any later declarations)

There were no declarations of interest.

CS 24/29 Paper A - To Approve minutes of meeting held on 13 August 2024 LGA 1972,
sch 12, para 41

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 August 2024 were **APPROVED**.

CS 24/30 Paper B - To Approve Accounts for Payment

Cllr Craven raised the following query:

Line 719: What period did the costs relate to as they appeared high. The Clerk confirmed the costs related predominately to the standing charge for the electricity at the Old Cemetery Chapel from 1 June to 20 August 2024. The Clerk noted the ongoing billing issues with SSE, which were being followed up with the Ombudsman.

Cllr Jefferies queried some of the generous amounts awarded for small grants programme. Cllr Lortie, as Chair of the Finance & Administration Committee explained the process followed and how the amounts awarded were reached.

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the Accounts for Payment totalling £19,234.23.

The Deputy Clerk presented the report, noting the following updates:

- Quotation obtained from contractor who cleared gullies on all Town Council sites last year, at a total of £768.40+VAT.
- Repetitive damage to the lock mechanism at the Recreation Ground public toilets. Replacement lock was damaged within 48 hours of being installed. Another lock is on order.
- Hedge cutting at the Recreation Ground in progress.
- Contractor due to carry out works to the pit area and vegetation surrounding the County field later in the week.
- Sutcliffe play contractors onsite week commencing 9 December 2024, to reseal the jungle mulch surface at Henbury View Play Area, due to complaints received from users relating to black staining from the current surface.
- Tick and adder signs at Springdale Road Open Space had been vandalised and removed for the second time. Members to decide if these signs should be replaced.
- Letter received from Dorset Council relating to inspection of the bus route along Springdale Road had identified low-hanging branches and tree limbs that could obstruct a double decker bus. Quotes being obtained to carry out tree works.

Members comments were noted as follows:

- Continual anti-social behaviours and vandalism across Town Council sites.
- Henbury View Play Area gates to be painted yellow, weather permitting.
- Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) should be responsible for replacement tick and adder signage, as a result of extension of Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) status.
- Responsibility of streetlighting on unadopted Pine and Wayground Roads, due to a long-standing arrangement, dating back 30+ years.
- Next steps for public consultation of the Sports Pavilion and Recreation Ground redevelopment project.
- Road splay on Broadmoor Road adjacent to the Allotment site to be cut back to ensure visibility when exiting the site.

The update was **NOTED**

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council to **APPROVE** the following:

- Gully cleaning on all Town Council sites at a total cost of £768.40+VAT with any additional removal of waste charged at £95.00+VAT per tonne.
- To proceed with obtaining tree works quotes for the Community Orchard, outside Sports Pavilion (cricket side), Grounds Unit Compound and Springdale Road Open Space.
- To proceed with the Woodland Trust native tree application for further sapling donations.
- To advise Dorset Wildlife Trust relating to replacement tick and adder signage at Springdale Road Open Space.
- Clerk to review archive documentation relating to Town Councils responsibility of streetlighting on Pine and Wayground Road.
- Public consultation of the Sports Pavilion and Recreation Ground to commence in the new year with key stakeholders split into smaller groups.

CS 24/32 Paper D - To Note Update on the Allotments

The report was **NOTED**.

CS 24/33 Paper E – To Note Update on the Cemeteries

The Deputy Clerk presented the report, noting the Old Cemetery driveway banking had been levelled with grass seed now taking.

Members thanked the grounds team for their work in preparation for the Remembrance Sunday events held at the Old Cemetery.

The update was **NOTED**.

CS 24/34 Paper F – To Note Highways Update

Members discussed the various locations for highway improvements, measures to promote change in behaviours and how a co-ordinated cost-effective approach, should be taken when progressing with Dorset Council Highways.

The update was **NOTED**.

CS 24/35 Matters for forthcoming agendas No decisions can be taken¹

No items were noted.

CS 24/36 To Agree a date and time for the next meeting – Meeting to be held on Tuesday 11 February 2025 at 19:00 in the small hall of the Village Hall, Towers, Way, Corfe Mullen.

CS 24/37 Close of Meeting at 19:35.

Signed as a correct record of the meeting  Date 11/2/25

¹ Councils cannot lawfully decide items of business which are not specified in the summons/agenda (LGA1972 sch 12, paras 10(2)(b) and Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119)

