



Bothenhampton & Walditch  
Parish Council since 1886

**MINUTES OF BOTHENHAMPTON & WALDITCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
held at BOTHENHAMPTON VILLAGE HALL, 7pm on 10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 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
	<b>Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Eligibility:</b> No Declarations were received.	
	<b>Apologies:</b> Cllr E Berry	
1	<b>Reports from Dorset Council Councillors:</b>  Cllr KC attended the meeting and confirmed that he had requested that the planning application regarding Marrowbone Lane be taken to the DC Planning Committee. Councillors expressed their disappointment that too many contentious applications are denied a full planning committee. Cllr KC confirmed that decisions on this matter are made by the Chair of the Planning Committee and the Planning Officer alone.	
2	<b>Democratic Half Hour:</b> Dave Rickard, a local resident, explained seasonal problems of nettles and brambles narrowing the roadway in Hollow Way particularly for cyclists. He submitted a survey reporting 24 trees or saplings growing around the High Pavement, of which nine are growing out of the wall, thus threatening the stability of the High Pavement and its side wall. He appealed to the Council to press for action to remove the roots of these trees before expensive works become necessary. A copy of the survey was handed to the Clerk who will disseminate to all councillors on the T, T & F sub-committee for their information and decisions.	Clerk
2A	<b>Dispensation – Cllr Edward Berry</b> The Dispensation, having been approved on the 14 <sup>th</sup> September was ratified.	

*Cllr Jim Basker*

Minutes agreed on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022

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3	<p><b>Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022:</b></p> <p>The Minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> September having been agreed by email were accepted, and a copy has been posted to the website.</p> <p><b>Carried forward Actions:</b></p> <p>Regarding Walditch Trees - The Clerk confirmed that she had written to Dorset Council with a copy to DC Cllr DB. Action completed.</p> <p>Regarding Fields in Trust – Clerk to approach local solicitors to deal with the Land Registry</p> <p><b>Rolled Over Items:</b></p> <p>Regarding Walditch Environmental Event. Cllr JB confirmed that he had spoken to Sam Wilberforce and Malcolm Drew and said that they were happy to attend an environmental event and to make a presentation to residents. Cllr JB will progress this in the coming months.</p>	Clerk
4	<p><b>Reports from External Organisations:</b></p> <p><b>WATAG</b> – Cllr MW confirmed he had attended the meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022. He said that it was a well attended meeting, and some important speakers from the field of Public Transport were there or provided written reports, as follows:</p> <p>Adrian Glover Dorset Council Transport Manager  Richard Gagg, First Wessex  Tim Christian DCT  Andrew Ardley SW Railway  Will Austin Bridport Town Council</p> <p>All of the above provided updates with Q and A afterwards. Recently appointed Adrian Glover was enthusiastic to make Public Transport work. He said the No 6 bus from Bridport to Yeovil was out to tender and he felt this was a promising move forward. He mentioned the problem of the lack of public money, but there were still areas to work on to improve services in the WATAG area and he asked for us all to keep telling Dorset Council what our priorities were.</p> <p>Richard Gagg, Operations Manager for Weymouth and Portland answered a number of queries about concerns in Lyme Regis and Chideock and whilst again, limited by the lack of resources he wanted to see how his organisation could perhaps provide better services in the rural area without expecting profit. He said driver shortages were a problem.</p> <p>There were attendees from Chideock PC, Beaminster and Lyme Regis Town Councils.</p>	

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
4	<p><b>Reports from External Organisations: (Cont.)</b></p> <p><b>BLAP Liaison</b> – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022 – Cllr GS confirmed that he had attended this meeting and that the guest speaker had been from Dorset Council’s Planning Enforcement Department. The officer outlined procedures and processes and said that there had been 716 enforcement complaints during the year, but that 694 had been dismissed. Therefore, only a small number of cases result in any action being taken by Dorset Council. Other issues relating to the funding request for next year (on the Agenda for F&amp;F to consider on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022). Cllr GS also mentioned that there was a meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> October discussing the Bridport Investment Plan, chaired by David Dixon (Bridport Town Council). There was concern that Bridport and West Dorset have missed out in tapping into funds and attracting investment into the town. The main aims of the Bridport Investment Plan are to create job opportunities for young people (eg via the Foundry Lea Skills Academy), and to promote the low carbon economy. It was also acknowledged that there is a lack of affordable housing and an ageing population in area. The draft report will be circulated for comments at the end of October.</p> <p><b>BANP / JCC</b> – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022. Cllr JB confirmed he will attend this meeting.</p> <p><b>Local Consultation on Foundry Lea</b> – Cllr JB provided an update on a meeting he had attended and said that developers are aware of the concerns of the local community particularly with the Miles Cross Roundabout and have confirmed that it will get built before anything else. The developers also confirmed that they intended to introduce air source heating within houses and other ecological initiatives. Sympathetic about problems on physical communications with Bridport centre. Cllr JB will produce further updates as and when.</p>	
5	<p><b>Planning:</b></p> <p><b>Planning Consultations</b> The planning consultations specified on the agenda were noted.</p>	
6	<p><b>Finance and Budget:</b></p> <p>Payments made from 13<sup>th</sup> September to 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ken Hussey</li> <li>• Derek Smith</li> <li>• Dorset Council</li> <li>• Bridport Town Council</li> <li>• PKF Littlejohn</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Jim Basker</i> Chairman .....</p>	

