



Bothenhampton & Walditch
Parish Council since 1886

**MINUTES OF BOTHENHAMPTON & WALDITCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held at WALDITCH VILLAGE HALL, 7pm on 12th SEPTEMBER 2022**

Initials	Councillors	Initials	Councillors
JB	Cllr Jim Basker (Chair)	GS	Cllr Graham Styles
CA	Cllr Chris Addis	MW	Cllr Martin Warne
EB	Cllr Edward Berry	TC	Tan Cox (Clerk)

Also Invited: Cllr Sarah Williams / Cllr Kelvin Clayton / Cllr Dave Bolwell

Ref	Agenda Item	Owner
	<p>NOTE: The Main Committee Meeting was chaired by the Vice Chairman – Cllr Graham Styles</p> <p>The Chairman was unable to take the Main Committee Meeting because of illness, however he did attend the meeting and contributed where appropriate.</p>	
	<p>DEATH OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II Acting Chairman Cllr GS asked that all councillors and members of the public stand for 1 minute silence.</p>	
	<p>Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Eligibility: No Declarations were received.</p>	
	<p>Apologies: Cllr E Berry</p>	
1	<p>Reports from Dorset Council Councillors: Cllr DB attended the meeting and confirmed that all Dorset Council meetings are postponed until after the period of mourning (19th September is the date of the Queen's funeral) and Dorset Council meetings will re-commence on the 20th.</p> <p>The latest planning application P/RES/2022/03490 Land south of Langdon Green Marrowbone Lane Bothenhampton was discussed.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to Dorset Council Planning Department on 6th September 2022.</p>	

Cllr Graham Styles
Minutes agreed on 10th October 2022

Ref	Agenda Item	Owner
1	<p>Reports from Dorset Council Councillors: (Cont.)</p> <p>Cllr DB confirmed that he had seen a copy of this letter but noted that the original Outline Planning Application put forward in 2021 had been approved and that the Parish Council's latest objections had added little new.</p> <p>Cllr DB said that there is scope to comment on the size, structure and composition of the proposed building and noted that the letter of 6th September did contain a paragraph relating to the size of the house; in that, being 7m high and two storey and that it would not be consistent with the other properties along Marrowbone Lane which are predominantly bungalows or chalet-bungalows.</p> <p>Cllr DB explained that the Outline Planning Application last year had succeeded largely because Dorset Council did then not have in place a land supply.</p> <p>Cllr GS said that the size of the proposed structure would be overbearing and out of keeping with other properties and could set a precedent for further development nearby (infill). There was general agreement to this.</p> <p>Cllr DB advised that he would try again to get the application onto the Dorset Council Planning Committee Agenda, taking forward the comments expressed tonight and in the letter of 6th September.</p> <p>Cllr GS thanked Cllr DB for his efforts on this application.</p>	
2	<p>Democratic Half Hour:</p> <p>Walditch resident Robin Stapleton attended the meeting and raised the issue of the trees in Walditch. He said that there is concern among some residents for the large Beech tree that is situated at the lower end of Walditch Avenue (Sycamore Avenue), in that the limbs which had broken off during the storms earlier in the year have not been looked at by a tree surgeon. The wounds to the tree are such that rainwater will inevitably penetrate, causing disease and decay. Mr Stapleton said that there is a lot of emphasis nowadays on planting new trees, but a reluctance to look after mature trees, especially damaged ones.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that she had already written to Dorset Council about this (17th November 2021). The meeting agreed that a damaged/diseased tree could potentially become a risk to the public.</p> <p>Robin Stapleton also raised the issue of another tree cut down in a conservation area, and that as far as he knew, no action had been taken by Dorset Council. He added that there was little point in having tree legislation if Councils are unable or unwilling to enforce it.</p> <p>Cllr JB said that some of the trees do now have Preservation Orders on them and that he had met Graham Cox, Senior Tree and Landscape Officer, to discuss the trees. GC had promised to speak to James Bennet, but nothing further has been received from either of these officers.</p>	

Ref	Agenda Item	Owner
3	<p>Democratic Half Hour: (Cont.)</p> <p>After further discussion, including with Cllr DB, about the trees generally along the Avenue and on the land owned by John Norman, it was agreed that the Clerk would write again to GC at Dorset Council (copy to Cllr DB) covering all the outstanding issues again.</p>	Clerk
3	<p>Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – Monday 18th July 2022:</p> <p>The Minutes of 18th July having been agreed by email were accepted, and a copy has been posted to the website.</p> <p>Carried forward Actions:</p> <p>Regarding P/RES/2022/03490 relating to land South of Langdon Green, Marrowbone Lane, Bothenhampton – write to Dorset Councillors (KC and DB) to ask them to confirm that this planning application has been placed before the Dorset Council Planning Committee. The Clerk confirmed that she had emailed Cllr DB on 18th July – his response forms part of the Agenda papers. See also item 1 above.</p> <p>Regarding WATAG – The Clerk confirmed that she had contacted the organiser of WATAG meetings on the 18th July (Mrs Gus Tidy). Mrs Tidy’s response forms part of the Agenda papers.</p> <p>Regarding AOB (Defibrillator) – Cllr GS confirmed that the parish council has two defibrillators available within the parish located at each Village Hall entrance. He confirmed that each unit has a spare battery which will expire in 2025. The units are currently fitted with batteries which expire in 2022 and these will be replaced at the end of the year (using the spares). It was agreed that two spare batteries should be acquired during 2023.</p>	
4	<p>Reports from External Organisations:</p> <p>WATAG – A meeting has been scheduled for the 29th September 2022 and Cllr MW will be attending.</p> <p>BLAP – Liaison meeting is scheduled for 21st September 2022 and Cllr GS will be attending. Cllr GS noted that the Head of Planning Enforcement (Dorset Council) would attend and be available to answer questions.</p> <p>BANP/JCC – The next BANP/JCC meeting will be on 1st December 2022 and Cllr JB will be attending.</p>	
5	<p>Planning:</p> <p>Planning Consultations The planning consultations specified on the agenda were noted.</p>	

