OWERMOIGNE PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF OWERMOIGNE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2026 IN THE VILLAGE HALL. THE MEETING COMMENCED AT 7.30 P.M.

Public Open Forum
The following points were raised:

Multi-agency meeting: A member of the public noted their disappointment that a multi-agency meeting to include Wessex Water, Highways Officers and the Environment Agency had not yet been organised, as it had been raised at the meeting on 17th July. It was noted that the issues continued and that water runoff onto the highway would continue to cause issues.

In response it was noted that it had been unintentional for this item not to be included on the agenda and that the Clerk would contact the newly appointed DC Officer to arrange a meeting and that the item would be included on future agendas.

The meeting opened at 7.35 p.m.

Attendance: Cllr Paul Warren (Chair), Cllr Jo Chilcott (Vice-Chair), Cllr Andrew Buckingham, Cllr John Chilcott and Emma Evans (Clerk).

Seven members of the public.

1 Apologies for absence
Apologies for their inability to attend the meeting were received from Cllr Kim House and Cllr Nick Ireland.

2 Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests
To receive councillors' declarations of interest and dispensation requests.
Any dispensation requests must be made in writing to the parish clerk prior to the meeting.
(Localism Act 2011 s29-34)
No declarations were made on this occasion.

3 Minutes of previous Meetings
To confirm, as a correct record, the minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council on 15th July 2026 and the Extraordinary Council meeting on 29th July 2026.
It was noted that an item regarding dogs barking had been omitted from the agenda. It was noted this had been unintentional and it was agreed that this would be discussed under Matters Arising.

It was proposed by Cllr Andrew Buckingham, seconded by Cllr Jo Chilcott and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-
That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15th July 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed.

It was proposed by Cllr Jo Chilcott, seconded by Cllr Andrew Buckingham, and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

[lss 1]

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 29th July 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed.

4 Correspondence

a) 20mph limit through Owermoigne – to consider information from Dorset Council Roadsafe team

It was noted that although the data demonstrated some merit for a 20 mph limit, it was noted that as not all councillors were in attendance and no public consultation had taken place, the item should be included on the next agenda for further consideration. Consideration regarding the installation of a Speed Indicator Device would also be deferred. In addition, it was noted that it would be beneficial to hold the multi-agency meeting prior to consideration of a 20 mph scheme as it was accepted that drainage was a priority over a larger highways project. It was **AGREED**:- That the Clerk would arrange the multi-agency meeting as soon as practicable.

b) Wessex Internet – update – Clerk to contact neighbouring parishes - Clerk to Crossways PC responded to state they were not seeking further engagement with Wessex Internet as an earlier session had answer residents queries. Update following residents' meeting on 9th September 2026. It was reported that the public meeting held on 9th September had been positive, with a useful presentation and Q and A session.

c) Playing Field – Use for personal trainer – To consider request for gate code to access field.

Members considered the contents of a briefing paper which outlined a request from a member of the public for a Personal Trainer to access the playing field for fitness purposes, including the use of equipment.

Consideration was given to the fact that the track is Dorset Council property, to which the Parish Council is permitted access for maintenance purposes and in the event that emergency vehicle access is required. Other considerations included insurance, liability and security, as well as any potential risks to children and other park users.

Advice had also been received from the Business Development Manager at Swanage Town Council, where fitness instructors are permitted to use some open spaces.

Members noted that the park was a space available for everyone to exercise and walk in free of charge, but that allowing the use of equipment would present additional complications and costs, together with the need for comprehensive risk assessments, insurance and administration. Should vehicle access be required, this would need approval from Dorset Council.

It was proposed by Cllr Buckingham, seconded by Cllr Jo Chilcott and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:- That the Council do not pursue the possibility of allowing fitness instructors to use the playing field, for the reasons set out above.

It was **AGREED:-** That the Clerk would contact the member of the public to inform them of the decision.

d) Request for Information - Conveyance of Playing Field land – To consider a request from a member of the public for information relating to the conveyance between the Lord Bishop of Salisbury and Owermoigne Parish Council.

It was proposed by Cllr Andrew Buckingham, seconded by Cllr Jo Chilcott and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:- That the Conveyance be provided to the member of the public.

It was noted that the conveyance could be publicised on the website. In addition a high quality scan be made and supplied to the member of the public, although the current version be shared in the meantime.

5 Dorset Councillor's Report

To note report from Councillor Nick Ireland

In the absence of Cllr Ireland, the Chairman shared a brief report which included:

DLP - The deadline for the consultation on DLP was 26th October 2026. It was noted that the Parish Council should respond to influence future plans as much as possible.

