Minutes for the meeting on Monday 11th November 2019,

7.30pm at the Reading Room

Present – Cllr’s Smith, Wells, Caesley and Coverdale, Jodie Carter (Clerk), Dorset County Councillor Penfold, 5 members of public.

11.11.01 To accept apologies

None.

11.11.02 To approve the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8th July 2019 and note the notes from 9th September 2019

Minutes from the 8th July approved and signed, notes from the 9th September noted.

11.11.03 Open Meeting

**Following the Open Meeting the Public will be encouraged to remain but shall not take part in subsequent discussions unless expressly requested by the Chairman.**

Dog poo bags – one has been hanging on the gate and in their empty dustbins, also a big issue at the village hall. A very big notice has been written and placed near the village hall. Difficult to tell if any issue at the Medes due to leaves and build-up of debris on this. **Clerk to raise this.**

Broadband – a resident had a situation and their upload is 9 and download is 0, they have paid for fast broadband but still very little. Is there a possibility to write to BT? The only way of improving this is to run fibre to every household but this would come at a cost to the residents. Still talking to Wessex internet, the government keeps saying they will fund internet to rural areas but currently not being done. Cllr Caesley to talk to Wessex internet to enquire if a booster can be placed **discreetly** on the church **tower but noting this would need approval.** Is the county council doing anything? Cllr Penfold has suggested to write a letter to the county council as money was once put aside for this. Rural communities depend on internet. **Letter to be sent from the PC on behalf of the residents.**

Dorset Council report – Clerk would have received survey from the Dorset Council to PC’s wanting their opinion on the running of things. /dcplanssurvey. Important that they know what the PC’s are going through. A lot of constraints on the budget due to social and elderly care. Invest in the future, very difficult with the budget and don’t wish to skimp on the people that need it the most. Everything is running as one now, been a very good transformation.

11.11.04 Matters to be discussed:

* To receive an update on VE Day Anniversary May 2020 (RC)

Barbara, Roz and Cllr Caesley haven’t yet met, we will provide the facility. It will be up to residents to decide if they want a BBQ etc. At the PCC meeting it was decided it would be at the village hall. To come back to the parish council with costs.

* To receive an update on the Reading Room Roof (RC)

The roof was repaired, the only thing outstanding is loose tiles on the roof. **Clerk to email Bob Stenhouse.**

* To receive an update **one** the Medes to the Street footpath (RC)

The tarmac length is slowly breaking up, nobody is accepting responsibility. Eventually this will deteriorate. We either accept this will change to a path that is not user friendly or over the course of several years the PC agree to repair this. The people that own the houses have responsibility of keeping the hedges cut back so that residents can walk through. It was agreed to be discussed at the next annual parish meeting.

* To receive quotes for the entrance drive to the Rec and Village Hall (RC)

A **joint** letter has been written to Ilchester Estates as the village hall is leased from them. The lease states that **the village hall is liable to** maintain the hall itself **and the PC is responsible for the recreation field on a lease from the Estate. The letter to** Ilchester **Estates requests their advice on how best** to maintain the entrance, but we are still waiting on a response. **Another letter to be sent to the Estate following up on the last letter**.

* To discuss the damaged grit bin down Holt Lane (next to Appletree cottage) (MS)

The grit bin lid has been damaged for the last 3 months**; Clarification required on whether this particular bin is the responsibility of the PC or Dorset Council.** **Cllr Wells to look back through emails with DCC** and enquire as to if they are responsible.

* Collapse of retaining wall at Barton Hill (PW/RC)

It is believed that this is the responsibility of the Estate, highways have been out to look, and they have said it’s the responsibility of the owner, not highways. There has been no response from the Estate. **A formal letter from the council to be sent to the Estate to ask what their intentions are regarding this**. A thanks to David Bowditch as he has kindly put hazard signs up.

11.11.05 Finance

* To discuss and agree the 2020/21 precept

**It was agreed to raise the precept to £6760 (in line with inflation), proposed by Cllr Wells, seconded by Cllr Smith, agreed by all.**

11.11.06 Correspondence

* T513 Claimed footpath at Melbury Osmond – Appeal – letter was sent from the PC.
* Planning Consultation WD/D/19/002394 VARIOUS SITES IN WDDC AREA **Removal of Telephone Kiosks** – letter been sent, no response.
* Invitation to Planning Peer Review - Town and Parish Council Focus Group
* Proposed Road Closure - Melbury Road, Yetminster – it was agreed that this would be a significant inconvenience for the residents due to the length of time this will be closed, could some form of traffic management not be done? **Clerk to email them**.

11.11.07 To clarify decisions made during the meeting

Highlighted in bold.

Clerk to contact planning and enquire why certain applications have not been received.

11.11.08 Date of the next meeting

**Monday 13th January 2020 at the Reading Room**

Meeting ended at 20.48.