**OFFWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MONTHLY ORDINARY MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 18th OCTOBER 2023 AT 7.30PM**

**IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:**  C. Whithear (Vice Chair), T. Norris,

P. Hopkins, M. Norfolk, T. Pepper, D. Blackmore

**In Attendance:**  A Jenkins (Clerk),

**Members of Public:** 0

Cllr. Whithear chaired the meeting

He welcomed everyone to the Council meeting and outlined / reminded everyone of the

Covid-19 measures which had been adopted for Council meetings.

**OPEN SESSION**

No matters raised.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**1. To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons given (LGA 1972**

**S.85 (1))**

Cllr. Tristram, Cllr. A Welch-Thornton, EDDC Clllr. 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

1. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th September2023**

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

1. **Matters arising from the Minutes**

The Clerk advised that the majority of councillors had set up their new G mail accounts and that there were three left to set up theirs.

1. **Reports:**
2. **Police**

The Clerk advised that he had not heard anything from the Police as to when they will send someone to attend a council meeting.

1. **District and County Councillors**

The Clerk advised that EDDC Cllr. Parr had reported that EDDC hadrequested a letter be sent to the three local MPs, Richard Foord, Simon Jupp and Mel Stride, asking them to support a review of the standard method for calculating housing need and a more positive approach to solving the housing crisis. She had also reported on housing numbers in relation to the emerging Local Plan, Achieving Nutrient Neutral Development in the River Axe Catchment, Section 106 and CIL Resources and Processes and Devolution Proposals

1. **Clerk**

The Clerk advised that he had collected the new supply of sandbags and asked Councillors to let him know if they wanted any to give to parishioners who may need them.

1. **Offwell Neighbourhood Support Group**

None

1. **Highways Matters**
2. **20mph**

None

1. **A35**

The Clerk advised that he was still waiting to hear from DCC Cllr. Hartnell about the various matters discussed at the last meeting. The Parish & Town Councils were hoping to arrange a further joint A35 meeting with National Highways in the next few months.

He advised that the meeting of the A35 Parishes group had taken place on the 13th October and that he was presently awaiting a report on the meeting.

1. **Bus Service**

Councillors discussed the available bus services.

1. **Other Highways matters**

The Clerk advised that he had not heard anything further from DCC Cllr. Hartnell regarding the matters of the Pothole and missing grit bin discussed at the last meeting.

1. **Footpaths Report**

None

1. **Any Other Reports**

None

1. **Correspondence**
2. **Offwell Fete**

Councillors discussed the email received from one of the organisers of a possible Offwell Fete to be held in June 2024. Councillors felt that the Fete and its organisation and any required insurances was not a Parish Council matter and was the responsibility of the fete organisers. The Clerk to speak to the person who sent the email

1. **Zero Hour**

Councillors noted the email that had been received from Zero Hour.

1. The Clerk reported that he had received an email from the Secretary of ORG &VHC

requesting a donation grant towards the cost of the fireworks event taking place on the 25th October 2023. The secretary had mentioned that they had not applied for a grant for the fireworks event for a number of years but in the past had received a grant of £250 from the Parish Council.

Councillors considered the matter but decided not to make a donation grant. The Clerk to advise the secretary.

1. **Finance**
2. **Current Financial Position**
3. The Clerk reported that there is £5,539.14 in the general account and £12.09 in the CIL account.
4. **Expenditure to be ratified**

None

1. **Expenditure to be approved for which bills have been received**
2. Payment to A.Jenkins for the Clerk’s net salary after tax/NIC deduction for the month of October (28/092023 to 26/10/2023) and to HMRC for the appropriate amount based on a gross salary amount of £365.44
3. Payment to A. Jenkins of £19.65 to reimburse for the renewal payment to Just Host for the I year renewal of the offwell.org domain.
4. Payment to ORG & VHC of £192.00 for the room hire charges for the 2022 Council meetings in the Hall.
5. Payment to C. Whithear of £12.99 to reimburse for purchase of Weedkiller.

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

1. **Change of bank signatories**

The Clerk had obtained bank signatories forms for Cllrs. Norfolk, Pepper, Norris and Blackmore and gave them forms to complete, sign and return to him.

1. **Planning Applications**
2. **23/2044/FUL - Pindox Farm Offwell Honiton EX14 9ST**

**Remove existing pergola and replace with balcony with glass and stainless steel handrail.**

Cllr. Hopkins proposed that the Parish Council support this application, seconded by Cllr. Norris, all in favour**.**

1. **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.**

The Clerk advised that he had again spoken to the Enforcement Officer who had advised that they were still waiting for the applicants to address the breaches and submit the required documentation to Planning for their consideration.

1. **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 that the application had still not been reinstated onto the planning website.

1. **Electricity Sub Station**

The Clerk reported that he was waiting for a response from the technician responsible for the sub station.

1. **Update of Standing Orders**

Cllr. Norfolk requested that this item be removed from the agendas.

1. **Councillor Training**

The Clerk advised that he was waiting for DALC to confirm the date for the training session.

1. **Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

Wednesday 15th November 2023 at 7.30pm

1. **Meeting dates for 2024**

The Clerk set out the proposed 2024 meetings bt advised that the January date may have to be revised.

**11. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 15th November 2023 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed **J. Tristram** Date **22/11/2023**