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
6	<p><b>Finance and Budget (Cont.)</b></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 October 2022 was approved as were any expenses.</p> <p>The Bank Statement to 30<sup>th</sup> September 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 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 was sent to Councillors for their review and approval.</p> <p>The External Audit Completion Notice and Certificate 2021-22 was noted.</p> <p><b>THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS WERE APPROVED AND/OR AGREED, AND WHERE APPROPRIATE, SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bank Statement and Invoice Cover Sheet (Approved and signed by the Chairman)</li> <li>• Cash Flow Forecast – approved by Councillors</li> </ul>	
7	<p><b>Parish Council Sub-Committees:</b></p> <p>The next parish council sub-committees are scheduled OSPA 17<sup>th</sup> October, Finance and Funding and Traffic, Transport and Footpaths 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022.</p>	
8	<p><b>Other Parish Matters:</b></p> <p><b>Email from 20's Plenty for Dorset Campaign Coordinator regarding Dorset Council's 20mph Policy</b></p> <p>The Clerk had forwarded an email she had received in October from the above to Councillors and Cllr CA had responded on behalf of the Parish Council.</p> <p>Dorset Councillor KC confirmed that he had attended the meeting (virtually) and said that the Overview Committee were pushing for the 20mph Policy to be accepted, including the recommendation for it to be reviewed after 1 year.</p> <p>There was discussion around the possibility of funding the 20mph initiative within the parish, which would speed up the process.</p> <p>There was some confusion over whether the parish council would need to carry out its own speed / traffic surveys, including a survey of the residents to assess support for the change. The Clerk agreed to place onto the T, T &amp; F Agenda.</p>	Clerk

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8	<p><b>Other Parish Matters (Cont.)</b></p> <p><b>Warm Hubs for residents</b> Cllr GS said that a number of councils are considering creating warm hubs for vulnerable people to keep warm during the winter. He asked whether we should be thinking about this and the pros/cons of provision. There was general discussion around this. Most councillors thought that the population is too spread out to benefit from a heated hub located within each of the village halls, there are also problems with transport (residents to and fro). The initiative was not progressed.</p> <p><b>Sheep on Road</b> Cllr JB said that the Parish Council has received several complaints regarding sheep straying onto the road. It was established that gaps in two fences had been found in a local landowner's fences. The landowner (JN) has been informed. Cllr JB has spoken to Dorset Council and was referred to DC Trading Standards / Animal Welfare. He confirmed that an officer attached to Trading Standards will visit the site during October 2022.</p>	
9	<p><b>Correspondence:</b></p> <p>The following correspondence was sent during the period and can be found on the council's website <a href="http://www.bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com">www.bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letter to Dorset Council regarding Walditch trees</li> </ul>	
10	<p><b>AOB:</b> There was no AOB</p>	
	The meeting ended at 8.10pm	

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting: 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at Walditch Village Hall, 7pm  
Previous council minutes can be found on [www.bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com](http://www.bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com)

#### SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS – 10th October 2022

Action	Owner	Page
Regarding Hollow Way High Pavement – survey of aggressive weeds and invasive trees. Clerk to put onto T, T & F Agenda.	Clerk	1
Regarding Fields in Trust - Clerk to approach local solicitors to deal with the Land Registry.	Clerk	2
Regarding Email from 20's Plenty for Dorset Campaign Coordinator regarding Dorset Council's 20mph Policy	Clerk	4
There was some confusion over whether the parish council would need to carry out its own speed / traffic surveys, including a survey of the residents to gain support for the change. The Clerk agreed to place onto the T, T & F Agenda.		

**ROLLED OVER ITEMS – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

Action	Owner	Page
None		

**ITEMS REFERRED TO OSPA SUB-COMMITTEE – 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

Item	Page
None	

**ITEMS REFERRED TO F&F SUB-COMMITTEE – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022**

Item	Page
BLAP Funding Request	3

**ITEMS REFERRED TO TT&F SUB-COMMITTEE – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022**

Item	Page
Hollow Way High Pavement – survey of aggressive weeds and invasive trees	1
20's Plenty for Dorset Campaign Coordinator regarding Dorset Council's 20mph Policy	4

**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