

OFFWELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MONTHLY ORDINARY MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2024 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: C. Whithear, T. Norris, D. Blackmore, A. Welch-Thornton,
P. Hopkins

In Attendance: A Jenkins (Clerk)

Members of Public: 1

Cllr. Whithear, the Vice Chair chaired the meeting.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Council meeting and outlined / reminded everyone of the Covid-19 measures which had been adopted for Council meetings.

OPEN SESSION

A member of the public raised the matter of whether the parish council were going to appoint a representative to join the Offwell Recreation Ground and Village Hall Charity (ORG & VHC). She felt that it was important that the Parish Council did appoint a representative in order to bring it's ideas to the Committee to ensure that the facilities provided by the complex are what is wanted, needed and for the benefit of the community.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons given (LGA 1972 S.85 (1))

Cllr. J. Tristram, Cllr. Pepper, Cllr. M. Norfolk & Cllr. H. Parr

2. To receive any declarations of interest relating to items outlined in this agenda (this does not preclude the duty to declare further interests as applicable)

None

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th January 2024

The minutes were declared a true record of the proceedings, proposed by Cllr. Norris, seconded by Cllr. Blackmore, all in favour.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

The Clerk reported that Cllrs. Norris and Blackmore had attended the new Councillor training session in Kilmington on Wednesday 24th January 2024.

5. Reports:

a) Police

Cllr. Blackmore reported that he had attended the official opening day event of the Honiton police station on Tuesday 20th February 2024

b) District and County Councillors

No reports received

c) Clerk

None

d) Offwell Neighbourhood Support Group

It was agreed to remove this agenda item from future agendas.

e) Highways Matters

1) 20mph

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council's application from last year will be included in this year's tranche of applications to be considered for approval. Devon Highways will advise in a few months time which applications have been successful and been approved.

2) A35

None

3) Bus Service

None

4) Other Highways matters

None

f) Footpaths Report

The Clerk advised that the Footpaths Officer had reported a few issues to the PROW team who were going to deal with them.

g) Any Other Reports

None

6. Correspondence

- a) Invitation from ORG/VHC for the Parish Council to provide a representative to serve on the ORG/VHC committee.

The Clerk had circulated the written invitation to all Councillors ahead of the meeting. Councillors discussed the matter at some length taking into account the earlier comments expressed by the member of the public in the open session. They felt that as a number of councillors were not present that the matter should be deferred to the next council meeting. This would enable Councillors particularly those who are relatively new residents to the Parish to attend the ORG/VHC forthcoming AGM meeting on the 27th February and learn more and better understand the Charity and its future aims and plans for the complex and the facilities on offer.

7. Finance

a) Current Financial Position

The Clerk reported that there is £3,326.72 in the general account and £3,137.82 in the CIL account.

b) Expenditure to be ratified

None

c) Expenditure to be approved for which bills have been received

- 1) Payment to A.Jenkins of £238.48 for the Clerk's net salary after tax/NIC deduction for the month of October (18/12/2023 to 29/01/2024)

2) Payment to HMRC of £59.60 for PAYE

Payments proposed by Cllr. Norris,, seconded by Cllr. Norfolk. All in favour.

d) Change of Bank signatories

The Clerk reminded Councillors that he was waiting the return of their completed forms in order for the Bank to proceed with the change of signatories.

8. Planning Applications

a) 21/1798/FUL - Land On The East Side Of Tower Road Offwell Honiton

Change of use of an existing agricultural building and associated works for use as a Livestock Collection Centre.

Cllr. Norris and the Clerk advised that the applicants were operating the collection centre from the site even though they were still in breach of the planning conditions and had not submitted any of the required documents/reports to the planning department for consideration.

b) 23/0735/FUL – Land North Of Honiton Golf Course Northleigh Hill Road Honiton

The construction of a Youth Football Facility, including clubhouse, parking, storage and football pitches to suit all age groups.

The Clerk advised nothing to report.

10. Electricity Sub Station

The Clerk advised that he had spoken to the sub station technician who had confirmed that contractors had been instructed to stump grind the tree stumps. He had also confirmed that they are prepared to permit the Council to plant a hedge.

11. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

None

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Wednesday 20th March 2024

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed *J. Tristram*

Date **20/03/2024**