

**Minutes of the FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING of
Sixpenny Handley & Pentridge Parish Council
Held 6th June 2024 at 7:30pm @ Parish Office, 6 Town Farm Workshops, Sixpenny Handley.**

Item		Action By
	<p style="text-align: center;">Public Open Session 1 attendance</p> <p>The following concerns were raised by a local resident.</p> <p>Q: The Frogmore Lane Development – Has confirmation been given for the variation of planning application to go to Committee for a decision rather than Case Office approval?</p> <p>Q: There is offensive graffiti on the walls of the local bus stop. Despite attempts to paint over the vandalism the words remain – are there any plans to prevent further vandalism and refurbish the bus stop?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Parish Council comments:</p> <p>To date, Dorset Planning Department have not notified the Parish Council of their decision. Their decision will be published on the planning portal and can be accessed by the general public.</p> <p>Members agreed that there is an emerging pattern of anti-social behaviour in the village. The rural police team have been notified of several incidents of vandalism but unfortunately with little results. The PC and a local volunteer have attempted to remove and cover up the vandalism but finding a satisfactory solution has been challenging. In the meantime, the PC have registered on a Government initiative to nominate a community payback project hoping to get previous offenders putting back into the community by refurbishing our bus stops. The Council will continue to monitor behaviour and support initiatives aimed at providing activities for the youth.</p>	
1311	<p>Attendance & Apologies Cllr Simon Meaden (Chairman of the Finance & General Purposes Committee) Cllr James Reed (Chairman of the Parish Council) Cllr Dave Adams Cllr Robert Hassall Cllr Andy Turner Cllr Colin Taylor</p> <p>Also in Attendance Ciona Nicholson (Clerk)</p> <p>Apologies Cllr Stuart McLean</p>	
1312	<p>Declarations of Interest & Grants for Dispensation</p>	

	<p>None</p> <p>The following members declare non-pecuniary interests in matters relating to:</p> <p>Cllr Colin Taylor – Pentridge Village Hall & SH Village Hall 1st Woodcutt Scouts, CCIO Cllr James Reed – Community Land Trust & Item Speed-watch Cllr Andy Turner – Community Land Trust & Skate-park Project Cllr Simon Meaden- 1st Woodcutt Scouts</p>	
1313	<p>Matters arising from the last F&GP Parish Council Meeting held 1st May 2024.</p> <p>The properties belonging to the Parish Council need to be booked in to connect Wessex Internet. The Sports Pavilion will be host to the Big Session event on the 13th July and it would be beneficial have access to the internet.</p>	
1314	<p>Play Area Matters & Reports</p> <p>The weekly on-sight inspection in May confirmed that the equipment and surrounding area was in good condition.</p> <p>Clerk to update with Cllr Chick on the replacement Recreation Ground gate.</p>	Clerk
1315	<p>Sports Association Matters</p> <p>Members previously resolved to recommend to the Full Parish Council ‘a supportive £500.00 grant’ be paid to the Cricket Club in order to financially assist the Club in the forthcoming season. Clerk to include as an agenda item on 28/6/24 Full Parish meeting.</p> <p>The cricket club confirmed a number additional facility hire matches to be played on the 5th, 19th June & 3rd July and confirmed that the outstanding seasonal fees of £250.00 from 2023/24 have been paid.</p> <p>A replacement cleaner for the Sports Pavilion has been found. A local 16-year old student who is about to finish their GCSEs. Members discussed the importance of following employment guidelines with a minor and recommended consulting with DAPTC.</p> <p>Members discussed the merits of re-establishing the Sports Association and in conjunction appointing a Working Group. It is necessary to continue an active association in order to maintain Amateur Sports Club rates relief (-80%). It will also be beneficial to maintain closer relationships with each of the Sports Clubs.</p> <p>Clerk to include Sports Association Working Group on next FPC.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

