

OWERMOIGNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on 15th January 2025.

1 Attendance: Cllrs Andrew Buckingham, Jo Chilcott, John Chilcott, Kim House, Nick Power, Paul Warren & Parish Clerk. Also, Cllr Nick Ireland plus 6 members of the public.

Apologies for absence: PCSO Alison Donnison

2 Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair

2.1 Cllr Warren was proposed as Chair. (by Cllr Buckingham; sec. by Cllr John Chilcott)
Cllr House was proposed as Vice-Chair (by Cllr Warren; sec. by Cllr Jo Chilcott)
Both elected unanimously.

2.2 Casual Vacancy for the Parish Council. No enquiries have been received from the public about taking on this role. Being a Councillor is a vital role in the local community and helps keep local interests in the focus of Dorset Council. Please contact the clerk, Mike James for more information owermoigne@dorset-aptc.gov.uk if you would be interested.

3 Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests: No declarations were received.

4 Minutes of previous Meetings

Minutes of the Parish Council of 20th November 2024 were approved. [prop: Cllr House. Sec: Cllr Buckingham]

5 Police Report from PCSO Donnison

Dorchester Rural East Neighbourhood Policing Team Crime Report for December.

Two items reported for Owermoigne. Burglary / Break-in at a local house & a deer found with gunshot wounds at Ringstead; the deer subsequently died.

6 Public Open Forum

Four members of the public took the opportunity to speak at the meeting:

6.1 The first speaker had reported to Wessex Water of an incident in 2018 whereby sewage was discharging from a Holding Tank across the road and eventually into the river at Wool. He had approached Wessex Water at the time and been told that they were aware of the problem and that it had been fixed using a long-life internal liner. He requested that the parish council make enquiries to Wessex Water about the longevity of such a solution and whether more permanent pipework would be more appropriate; in which case, could the route be made into a useful cycle way into Crossways.
ACTION 6.1.1: Clerk to initiate a Freedom of Information request to Wessex Water regarding pollution discharges and
ACTION 6.1.2: Clerk to write to Wessex Water about the longevity of the plastic liner used for such repairs. The parish council response about cycleways was that a recently requested 30m footpath was rejected because of the cost, so it was not considered likely that a full long distance cycleway would be affordable.

The speaker also asked about the potential for reducing the speed limit on the Moreton Road. This was discussed at Agenda item 7 – matters arising.

6.2 The second speaker pointed out that paper timetables had been removed from the bus stops in Owermoigne; an action which disadvantaged potential bus users who did not have access to a smart phone, or the facility with the software needed to access the relevant on-line information.

Cllr Ireland undertook to contact Dorset Council regarding the timetable issue.

6.3 The third speaker asked about Article 4 Directions relating to developments at Ringstead. There have been several of these and she was concerned that the parish council had made no response about the Article 4 Direction. The parish council responded that this was in accordance with the observations made by Planning Officer Thomas Wilde who had written to state that there was no further action which need be considered in the case. Cllr Warren also made a statement in July 2024 on the matter specifically in relation to permitted development rights.

6.4 The final speaker asked about the timescale for updating the defibrillator, its consumable parts and the training programme for its use. The last training was planned for June 2023, but this was cancelled.

ACTION 6.4.1 Clerk to report on the defibrillator and to initiate a training programme.

7 Matters arising

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting:

2405.15.1 A352 speed limit change request has been received and acknowledged, although it is not known when or if a decision will be made by Dorset Council.

2409.10.1 Speed Sensors for Moreton Road. The sensors were installed for one week in November '24 and the results have been received, but not all councillors have had the opportunity to review these. The item will be added to next meeting's agenda.

ACTION 7.1 Clerk to re-send the speed data to all councillors for consideration at the next parish council meeting.

2407.12.1 / 2409.12.1 Dorset Council have pointed out that "Child in the Wild" is not registered School and does not come under DC supervision/approval due to its hours and parental involvement requirements. Enforcement state that there is nothing to enforce. A further planning application is being submitted and will include on-site parking.

ACTION 7.2 Clerk to write to ask what effect this will have on parking.

ACTION 7.3 Clerk to write to highways about the road erosion caused by cars parking in the layby/passing place.

ACTION 7.4 Clerk to write to "Child in the Wild" suggesting changing the website wording about parking.

2411.14 To submit the updated Asset Register. Register updated ... agenda item 14.

2411.15 Support to the PCC. Agenda item 15

8 Dorset Councillor's Report

Cllr Ireland outlined the main events which are occupying the focus of Dorset Council at present and answered some questions from councillors and the floor.

