

**MINUTES OF THE DEWLISH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**APRIL 2025 AT DEWLISH VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7.30PM**

**Present:** Cllrs J Booth, M Claydon, D Crossman and C Lowis

**Chair:** Cllr M Fell

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** 3 members of the public and Dorset Cllr Jill Haynes

**1. Public**

25.001 Residents were disappointed to see that Shailes will be closed again for two weeks, but the proposed work finishes at Langham's corner, leaving some of the worst potholes further along the road in the Parish of Puddletown. It was noted that anyone can report a pothole on the Dorset Council website.

The Echo recently highlighted a local 4.5 mile walk from the Village Hall to the Hangman's Corner. A resident asked if anyone had checked to make sure the signs are in place and the path is clear as there are likely to be quite a few people wishing to undertake the walk now. Cllr Lowis reported that it was all clear last month.

**2. Apologies for absence**

25.002 Apologies had been received from Cllrs Wendy Britton and Andy Barnett.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

25.003 No interests were declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

**4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

25.004 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Booth proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Claydon and the minutes were signed by the Chair in the presence of the meeting.

**5. Matters arising from those minutes, for report only**

25.005 No matters arising that are not on this agenda.

**6. To receive the Dorset Councillor's report**

25.006 A copy of the latest report had been issued with the agenda. Cllr Haynes informed the meeting that the new Dorset Council tends to hold their meetings in the evenings which means they frequently clash with parish council meetings. However, should anyone wish to contact Cllr Haynes, they are very welcome to contact her direct.

**7. To receive reports on the following matters and to agree actions**

25.007 Planning

There were no planning applications at the time of the meeting,

## 25.008 Police, Traffic and Roads

The March Police report had been issued with the agenda.

### (i) To receive an update on the 30mph through the village

The Clerk reported that the 30mph speed limit through the village had been agreed by Highways and added to the list of potential works to be undertaken. However, the work had scored low on the Highways scale and there were quite a few more urgent works that scored much higher already on the list. Due to lack of funding and the number of more urgent works that keep being added to the list, it is very unlikely that the 30mph Order would be put in place any time soon.

### (ii) Milborne Wood speed limit

A representative from Milborne Wood addressed the meeting and thanked the Parish Council for listening to their concerns in the first instance. However, from the perspective of the people who live in the area, this is not just a speeding issue but an issue of personal safety and is a matter of some immediacy. They are aware that, if the speed survey is undertaken, there is no guarantee of what would happen afterwards. The residents would be willing to cover the cost of the survey in order to acquire the data it will produce. This location is one of the few straighter stretches of the road from Puddletown to Milborne St Andrew and it has been overtaking manoeuvres that potentially resulted in some of the most recent accidents. The data will permit exploration of all appropriate engineering possibilities, such as double white lines or slow signs either end of this section of road that could be used, rather than the installation of Speed Indicator Devices. All members were happy for the survey to be organised if residents were happy to cover the cost. The Clerk will liaise with the Milborne Wood Group and Highways to arrange the survey.

**ACTION: CLERK**

20.05 Cllr Haynes left the meeting.

## 25.009 Parish Amenities and Rights of Way

### (i) Style at Dewlish House - This will be taken forward to the next meeting.

### (ii) Whiteways fingerposts – Bridleway sign needs to be repaired.

### (iii) The Green fence – This is currently being looked into. However, Cllr Claydon felt that this could be a waste of money. Cllr Fell explained that if we have to put up a new fence, and if the play area is subsequently installed, the fence needs to be suitable for the proposed play area. This will be brought back to the May meeting. Funding is available if necessary. Cllr Lowis will follow up on the work undertaken to date.

**ACTION: CLLR LOWIS**

## **8. Finance**

### 25.010 To agree the payment of accounts and note any income received.

The following payments had been requested:

A Crocker	April 25 salary	BACS064	270.20
HMRC	April 25 PAYE	BACS065	43.00
Barker-Fox	Audit fees 2023	BACS066	62.42
HugoFox	Web hosting April 2025	DDR1/25	11.99
HugoFox	Email hosting April 2025	DDR2/25	20.99

The total amount requested from the Precept is £408.60.

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

It was noted that the following income had been received since the last meeting:

Account interest	£15.92
VAT refund	£365.19

25.011 To confirm the Reconciliation of Accounts and position against budget as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

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

**9. To consider the donation of £350 to PlusBus**

25.012 This initiative has now been running for just over a year and is proving to be popular. There are three residents of Dewlish who use the bus regularly and the organisers have now been in touch to ask if the Parish Council would consider making a contribution towards the cost. At present, the other Parish Councils involved contribute £500. Should Dewlish decide to contribute, this would mean all contributions could be reduced to £350 each. Cllr Crossman proposed we make the contribution but also advertise the service more widely through the parish as he felt many residents may be unaware that it is available. This was seconded by Cllr Lowis and agreed unanimously. The Clerk will contact the organisers accordingly.

**10. To consider items for the Annual Parish Meeting**

**ACTION: CLERK**

25.013 Chairman's report and an Open Forum.

**11. To consider Parish Events**

25.014 To receive an update on the VE Day celebrations

The free Family Fun Day will be held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May in Policeman's Plot, commencing 2.30pm. The accounts will be brought to the May meeting and a decision made on any profit/loss made.

25.015 To receive an update on the Open Gardens event

Unfortunately, no update is available. Cllr Crossman felt we need to find out what is happening as the proposed date for the event is getting very close. Cllr Fell will contact the team organising the event and report back to members via the WhatsApp group. A decision will then be made as to how to proceed.

**12. Parish Councillor Reports on items not covered by the agenda**

**ACTION: CLLR FELL**

25.016 Nothing to add.

**13. Date of Next Meeting**

25.017 The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May**, commencing 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.42hrs.