

OWERMOIGNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20th March 2024 at 7:30pm
in Owermoigne Village Hall

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Charles Sandham (chair), Jo Chilcott, John Chilcott, Kim House, Nick Power, & the clerk [Mike James]
Dorset Councillor N Ireland and 16 members of the public.

- 1 Apologies for Absence** Councillor Paul Warren
- 2 Declarations of Interest** No declarations of interest were made
- 3 Public Open Forum** No pre-applications to speak had been made
No ad hoc questions were asked or issues raised

14 Dorset Council

Due to a second engagement later that evening, Councillor Nick Ireland's report was moved in the discussion order so that he could attend both events.

- February Budget meeting. The maximum allowable Council Tax increase was approved. However, to continue operation at the same level of commitment, Dorset Council will need to use £8m from the reserves.
- Dorset MPs were sent a letter asking for support scrapping the Child Benefit cap.
- The levelling up bill doubles Council Tax on 2nd homes, although there are exemptions:
 - letting out to a tenant
 - holiday homes which are not occupied all year

It is not expected to make a difference to most owners.

- Warmwell Roundabout flooding. Work was ongoing on 19/03/2024, which may lead to a permanent fix.
- Speed Limits – (A352) There is a very small county-wide budget of £50k for signage and works to vary speed limits. Owermoigne would have to pay for some, if not all of it. In Owermoigne's case it is probable that a reduction to 40mph rather than 30mph would be countenanced. When asked, Cllr Ireland stated that it was the Road Safety Manager who made the decision about appropriate speed limits.
- In Osmington, it cost £17400 overall to change and move speed limit signs.
- As a costing example, reducing the speed limit down to 30mph from 60mph cost £6000 for signs from the A353 to Osmington Mills.
- Nick Ireland carried out a survey in a similar case to over 240 residents about the speed limit in his area and received a 60% response rate wherein
 - 2 wanted 60mph
 - 10 wanted 50mph
 - 100 wanted 40mph

- Osmington changed the contractors for the Grass Cutting Contract and managed to save £1000 p.a.
- Nick Ireland will be standing as Councillor.

4 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 17th January 2024 were confirmed as a correct record by all present, and were duly signed.

5 Matters Arising

2311.3.2 PCSO Donnison is going to attend a drop in Coffee morning on 16th April 2024

2401.8.3 Clerk to contact the “SpeedWatch” have acknowledged the original application but never followed up with the promised response

ACTION: Clerk to contact the organisation once more.

2401.16 There has been no further response regarding the wooden steps to the beach at Ringstead.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the National Trust again.

6 Police Report from PCSO Donnison

PCSO Donnison did not attend, but apparently, has had IT difficulties contacting the Parish Council email address.

7 Playing Field Maintenance Contract

The Parish Council approved the proposed draft contract and requested that it be distributed to suitable candidates promptly. Cllr Ireland suggested that the set of potential local contractors used by Osmington might be a useful start.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Osmington PC, and potential contractors thereafter.

8 No Parking Signage for the Lay-by at the North end of Owermoigne Village.

The wording was approved and the clerk requested to arrange its purchase as soon as possible. The Parish Council requested that local trades be contracted for the installation.

ACTION: Clerk to procure the sign and engage with suitable local contractors

9 Morton Road Speed Limit Reduction.

It was noted that the speed limit is already 30mph, and because of the state and narrowness of the road, there is no need for a further reduction.

10 A352 Speed Limit

Although it had been hoped for a 30 mph speed limit, it was felt that the best compromise might be 40mph. Some/most of the cost might fall to the Parish Council and there are 12 – 15 signs which would need replacing.

ACTION: Clerk to making the appropriate approaches to Dorset Council.

11 Proposed Alternative Tractor Route Avoiding the C83 Morton Road.

Item deferred.

12 Planning

- P/HOU/2024/00615 Plan approved pre-meeting because of the consultation expiry date
- P/FUL/2023/0728 Plan approved pre-meeting because of the consultation expiry date
- P/HOU/2024/00940 No Objection from the Parish Councillors

13 Flooding

A352 Verges have been cleared to allow drainage. Unfortunately, one of these is discharging surface water into the garden of the cottage at the lowest point. ACTION – clerk to follow up with Dorset Council Highways

Morton Road It has not been possible to contact the riparian owner of the land at the low end of the village.
ACTION - clerk to follow up with Dorset Council Highways.

14 Hollands Mead pavements

The Councillors observed that no noticeable work has been undertaken.

15 Village Hall land purchase.

The contract is with the Solicitors and work is about to begin marking out the site.

16 Cricket Club bid for a donation from the Parish Council Community Benefit Fund.

The Club improvement will cost £42,000 and the Parish Council has been asked for £10,000. The Parish Council deferred this decision to allow time to investigate other available grants; including Section 106 monies from the Galton Solar Farm.

17 Election 2024

The clerk explained that if 7 or less candidates are nominated for the Parish Council, there would be no need for an election. The current Parish Councillors are all retired from post on May 7th.

18 Finance

The following expenses were approved for payment.

Parish Clerk	22/03/24	£395.17 Salary
Parish Clerk	05/02/24	£2.50 Mandate Variation postage
Parish Clerk	06/02/24	£4.49 Notice Board replacement key
HMRC	22/03/24	£92.20 Income Tax
WGS	22/03/24	£236.60 Grass Cutting
Village Hall	20/03/24	£16.00 Hire for Parish Council meetings
ICO	01/04/24	£40.00 DD for Data Protection

Council meeting dates

These will be set for the year 2024 – 2025 at the Annual Parish Council Meeting which will be on **Wednesday 15th May 2024.**

Signed:Chair

Date