- It is now "budget season" for Dorset Council, and the proposed budget is now going for scrutiny within the council. There will be a £35M increase in next year's budget, leading to a 4.99% increase in Council Tax. (where Council Tax raises 82% of the budget.) However, within the budget, there will still be a £10M overspend.
- The National Insurance burden on the Council will increase since it is now calculated by formula rather than need.
- The strategic authority may align the Police Forces and Fire Services.
- There are central government plans for local government organisations to be reorganised to make everywhere unitary authorities. Dorset have declared that they want to be on the devolution priority programme list and will find out early February if this will be the case. BCP are holding an extraordinary council meeting to decide whether to be in the priority group, but need to decide whether to link into Hampshire or Wessex
- There are still plans for new towns in Dorset (where new towns are defined as > 10,000 houses.) Within the Local Plan, Dorset is not meeting annual housing targets in that 1600 homes were built out of a target of 1850.
- When asked, Cllr Ireland explained that Council Tax on second homes has a 100% uplift in Dorset. However, this benefit may be shortlived since the number of 2nd homes is now falling.
- With regard to parish council donations to bidders, Cllr Ireland noted that Osmington gave £1250 to their PCC instead of the £250 asked for.
- "Kate's Farm Shop" is now closed, but will re-open under new management on Monday 20th January.

9 Bus Timetables at the Bus Stops.

This agenda was mostly dealt with during the Public Open Forum.

Cllr Ireland undertook to contact Dorset Council regarding the timetable issue. He added that bus services cost £1.5M but that devolution may bring more money for transport.

10 Housing Needs Survey.

The survey was approved in principle at the 20/11/2024 council meeting. A draft timetable for implementation was proposed to the council, but this was felt to be too ambitious, and it was requested to be re-presented for discussion at the next meeting

ACTION 10.1: Clerk to add to Agenda and to contact the Rural Communities Enabler.

11 Adverse Possession of land adjacent to Owermoigne Park.

There are two small parcels of land under discussion; one from land claimed by a neighbour and one in Owermoigne Park. It is unclear why the parish council were not involved in these discussions, and the neighbour had to engage directly with the Land Registration Tribunal. The Tribunal has ruled that there is no basis for the possession and the land should be vacated. The clerk was asked to follow up the ruling by

11.1 Contacting the Land Registration Tribunal to object to the possession on behalf of the parish council.

11.2 Writing to the applicant to reinstate the land.

11.3 Writing to residents of Kit Lane to reaffirm that they have no right of access from their gardens to Owermoigne Park.

12 Planning Applications

12.1 P/HOU/2024/06833 – 13 Chilbury Gardens.

Replace existing garage with a new garage and home office.

No Objection

12.2 P/TRT/2024/06932 – (for information only) Owermoigne Village Hall;

Felling and height reduction of trees.

No Objection

13 Community Benefit Fund

13.1 Village Hall

Funds now transferred to the Village Hall Committee.

13.2 Owermoigne Park

Waiting for bank details for funds transfer. ACTION: Cllr Jo Chilcott.

14 Risk and Asset Registers

The update to the Asset register is complete and will now be forwarded to the council.

ACTION 14.1: Clerk

15 Support to the PCC

The parish council decided that it needed to wait until the end of the financial year until it could consider the PCC request for a donation. ACTION 15.1: Clerk to add the issue to the **May** agenda and inform PCC of this decision.

16 Finance

16.1 The precept bid of £14,500 for 2025-2026 was approved. ACTION 16.1 Clerk to submit these to Dorset Council

16.2 The parish council reviewed the supplier costs for registering a new on-line domain and providing a new website and email system. Parish Online was unanimously selected. [Prop: Cllr Buckingham, sec: Cllr Power]

ACTION 16.2: Clerk to commission the work from the supplier.

16.3 Playground Maintenance resolution.

The parish council decided that "Inspect and Repair" offered the best value for this work
Also, the WGS quote was accepted for cutting back the foliage around the swings.

[Prop: Cllr Buckingham, sec: Cllr Jo Chilcott]

ACTION: 16.3.1 & 16.3.2: Clerk to inform both companies and commission the work.

16.4 DAPTC Subscriptions for 2025. Invoice is not yet due.

16.5 To approve payments for December/January [Prop: Cllr Buckingham, sec: Cllr Jo Chilcott]

pending	Lloyds Bank Monthly Fee (new)	£4.25
pending	WGS additional trim	£295.00
pending	Village Hall Hire	£16.00
pending	Dorset Council (speed monitors)	£594.00
pending	HMRC	£96.20
pending	Clerk Salary	£411.59
pending	WGS grass cutting	£129.50
pending	Dorset Council (election recharge)	£50.00
20/12/24	HMRC	£96.40
20/12/24	Clerk Salary	£411.39
20/12/24	WGS grass cutting	£129.50

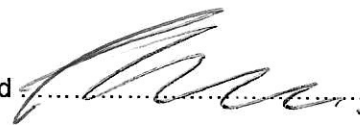
17 The following meeting dates for 2025/2026 were approved

19 th March 2025	Annual Parish Meeting	16 th April 2025
	Annual Parish Council Meeting	21 st May 2025

- 16th July 2025
- 17th September 2025
- 19th November 2025
- 21st January 2026
- 18th March 2026

Annual Parish Meeting	15 th April 2026
Annual Parish Council Meeting	20 th May 2026

18 Date of next meeting: 19th March 2025

Minutes Approved  Date 18.03.25