1316	<p>Sports Facilities Matters & Recreation Ground</p> <p>The Bowls Committee have identified several leaks in the ridge of the Bowls Club roof. Following investigation, it appears to be the top of the black bitumen has separated away from the nails. Cllr Dave Adams has offered to provide the labour if the PC can approve expenditure to purchase materials to repair.</p> <p>Members unanimously approved expenditure of £500.00 for replacement steel lengths and materials.</p> <p>The John Deere mower has recently been serviced but despite that, reports that the mower overheats and is often out of action. Clerk to clarify the situation with the Groundsman and contact the local contractor to resolve.</p> <p>The new dug outs are currently standing on a grass base. Members discussed preparing concrete pads for a permanent sustainable finish. Clerk to liaise with Alfie Burt / Nick Lawrie.</p> <p>Clerk to escalate the original enquiry to a complaint to Octopus Energy following the cessation of Panel Power (export tariffs) on the 1st April 2024.</p> <p>Recreation Ground Maintenance</p> <p>‘No mow May’ policy invited positive and negative comments from local residents. Areas in the recreation ground were encouraged to flourish in May.</p> <p>A letter received from a local resident of Pantiles regarding overgrown areas of the recreation ground, overhanging branches onto their property and a request to install preventative measures to stop vehicles accidentally driving down the steep bank adjacent to the VH car park and damaging the wall.</p> <p>Members agreed to find a suitable solution to prevent vehicles accidentally being driven down the bank following x3 recent incidents. Clerk to contact VH Committee to consult on the matter.</p> <p>The Clerk to confirm that any overhanging branches along boundary lines can be removed by the neighbouring property owners.</p> <p>Areas identified requiring maintenance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Saddlers Hedge needs weeding, trimming & thickening. • Bank on the football pitch & cricket boundaries need cutting back. • Bowls / Cricket layered hedge needs cutting back. • Large Village Hall car park hedge needs cutting back. • Edges of the car park need tidying. • Path between tennis Club & Bowls Club needs clearing. • Old green container needs to be removed. 	<p>DA</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>The Clerk to work with Cllrs Turner & Adams to incorporate these tasks into a Grounds Maintenance Specification/ Contract. The contract to be made available on the Governments Contracts Finder system whilst the PC encourage local businesses to follow this site.</p> <p>Clerk to request Wessex Internet connect by digging a trench across to the Pavilion.</p>	<p>Clerk/AT/DA</p> <p>Clerk</p>
1317	<p>Village Hall Matters</p> <p>A village hall maintenance day is scheduled for Sunday 9th June.</p> <p>A meeting held on 15th May between Cllr Turner & members of the VH Committee to update on the solar power system and further generator information.</p> <p>The PC to establish which generator to utilise with new quotes and establish the pad specification. Arrange for VH to access the portal in order to get the current alarm errors resolved – Clerk to contact DES</p> <p>Clerk to request Wessex Internet is connected.</p>	<p>Clerk/AT</p> <p>Clerk</p>
1318	<p>Allotment Association</p> <p>There were no further updates following the recent plot clearances – The Clerk & Cllr Adams to meet with AA Chairman to discuss FPC outcome.</p> <p>Cllr Reed to liaise with local contractor Julian Lownds for a price on plastic roll to protect the vacant allotment plots.</p>	<p>JR</p>
1319	<p>Skate-park Update</p> <p>Cllr Turner updated members on the Skate-park project.</p> <p>A meeting between members of the Council and Mavericks' design team earlier in the month outlined the design and build followed by a design workshop with the skateboarders. An impression of what the skate-park was circulated.</p> <p>At that Project meeting there was a discussion about the imminent installation of the Recreation Ground footpath and how it would need to be addressed during the build of Skate-park as it would form part of the site access. The access surface would need to cope with 20 tonne lorries driving over it which would need significant funding to maintain the surface and address any damage post build. An option would be to delay the footpath build until after the skate-park build and include its construction into the cost of the Skate-park build. It was agreed at that meeting to take this to the Full Parish Council for review and approval.</p> <p>The suggestion at this meeting was to utilise the grant money to install some of the surface track suitable for the lorries which the Skate-park project would extend for its access. The Skate-park project would then replace it with the specified path being delivered through the existing PC funding, this would reduce the cost of protecting the footpath during the project build and reduce the Skate-park project costs whilst subsequently delivering the actual footpath.</p>	

	<p>Members considered delaying installation which would result in losing the grant funding and also having a further dependency on the Skate-park project to deliver the path at the earliest next year.</p> <p>It was suggested that a better option would be to seek access from Church Farm, which is likely to be a cheaper and more effective option and that this would allow the build of the footpath using the allocated grant funding to take place.</p> <p>Councillor Turner took the action to investigate this option and the committee reaffirmed the decision to proceed with the footpath project.</p>	
1320	<p>Big Session 2024</p> <p>A copy of this year's risk assessment for the Big Session on the 13th July 2024 was circulated to those members present.</p> <p>It was noted that the Scouts marquee will not be used at this year's event.</p> <p>Confirmation that the Sixpenny Session members were happy to act as Parish Councils' Event officers on the day.</p>	
1321	<p>Matters to Report & Correspondence</p> <p>The Manager of the Sixpenny Handley shop requested the support of the PC to challenge the decision made by The Link ATM to remove the cash withdrawal facility due to insufficient transaction volume, which makes it commercially non-viable for them to continue operating it.</p> <p>The Clerk contacted Link to explain how important access to cash is for our underserved community and requested a more flexible approach taking into account our rural location.</p> <p>The Community Land Trust are due to hold an on-site meeting with Dorset Council soon. The ecology report is being reworked but indicates that the bio-diversity net gain will need to offset the whole site. It is hopeful to submit a planning application shortly.</p>	
1322	<p>Financial Matters & Expenditure</p> <p>The RFO circulated to members prior to the meeting a report on finances to 6th June 2024. Bank Reconciliation for signing; List of Receipts & Payments for scrutiny.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councillor Robert Hassall completed a Unity Trust account management submission form and submitted proof of identity documents – x3 Councillors approved the application. <p>Clerk to administrate payments, Scrutineer Cllr R Hassall 2nd Cllr C Taylor & 3rd Cllr S Meaden to authorise payments.</p>	

Meeting Closed 8.45 pm

**These minutes are to be signed by the Chairman after approval
at the next Full meeting of the Parish Council.**

Payments – 6th June 2024

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