

Clerk to the Council:

Mr J.F. Vanderwolfe FILCM, Chartered MCIPD
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Minutes of a Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd December 2024 at the Thorncombe Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr's J Higgs (Chairman), M Stead , A Hiscock, P Basham and W Luty-Wells

In Attendance:-The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), Cllr S Christopher (Dorset Council) and two members of the public

Draft until Approved

140	Apologies for Absence An apology was received from Cllr J Fox, which was accepted.
141	Declaration of Interest under the Code of Conduct No declarations, under the Code of Conduct were made at this stage of the meeting.
142	Minutes of the Previous Meeting The minutes of the meeting held on the 5 th November 2024, having been previously circulated, were adopted as a true record and were signed by the chairman
143	Matters Arising from the Minutes There were no matters arising from the minutes.
144	Council Surgery No items
145	Democratic Period No items
146	Accounts for Payment The following accounts were ratified: Hugo Fox £23.99, On Line Playground £24.00. JRB Enterprises £43.38 , HMRC PAYE £166.41 and Thorncombe Village Hall £60.00.

147	<p>Financial Update</p> <p>The financial sheet showing budget against income and expenditure was agreed. Agreed that one outstanding debt should now be escalated to the claims court.</p> <p>Financial Assets as 5th November 2024 were £22,734.53</p>
148	<p>Grant Allocations</p> <p>Community Shop £110.00</p> <p>Keep Fit Group £100 *</p> <p>Thorncombe Spinners £150*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payments made to village hall for heat/light <p>An application for funding by Holditch Hall was not successful.</p>
149	<p>Report on Gov Email Addresses</p>
150	<p>Budget 2025/26</p> <p>The Clerk, as the RFO, had prepared a draft budget which was examined by the members. The draft budget was adopted. The budget for 2025/26 would be £14,871 with a precept demand of £12,296. The tax base figure for 2024/25, obtained from Dorset Council was £340.90; and increase of £23.90 from the previous year (7.54%). The parish D rate for 2025/26 would be £36.07, compared to £36.88; therefore, a reduction of 81p (2.21%).</p>
151	<p>Dorset Councillor Report</p> <p>Cllr Christopher informed the meeting that there was a call for landowners to come forward with available land sites. The closing date for this would be the 20th December. He was hopeful that the road safety officer would visit the parish in the new year. Concerns that a number of drains need attention</p>
152	<p>Finger Posts</p> <p>We are awaiting the result of the survey that is being undertaken regarding the number of posts requiring attention</p>
153	<p>Community Shop</p> <p>A report had been circulated</p>

154	Allotments Hedge still needs trimming.
155	Playfield The replacement basketball net had been received.
156	Rights of Way Cllr M Stead would provide email addresses to the clerk. Agreed that the letter to landowners would be circulated after Christmas. The path near Brook Cottage on footpath 44/28 seems to take the wrong route. This will be investigated. The path by Whitty Lane has collapsed.
157	Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils No report
158	Police and Neighbourhood Watch No issues
159	Highways A number of grit bins need refilling.
160	Planning A recent application in respect of Chard Quarry, to extend the time to undertake the required works was noted, but it was agreed not to comment.
161	Closing of Meeting The chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.05pm
162	Next Meeting Tuesday 4 th February 2025 at 7.30pm

Signed Chairman

Date -----