

OWERMOIGNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council held
on 15th May 2024 in the Village Hall.

1 Apologies for absence

None Received.

2 Election of Chairman

No Councillors offered or agreed to be nominated for the post of chair for the period until 21st May 2025. In order for the meeting(s) to proceed, it was accepted that the rule allowing a chair for that meeting only would be implemented.

Cllr Jo Chilcott nominated Cllr Paul Warren to stand as chair for the meeting
Cllr Nick Power seconded.

3 Election of Vice-Chair

Since the chair was only to be in place for 1 meeting, it was decided to defer election of a vice-chair until the next Parish Council meeting.

Since this is an election year, the Annual Parish Meeting was deferred to coincide with this Annual Parish Council meeting. They are separate meetings, but the Annual Parish meeting which reports on all of the Parish Groups, needs a chair to facilitate the meeting. Hence, at this point, the Annual Parish Council meeting was paused in order to pursue the business and agenda of the Annual Parish meeting. The agenda and minutes of this are published separately on the Parish Council website, and will be fixed to the notice boards until July.

4 Appointment of Co-opted Parish Councillors

The Parish Council has only 5 of the allowed 7 Councillors. Advertisements were placed before the Parish Council meeting, but on the advice of Dorset Council and the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils, it was decided to defer co-opting any candidates and further advertising the opportunity for others in the Parish to apply should they so wish.
ACTION: clerk to post adverts on the notice boards and on the website.

5 Parish Council committees

DAPTC rep to be decided	Emergency Planning Cllr Sue Cameron-Laxton Cllr Nick Power
Environmental Cllr Jo Chilcott Cllr Paul Warren	Finance Cllr Jo Chilcott Cllr Paul Warren
Flooding to be decided	Footpaths Cllr Paul Warren
Highways Cllr Sue Cameron-Laxton Cllr Nick Power	Owermoigne Park Cllr Jo Chilcott
Planning Cllr Paul Warren	Rural & Agricultural Cllr John Chilcott
Winfrith / Solar Cllr Sue Cameron-Laxton	Younger People Cllr Jo Chilcott

- 6 **Declarations of interest**
None declared.
- 7 **Public Open Forum**
No questions asked.
- 8 **Minutes of the Meeting of 20th March 2024**
Minutes were confirmed and were unanimously accepted.
Proposed: John Chilcott Seconded: Nick Power
- 9 **Matters arising**
- 2401.8.3 Apparently, it is not allowed to operate a SpeedWatch Group along a road whose speed limit is 50mph.
 - 2401.16.1 The National Trust have responded that there is now a budget and plan to repair the steps at Ringstead. However, it was pointed out that because of the erosion, this may well be a “last-repair” event.
 - 2403.13.1 Dorset Council highways have reported that they have contacted the owner of the problematic drainage on the verge. Clearance has been completed.
 - 2311.8.4 Dorset Council Highways have confirmed that they have accepted a formal request from the Parish Council to reduce speed on the A352
 - 2401.8.1 A quote has been received for speed monitoring equipment on the C83 Morton Road.
- 10 **Police Report from PCSO Donnison**
Owermoigne only had one entry on the April Crime reports – a dog bite. Councillors are aware that on Tuesday & Thursday “Bike Nights”, there is a lot of fast traffic on the A352.
- 11 **Playing Field Maintenance Contract**
Four companies were contacted. Eventually, there were 2 no-bids; leaving the current service provider (WGS) and Dorset Council. WGS were half as expensive as DC, but there is some dissatisfaction with the service they provide.
Proposed to accept the WGS bid: Cllr Nick Power, seconded: Cllr Sue Cameron-Laxton.
ACTION: Clerk to set up a meeting to discuss the length of the cut grass and the quality of the service.
- 12 **No Parking Signage for the Lay-by at the North end of Owermoigne Village.**
The sign has been made and the owner of the verge to the rear of the layby has given permission for the sign to be erected. A contractor is being contacted to put the sign up.
- 13 **Moreton Road speed limit reductions**
The council had previously received a quote for the installation of speed monitoring for £275+vat per location.
ACTION: Clerk to ask Tony Burden of Highways to install a speed monitor system.
- 14 **A352 Speed Limit Reductions**
Dorset Council have data to show that vehicles are actually slowing down through the village; but Cllr Nick Power disputes the analysis which shows this change.
ACTION and dispute ongoing.

