

BOTHENHAMPTON & WALDITCH PARISH COUNCIL  
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Minutes of the Bothenhampton & Walditch Parish Council meeting held in the Church Hall, Bothenhampton on Monday 13 September 1993 at 7.30pm

Present. Mr G Matthews (Chairman)	Mr F Botham (Vice Chairman)
Mrs F Ball	Mr R Batten
Mr D Blythe	Mr C Casstles
Mrs D England MBE	Mr C Horton
Mr G Warburton	Mr D Wilson (Clerk)

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 Aug '93, having been circulated to all members, were accepted as a true record of that meeting and duly signed.

2. APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Dist Clr D Cracknell

3. DEMOCRATIC HALF HOUR

a. The Chairman suggested that in the 94/95 precept a sum should be set aside for 'in-house' minor repairs and clean ups such as the over hanging vegetation on the roadside footpath in Hollow Way. Mr Mitchell the advised the meeting that he had very recently cut back the growth on the footpath in Holow Way. Mr Udall expressed his concern over such a move with regard to employers liability and insurance cover for those carrying out such tasks. It was agreed that this venture should be investigated more fully.

b. Mrs Udall was not happy that the 'Democratic Spot' should be so high on the agenda as it did not give the public the opportunity to express their views on a given subject before the Council made any decisions. The Chairman pointed out that the agenda was clearly displayed on all notice boards together with the notice of meeting and the position of the 'Democratic Spot' had been the subject of much debate over many years. He also pointed out that the Council are not oblinded to have such an item on the agenda. After some discussion it was agreed that in future the 'Democratic Half Hour' would be put on tha agenda after the reports from the County and District Councillors had been received.

4. MATTERS ARISING

a. Lighting at the old 'George' Pub. The Clerk read a letter received from JC Palmer Ltd.

b. Safeway Superstore - Vehicle egress. The Clerk read a letter from the County Surveyor, Dorset County Council.

c. Safeway Superstore - Pedestrain access. The Clerk read a letter from the Development Control Manger, West Dorset Disrict Council.

d. Junc Lower Walditch Lane/Crock Lane/Walditch Road. The Clerk read a letter from the County Surveyor, Dorset County Council. The Council expressed their dissatisfaction with the answer given. The Clerk was instructed to request that a full traffic survey be

school term time, that the details of the survey be forwarded to this council, and that greater care be taken to ensure that the foliage on the nearside of Lower Walditch Lane is kept cut well back at all times. The Council also expressed their concern over the emphasis that is placed on the fact that there has been a lack of notifiable accidents at the junction. It is within the knowledge of Councillors that there has been a great many 'near-misses' and it is a junction that is just waiting for an accident to happen. The County Council are urged to look into this matter once more with a view to increasing safety for all users.

e. Traffic control - car boot sales. The Clerk read a letter from the Superintendent, Traffic Division, Dorset Police.

f. Parking problems Crock Lane. The Clerk read a letter from the County Surveyor, Dorset County Council. The Clerk was instructed to write to the West Dorset Housing Association to ask for their assistance in reducing the parking problems in Crock Lane.

g. Clr Botham reported that there are no plans for a sub post office in the new Safeway Superstore.

h. Clr Matthews reported that one of the seats in Holow Way had broken up completely and had been removed from the site. The other seat was in a repairable condition. It was agreed that the Chairman would approach Mr Wheeler to obtain an estimate for the repair of the seat and advised the Council that an offer had been received to replace the other seat.

j. Parish Constanble. Clr Botham reported that he had looked at the suggestion and could find little to commend the scheme to the council. After some debate it was felt there was some merit in the scheme it was agreed to look further into the it. This council, however, would not be entering the Home Secretary's competition.

## 5. REPORTS

a. Cty Clr Rear Admiral Pritchard had nothing to report.

## 6. FINANCE

a. Accounts for payment.

The following accounts were approved for payment:

D Wilson		
Clerk's salary and expenses 2qtr 1993/94		£ 760.42
Bothenhampton Playgroup		
Grant as agreed Aug meeting, minute 6d		100.00
Jim White		
Grass cutting Aug '93		63.44
Bothenhampton Church Hall		
Hire of hall for Sep meeting		11.00
SWEB (Connect)Ltd		
Improved lighting Crock Lane		363.08

b. Alternative banking.  
(Clr Horton declared an interest and took no part in the discussions)

The report prepared by the Clerk, and circulated to all members was discussed.

Proposed by Clr Ball                      Seconded by Clr England

That the present banking arrangements should remain in force.

Voting: For - 3 (three)      Against - 5 (five)

Motion lost

Proposed by Clr Blythe                      Seconded by Clr Castles

That the Council should change its bankers to The National Westminster Bank plc.

Voting: For - 5 (five)      Against - 3 (three)

Motion carried

## 7. PLANNING

a. The Clerk gave details of the following planning applications:

6 Glebe Close, Bothenhampton - erect garage extension.  
No objections.

b. The Clerk gave details of the following applications approved by the West Dorset District Council:

Wisteria Cottage, Main Street, Bothenhampton  
7 Wych Hill, Bothenhampton

## 8. FOOTPATHS/ROADS/LIGHTING

a. The Clerk gave details of the estimate received from SWEB for improved lighting in Crock Lane.

Proposed by Clr Warburton                      Seconded by Clr Castles

That the estimate of £727 + 17½% VAT be accepted and that the interim payment of £363.08 be approved.

Carried unanimously

b. Footpaths.

1. The kissing gate opposite Hyde Cottages, Walditch is in a bad state of repair. The Clerk was instructed to contact the owner Mr JCF Grundy and request that he makes arrangements for its repair.

2. The footpath sign opposite the Crown in Chestnut Avenue has been removed. The County Rights of Way Officer to be asked to replace it.

3. Footpath No 18 Valley Road/Quarry Lane is in need of repair as the steps have become extremely dangerous.

c. Concern was expressed at the continuance of heavy lorries going through the village. The Clerk was instructed to write to Mrs Tofts, County Council and ascertain how much longer this traffic is likely to be using the village road.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk drew the attention of the Council to the following correspondence:

- Dorset Rural Action - passed to Clr England
- 50th Anniversary D Day - passed to Clr Casstles
- Dorset Volunteer Bureau
- Keys to the housing crisis
- Training opportunities
- Dorset Halls Forum - passed to Clr Botham.
- Holy Trinity Church assistance with grass cutting costs - for next meeting.
- The old George Inn - Mr R Ffooks. The Council resolved to give Mr Ffooks moral support in his attempt to retain the George Inn as a pub - or social centre of some kind - for the benefit of the village, but regretted that they were not prepared to give financial or any other form assistance towards achieving this objective

At this point it was resolved to go into confidential session and the press and public were asked to leave.

Date ..... 11.10.93 .....

Chairman.....  .....