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
5	<p>Planning: (Cont.)</p> <p>Cllr GS mentioned that he and Cllr JB had attended a seminar with the Dorset Council Planning Team on 6 September. Cllr GS said it was a useful meeting that gave an insight into the pressures that the Planning Team face (recruitment of planning officers is an ongoing challenge). Cllr GS reported that around 130 planning applications are received per month, with around 12 weeks waiting time for a decision; only around 3% of enforcement cases result in formal action.</p>	
6	<p>Finance and Budget:</p> <p>Payments made from 19th July to 12th September 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ken Hussey • Ansvar Insurance • Dorset Council • Derek Smith <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Jim Basker</i> Chairman</p> <p>The Clerk said that the payments listed above had already been paid and had been authorised via email.</p> <p>The Clerk's salary for September 2022 was approved as were any expenses.</p> <p>The Bank Statement to 31st August 2022 was provided to Councillors for their perusal, the Bank Statement was signed by the Chairman and handed to the Clerk.</p> <p>The Cash Flow Forecast up to 31st August 2022 was sent to Councillors for their review and approval.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that all documentation has now been forwarded to the External Auditors and that she had provided all explanations necessary for them to sign off the parish council's accounts for 2021/22. The final Certificate is awaited.</p> <p>THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS WERE APPROVED AND/OR AGREED, AND WHERE APPROPRIATE, SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank Statement and Invoice Cover Sheet (Approved and signed by the Chairman) • Cash Flow Forecast – approved by Councillors <p>RISK REVIEW DURING AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2022</p> <p>The parish council's internal Auditor has recommended that a risk review is carried out quarterly and this is the 2nd review during 2022. All 8 risks (detailed on the agenda) were reviewed and updated.</p> <p>ALL RISK ASSESSMENTS WERE APPROVED</p>	

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
7	<p>Parish Council Sub-Committees: The next parish council sub-committees are scheduled OSPA 17th October, Finance and Funding and Traffic, Transport and Footpaths 21st October 2022.</p>	
8	<p>Other Parish Matters:</p> <p>Possible ‘Environmental Event’ in Walditch Cllr JB said that he has been unable to generate any enthusiasm for the event in Walditch so far, noting that some residents had attended the event in Bothenhampton during March 2022. It was agreed to roll this item over.</p> <p>Corporate Governances Review – transition Councillors discussed the impending takeover by Bridport Town Council. Bridport Town Council are awaiting the formal publication of the Dorset Council CGR Decision before they progress further with discussions with parish councillors.</p> <p>In the meantime, councillors agreed that it was important to keep up with the day to day work and focus on our residents.</p> <p>Fields in Trust – formal authorisation to proceed On 25th July, the OSPA had escalated this issue to the Main Committee for formal ratification to proceed further with the ‘Fields in Trust’ application. The Clerk will continue to search for photographs and update the Title Deeds with the Land Registry.</p> <p>AUTHORISATION TO PROCEED WITH THE FIELDS IN TRUST APPLICATION WAS GIVEN.</p>	Clerk
9	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>The following correspondence was sent during the period and can be found on the council’s website www.bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter to Mrs J Smith regarding Crock Lane • Letter to Mrs P Maynard regarding cyclists • Letter to Mrs K Ockenden regarding John Holt Play Area • Letter to Dorset Council regarding Marrowbone Lane • Letter to Mrs Sargent regarding Valley Road • Letter to Bridport Town Council regarding Investment in Bridport 	
10	<p>AOB: Cllr GS said that the 20mph signs in Bothenhampton Main Street/Old Church Road have been very well received by residents. Cllr MW said that 20mph signs will be installed in Crock Lane next week. One resident asked for 20mph signs along Lower Walditch Lane and this will be considered.</p> <p>Cllr CA referred to his recent email regarding the resurfacing of John Gundry Play Area and it was agreed that OSPA would consider this at its next meeting, on 17th October.</p>	
	The meeting ended at 7.50pm	

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting: 10th October 2022 at Bothenhampton Village Hall, 7pm
Previous council minutes can be found on www.bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com

SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS – 12th September 2022

Action	Owner	Page
Regarding Walditch Trees - It was agreed that the Clerk would write another letter to GC at Dorset Council (copy to Cllr DB) covering all the outstanding issues again.	Clerk	3
Regarding Fields in Trust - continue to search for photographs and update the Title Deeds with the Land Registry.	Clerk	5

ROLLED OVER ITEMS – 12th September 2022

Action	Owner	Page
Regarding Walditch Environmental Event	Cllr JB	5

ITEMS REFERRED TO OSPA SUB-COMMITTEE – 17th October 2022

Item	Page
None	

ITEMS REFERRED TO F&F SUB-COMMITTEE – 21st October 2022

Item	Page
None	

ITEMS REFERRED TO TT&F SUB-COMMITTEE – 21st October 2022

Item	Page
None	

External Organisations - Acronyms:

WATAG – West Dorset – Western Area Transport Action Group

BLAP – Bridport Local Area Partnership

BANP JCC – Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan, Joint Councils Committee

DAPTC – Dorset Association of Town and Parish Councils

NALC – National Association of Local Councils

External Organisations - Councillor representatives:

WATAG – Cllr Chris Addis (Deputy - Cllr Martin Warne)

BLAP – Cllr Graham Styles

BANP – Cllr Jim Basker

Misc

VFO - Volunteer Footpath Officer