15 Planning

The new planning matters for the period were only advisory; no decisions needed. However, a point was raised about the Article 4 direction for Ringstead under planning P/CLP/2023/07284. This planning application has been granted by Dorset Council, and any further comments about Article 4 Direction should be directed to them.

16 Safety

16.1 Tree Survey – the Dorset Council bid of £396 + vat was accepted.

Proposed Cllr Nick Power; seconded Cllr Jo Chilcott.

ACTION – Clerk to contact DC to request this survey to be carried out.

16.2 Playground Equipment Survey. RoSPA was chosen as the preferred contractor for this at £72 + vat Proposed Cllr Paul Warren; seconded Cllr Nick Power

ACTION – Clerk to contact RoSPA to commence this survey. (with a request for advice on the to-be-installed goalpost)

17 Village Hall land purchase

The Village Hall committee now have the Land Registry documents, but there are still some delays in finalising the purchase.

18 Cricket Club bid for support from the Community Benefit Fund

The clerk explained that there is unlikely to be any money available from Solar Farm S106 funding, and it may come back to CBF support. The parish council believes that other grants may be available such as Lottery and Community Sports Funding (which is thought to be open until September)

ACTION – parish council to arrange a meeting between them and the cricket club

19 Dorset Councillor's Report

Cllr Ireland welcomed the new administration which will be managing Dorset Council.

Money is very tight, but nevertheless, the new Council still plan to implement the reduction of car parking fees in Weymouth. (which are significantly more than those of Dorchester)

This has commenced with more moderate fees for the new North Quay car park in Weymouth (where the old Council Offices stood)

It has also been noted that Ringstead has increased the private parking and toll fees.

Dorset Council are going to introduce more concessionary bus charges.

They are also going to hold developers to their bids for affordable houses and where possible increase the numbers.

The intention is that the Highways manager Tony Burden should get a larger budget so that road maintenance and improvement can be better funded.

In response to questions from the floor, Cllr Ireland stated that verge grass cutting has not yet started and in response to the Council Tax levels, he pointed out that a typical Band D property in Dorset is now cheaper than a comparative Band D property in Somerset.

The Chair wished Cllr Ireland good luck for all the changes and improvements which are planned.

20 Finance

April 2024 – May 2024

Parish Clerk	02/04/24	£42.00	Refund of Ink Jet Supplies
HMRC	15/04/24	£92.20	Income Tax
Parish Clerk	16/04/24	£2.70	Refund of Stamps for Mandate Variation letters
Swift Signs	17/04/24	£85.99	"Passing Place Only" Sign
WGS Grass Cutting	17/04/24	£118.30	March Payment INV 12191
WGS Grass Cutting	17/04/24	£129.50	April Payment INV 12277
ICO fee	22/04/24	£35.00	Data Protection; direct debit for reduced fee
Parish Clerk	22/04/24	£393.97	Salary; includes £1.20 correction to overpayment
Village Hall	15/05/24	£20.00	Hire For Parish Council meeting
HMRC	22/05/24	£92.20	Income Tax
Parish Clerk	22/05/24	£395.17	Salary
DAPTC Annual Fee	30/06/24	£196.54	Includes larger mailbox fee INV 1750

21 Parish Council meeting dates

Approved for 2024-2025: 17/07/24; 18/09/24; 20/11/24; 15/01/25; 19/03/25
Annual Parish Meeting: 16/04/25
Annual Parish Council Meeting: 21/05/25
Date of next meeting 17th July 2024

Signed Jo Dilcott Chair

Date 17th July 2024