

**MINUTES OF THE DEWLISH PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY
27TH MAY 2025 AT DEWLISH VILLAGE HALL, FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL PARISH
MEETING**

Present: Cllrs J Booth, W Britton, D Crossman, M Claydon and C Lewis

Chair: Cllr M Fell

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also present: 3 members of the public

1. Elections

25.018 Chair – Cllr Lewis nominated Cllr Fell. This was seconded by Cllr Britton and agreed unanimously. Cllr Fell signed the Acceptance of Office in the presence of the meeting.

25.019 Vice Chair - As the present Vice Chair was not able to attend, it was agreed that this would be held to the June meeting.

2. To agree Councillor responsibilities for the coming year

25.020 Cllr Fell proposed the existing responsibilities remain in place for the coming year. This was unanimously agreed.

3. To receive apologies for absence

25.021 Apologies had been received from Cllr Andy Barnett (work) and Dorset Cllr Jill Haynes.

4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 28th April 2025

25.022 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members. Cllr Crossman proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Lewis and agreed unanimously. The Chair signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

5. Matters arising for report only

25.023 The Green fence – Mr Chris Uden has all the relevant information and has offered to produce a report for the Parish Council to consider.

6. To receive declarations of interest and review and dispensations received

25.024 No declarations of interest were made and no dispensation requests had been received.

7. To receive the Dorset Councillor's Report

25.025 A copy of the report had been issued with the agenda. No matters were raised.

8. To review and agree Policies

25.026 To confirm the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

Members were provided with copies of both documents. Cllr Fell proposed they are accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Booth and agreed unanimously.

25.027 To confirm the Asset Register

A copy of the Register had been issued with the agenda. Cllr Britton proposed the Register is accepted with the understanding that the additions will be made. This was seconded by Cllr Claydon and agreed unanimously.

25.028 To review and confirm policies and procedures

Copies of the existing policies were issued to all members. Cllr Lewis proposed they are accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Booth and agreed unanimously.

25.029 To confirm the insurance for the coming year

The Parish Council has been in a 3-Year Long Term Agreement, as agreed in the meeting dated 26th May 2022, item 22.27. Cllr Britton proposed the insurance arrangements continue. This was seconded by Cllr Crossman and agreed unanimously.

9. Finance

25.030 To agree the payment of accounts

The following payments had been requested:

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Hugo Fox | Web hosting May 2025 | DDR3/25 | 11.99 |
| Lloyds | Account charges 10/3 to 9/4/25 | DDR4/25 | 4.25 |
| Hugo Fox | Email hosting May 2025 | DDR5/25 | 20.99 |
| DAPTC | Future Planning training | BACS067 | 18.75 |
| A Crocker | May 2025 salary | BACS068 | 210.81 |
| HMRC | May 2025 PAYE | BACS069 | 43.00 |
| DAPTC | Annual subscription | BACS070 | 130.00 |
| Hugo Fox | Web hosting June 2025 | DDR6/25 | 11.99 |

The total amount requested from the Precept is £451.78.

Cllr Booth proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Fell and agreed unanimously.

It was noted that income received since the last meeting was as follows:

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| Account interest | £13.78 |
|------------------|--------|

25.031 To accept the Reconciliation of Accounts and position against budget for April 2025

Copies of both reports were issued with the agenda. Cllr Booth proposed the reports are accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Lewis and agreed unanimously.

25.032 To agree the Certificate of Exemption for the year ended 31st March 2025

A copy of the Certificate of Exemption had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Crossman proposed the Certificate is signed and this was seconded by Cllr Britton. The Chairman and RFO signed the Certificate in the presence of the meeting.

25.033 To agree the Annual Governance Statement

A copy of the Governance Statement had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Each item was considered and approved, and Cllr Lowis proposed the Statement is accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Britton and agreed unanimously. The Chair and RFO signed the Statement in the presence of the meeting.

25.034 Annual Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025

A copy of the Annual Statement of Accounts had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Fell proposed the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025 are accepted and signed. This was seconded by Cllr Booth and agreed unanimously. The Chair signed the Accounts Statement in the presence of the meeting.

10. To receive reports on the following matters and agree actions

25.035 Planning and Housing

P/FUL/2025/02276 Chebbard Farm – Relocation of farm access track to improve visibility to the highway.

Members felt that this was a necessary improvement, making the site lines when exiting the site much safer. The Parish Council supports the proposal.

25.036 Police, Traffic and Roads

The April Police report had been issued with the agenda. No comments were made.

25.037 Parish Amenities and Rights of Way

The stiles still need to be repaired but, at the moment, there are no animals in the field so the gates are open. There are no problems with rights of way.

11. To agree the dates of meeting for the coming year

25.038 Members were happy to continue meeting monthly. The proposed dates were issued with the agenda and confirmed:

23rd June 2025
28th July 2025
August – no meeting
22nd September 2025
27th October 2025
24th November 2025
December – no meeting
26th January 2026
23rd February 2026
23rd March 2026

All meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the month, commencing at 7.30pm.

12. To receive reports from Parish Councillors

25.039 VE Day went well and the field was left tidy. The event was free and thanks are extended to all those who helped. The cakes and tea was also free but several people insisted on giving a donation,

resulting in a profit of £114.14, following the payment of a small amount of expenses. Residents felt that the day was wonderful and showed the village in all its glory and village spirit. Everyone was so kind and helpful. It was felt that the profit could be used to do something with the space around the bus shelter. The litter bin could be moved away from the seat and this would open up the area. It had already been discussed at previous meetings that the bus shelter would be repaired. This will be put on the next agenda.

25.040 Cllr Booth highlighted the fact that the newly laid road surface from The Oak towards Dorchester, has resulted in vehicles travelling faster as it is now flat and straight. He asked if something could be done to slow vehicles down. Perhaps it would be possible to put a planter at the edge of the village, similar to those in Cheselbourne. There is a minimum distance for putting something on the verge. This will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

25.041 The Green – It was noted that there could be a limited time span during which a young children's area will be used. It was suggested that perhaps a boule pit could be put in and some benches and tables. At the moment, the issue of ownership has delayed anything happening.

13. To consider any correspondence received since the agenda was set

25.042 Nothing to add.

14. Items for the June agenda

25.043 Members felt that it would be nice to keep the village events going, following the success of the VE Day. Something could be done during the day and follow this up in the evening with an event in the pub. Cllr Lewis will liaise with the village hall to see if they have anything planned for the coming months. This will be brought back to the June meeting.

It was further suggested that a positive debrief should be held to consider recent events – what worked, what did not work, etc.

12. Date of next meeting

25.044 The next meeting will be hold on Monday 23rd June, commencing 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.05hrs.