**Draft Minutes for the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday, 10 September 2024,**

**7.30pm at Melbury Osmond Village Hall**

1. Present: Cllr R. Paley (chairman), Cllr R. Ward (acting clerk), Cllr P Coverdale

 Apologies: Cllr M Smith

 Also present; one parishioner plus DC Cllr Kippax (who had notified the PC of his probable

 late arrival at MOPC meeting due to attendance at another meeting)

1. Draft minutes were approved for the meeting held on 09 July 2024.
2. Open meeting

 The grit bin opposite the Courage’s cottage requires vegetation clearing away.

 Overgrown foliage covering the road sign by the entrance to the Melbury Estate road

 requires cutting back.

 Cllr Kippax introduced himself and offered his support on any issues raised

 by MOPC. Cllr Kippax brought news that DC are currently holding informal consultations

 (“The Big Conversation”) to engage with Dorset residents giving them the opportunity to

 raise their concerns about local issues. Meetings will take place at the Dorset Council stall

 which will be set up at Sherborne market on Sundays (from 10.30 am). Topics for discussion

 will include any new planning regulations and targets set by Central Government.

1. Matters to be discussed
* Footpaths update - (see Chetnole PC chairman correspondence below). The gate leading to the Meads footpath has been repaired, however the footpath still requires clearing.
* Highways update – spending for replacement finger post signs was approved by MOPC. The new finger post (noting the Village Hall and Holt Mill) will cost c.£350
* Reading Room update – MS still investigating the ongoing electricity costs.
1. Finance update – MOPC Lloyds current account has a balance of £3,315.49

There is an outstanding invoice (already paid) plus receipt required for MOPC financial records from Darren Greenbank for extra work completed on the playground.

Costs will be investigated to provide the village hall with either another new bench or picnic table.

1. Planning applications – The have been checked online on the Dorset Council Planning

 website and it was decided by MOPC that no comments were required.

1. Correspondence – James Troop (chairman of Chetnole PC) contacted MOPC (and others in

 the local area) to enquire whether chairmen and clerks were interested in gathering

 together to hold meetings about issues of common interest.

1. AOB – The Village Hall defibrillator has had its two batteries replaced by RP.
2. Clarifying decisions – PC to contact Darren Greenslade regarding the provision of an invoice

 and receipt for the extra work now completed on the playground.

 RP to investigate the condition of the Meads footpath and the grit bin.

1. Date of next meeting – Tues, 12th November 2024