It was noted that the Chair and Vice Chair would liaise and make comment on the DLP.

Members noted that the sewage situation be raised regarding the development at Crossways to ensure there would not be additional pressures on the system. It was noted that infrastructure and new development should have strengthened policies.

6 Police Report

Dorchester Rural East Neighbourhood Policing Team Crime Report

6.1 To note reports from July and August 2026

The content of the reports were noted. An incident concerning an early morning police visit to a councillor's property at 5.30 a.m. was discussed. It was noted that officers, wearing combat gear, had attended making enquiries about an individual and a mobile phone. Some concern was expressed regarding the approach taken, and it was further noted that police vehicles had been seen driving around the area afterwards.

6.2 To note the procedures for reporting to the police

Members noted the briefing paper and processes to report to the police were noted.

7 Matters arising

Matters arising (not covered by this agenda) from the minutes of previous meetings

7.1 Wessex Water – draft letter to Lloyd Hatton MP

Members considered the draft letter to Lloyd Hatton MP as a follow up regarding the lack of fines from Wessex Water.

It was proposed by Cllr Buckingham, seconded by Cllr Jo Chilcott and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:- That the draft letter be emailed to Lloyd Hatton MP.

7.2 Footpath - Kit Lane to park – to note the Clerk will review previous minutes and report findings

It was reported that the Clerk needed to review Minutes, which may involve a visit to County Archive (History Centre) where there should be a minute stating how much was paid for Kit Lane to the Playing Field.

7.3 Adverse Possession/Property Ownership - Council to consider waste removal if needed

It was noted that the Chairman would investigate whether waste removal was required. To retain this as an agenda item until the matter has been clarified.

7.4 Housing Needs survey – to note any updates

It was noted that this item would remain on the agenda to receive updates as appropriate.

7.5 Defibrillator Training and Financial Support - to consider arrangements for training and associated financial support https://www.swast.nhs.uk/request-a-free-cpr-and-training-session

To consider potential attendees and dates (free training – at least three weeks' notice)

It was noted that would remain on the agenda in order to consider the free training available.

7.6 Dogs Barking – It was reported that a few residents had complained about dogs barking. It was noted that, although the Parish Council had no enforcement powers in this matter, residents were entitled to the quiet enjoyment of their properties. Members noted that residents could visit the Dorset Council website for advice and information on reporting noise nuisance.

It was **AGREED:-** That the Clerk would place information on the Council's website regarding the appropriate ways to report complaints about dogs barking and other noise nuisance.

8 Planning Applications

To receive and consider all planning, licensing matters and consultations. N.B. Any application received after the agenda publication date may still be considered during the meeting. For an up to date list of applications please check Dorset Council's website

At the time of agenda publication no planning applications for Owermoigne had been received.

Consultations:

8.1 Local Government Boundary Commission – draft recommendations for new wards, ward boundaries, and ward names for Dorset Council.

Further information: Dorset draft recommendations - to consider whether the proposed ward name of Crossways and Lower Frome is acceptable or whether Crossways and Mid Frome would better reflect the geography of the area. *(Comments until 9th November 2026)*

Members considered the proposed change of ward name from Crossways and Lower Frome to Crossways and Mid Frome to better reflect the geographical nature of the area.

It was proposed by Cllr Buckingham, seconded by Cllr John Chilcott and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:- That the Council responds to the consultation to note that it strongly agrees with the proposed ward name of Crossways and Mid-Frome.

8.2 Dorset Council Parking Review

Dorset Council is reviewing its parking services (set local parking tariffs for 2027/28) Parking Review and Strategy (report to Place and Resources Overview Committee on 9th July 2026 (See pages 107-118 in the pack) Initial online engagement events have been held with further consultation to follow. To consider information.

It was noted that the Clerk had attended an online briefing hosted by Dorset Council, at which car park charges for Council-owned car parks had been discussed, together with proposals to encourage car park users to make greater use of less central and underutilised car parks. The possibility of using any surplus income from car parks to help fund community transport was also discussed.

The Council made no comments at this stage and noted that further information would be forthcoming in due course.

8.3 Dorset Rights of Way Improvement (ROWIP) Consultation

Formal 3-month consultation for the draft Dorset's Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) 2026 to 2036. The ROWIP sets out how Dorset Council will develop a modern, accessible and better-connected network of public rights of way that supports everyday walking, cycling and access to natural green and blue spaces. *(Closes 12th October 2026).* ROWIP consultation

It was noted that the Chair and Vice-Chair would review the consultation.

8.4 Dorset Council Community Conversations – Clerk attended the Purbeck Cluster event 17th July 2026 and 11th September 2026. Events for Owermoigne area to be confirmed.

It was reported that the dates for the Owermoigne Cluster had been released, these being Wednesday 14th October and 17th November. The Vice-Chair confirmed attendance at the event on 14th October but would be unavailable for 17th November. The Clerk would attend both events and report to a future meeting.

9 Governance and Compliance

9.1 Internal Audit Report – To consider actions from report.

a) Recommendation 1: General Reserves Policy – To consider draft policy.

The Clerk had provided two draft policies from other parish councils for consideration and amendment to make them relevant to Owermoigne Parish Council. Cllr Buckingham agreed to review the policies and make the necessary amendments, which would then be brought back to a future Council meeting for consideration.

b) Recommendation 3: Cashbook – Clerk is awaiting a template from the auditor.
The Clerk is awaiting the template from the auditor.

c) Recommendation 6: Standing item regarding play equipment (see item 9.4)
A standing item regarding play equipment had been included on the agenda, item 9.4.

d) Recommendation 7: Quotations for internal auditor – To consider quotations from other auditors.
Quotations would be sought from alternative auditors.
Other recommendations related to specific AGAR related items.

9.2 External Audit – To note Conclusion of the AGAR – To note that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return has been concluded.
The conclusion of the audit was noted.

9.3 Register of Interest – To note all Members will need to complete a new ROI
The Clerk would re-send the link to all councillors to ensure the ROI had been completed.

9.4 Play equipment – To consider the quotations received for play equipment inspection
Members considered a briefing paper which set out the quotations received.
It was proposed by Cllr Buckingham, seconded by Cllr Jo Chilcott and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:- To instruct Inspect and Repair to carry out the play equipment inspection at a cost of £180 (inc VAT).

10 Finance and Insurance

10.1 Transfer of funds between accounts
It was noted that the underspent funds of £10,100 should be transferred from the Lloyds bank account to NS&I. The Lloyds bank balance would remain accessible for contingencies.
It was proposed by Cllr Jo Chilcott, seconded by Cllr John Chilcott and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:- That the Clerk make the transfer of £10,100 from Lloyds to NS&I.
It was noted that some funds in the account are for the community benefit fund.

10.2 Bank Balances and Payments
NS&I "ringfenced" account for longer term payments – Balance as at 10th April 2026 £6,141.59
Natwest – Balance as at 31st August 2026 £ 43,541.90 (interest between £66-75 p.m.)
Lloyds bank – Balance as at 31st August 2026 £16,001.69
It was AGREED:- That an account with higher interest rates be investigated and brought back to the meeting in November.

10.4 Draft Budget – Items for Consideration
To consider items for draft budget
It was noted that an initial budget and precept discussion would be held late October to be brought forward to the November Council meeting.

10.5 NALC National Salary Award
To note the National Joint Council (NJC) has agreed the new pay scales from 1st April 2026
It was noted that for budgeting purposes the assumption would be a 3.9% increase for the next financial year.

10.6 Invoices - to approve payments

Supplier	Invoice Number	Description	Amount £	Due Date	Status	Payment Ref/Cheque No	Notes
Emma Evans	N/A	Salary	691.86	31/08/2026	Paid	BACS	Included 23 hours OT
Wessex Grounds Services	WGS14664	Grounds Services	151.51	31/08/2026	Paid	BACS	
Emma Evans	N/A	Salary	TBC	30/09/2026	Unpaid		To include NJC pay increase from 1st April 2026
Wessex Grounds Services	WGS14762	Grounds Services	151.51	30/09/2026	Unpaid		
Emma Evans	N/A	Salary	TBC	31/10/2026	Unpaid		
Wessex Grounds Services	WGS	Grounds Services	151.51	31/10/2026	Unpaid		
HMRC – Payments to year end 31st March 2026 and payments to date (05/09/26)`	N/A	Tax and NI	Circa £1027.66 for year end 2026(05/04/26) and £641.85 year to date (05/09/26) **Total £1669.51**		Unpaid		Reports enclosed

It was noted that the letter from HMRC had shown the payment required as £1030.00 HMRC.
In addition to the payments listed the payment to Inspect and Repair of £180.00 would be required prior to the next Council Meeting.
It was proposed by Cllr Buckingham, seconded by Cllr Jo Chilcott and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-
That the payments be approved for payment.
It was noted that a column stating the total amount due would be beneficial.

11 Date of next Parish Council meeting: Wednesday 18th November 2026 at 7.30 p.m.
In addition, a finance focussed meeting to discuss the budget and precept for 2027/28 would be arranged.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.