

ORCHESTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD AT ORCHESTON VILLAGE HALL
On 18 March 2019 at 7:30pm

Present:

Sam Shepherd	Chairman
Bryan Wright	Vice Chairman
Carol Cole	Councillor
Richard Ceaser	Councillor
Tim O'Keefe	Councillor

In attendance:

John Badgery	Clerk to the Council
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Apologies:

Christopher Coats	Councillor
Maureen Harnett	Councillor

COUNCIL IN INFORMAL SESSION

61. No members of the public were present.

COUNCIL IN FORMAL SESSION

62. **Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2019.** The minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2019 had been circulated. There were no comments and they were signed as a true record.

63. **Matters arising from the Minutes.** At paragraph 54 the cost of an additional bin would be £94.80 because of shipping charges and VAT. Following discussion it was decided to go ahead. Cllr Wright disagreed with the majority. He had discussed it with Idverde who reported that the bin at the electricity sub-station is not well used. At paragraph 58d the closure of Elston Lane would now take place on 27 March 2019.

64. **Declaration of interests.** No councillors declared any interests.

65. **Chairman's Report.** The Chairman reported that the playground would continue to need investment. The worst of the fence railings had been replaced but a piece of exposed concrete still needed to be covered.

66. **Councillors' Reports.**

a. Cllr Cole noted that the 30mph sign on Webb's Hill obscured the now faded caution sign. She felt there was still a need for the drains at the crossroads to be cleared – this is a perennial problem and the limitations on Highways' budget mean that it is unlikely that this will be resolved. A potential date for a Litter Pick is Saturday 30 March at 0930 hrs.

b. Cllr Wright suggested that, when the Clerk writes to Highways, he should include a need for double bend signs at the bends just east of Manor Farm.

67. **Finance and Correspondence.**

a. Three cheques were issued – Clerk's salary £160, tax on salary £40, fence railings for playground £50.49.

b. The following Briefing Notes had been distributed;

(i) 19-008 Community Led Housing Projects

- (ii) 19-005 Digital access to Council tax records online
- (iii) 19-007 Rate relief for the High Street
- (iv) 19-004 Housing Site Allocation Plan
- (v) 19-003 Electoral review
- (vi) BN 375 Polling District and Polling Place Review
- (vii) 19-002 Children's Centre rationalisation
- c. The CATG Minutes mentioned a proposal for a bus stop at Appleford School with Cllr Darren Henry as the point of contact. No councillors had any knowledge of this proposal and generally buses stop as requested.
- d. The temporary closure of Elston Lane would now be 27 March.
- e. Wiltshire Council is hosting a networking day for Councillors and Clerks at Salisbury Guildhall on 9 May.

68. **Standing Agenda Items**

a. **Planning Applications**

Track access to the Old Dairy site.

- (i) The application had been distributed and was discussed. The plan shows that gates are to be located 4.5m from the road. The accompanying planning statement appears flawed.
- (ii) The first paragraph states that there is "no suitable access". The second paragraph describes pulling out on to a "60 mph narrow lane". The third paragraph states that the owner "frequently has to enter the land with large agricultural machinery". The fifth paragraph speaks of "sufficient space to pull off the highway".
- (iii) Access to this land has always been from the south west corner of the field at the north end of Bridleway Shrewton 31 – nothing has changed. The gate is not in use as there is a livestock fence 2m inside the field hedge. Separate access has been made 5m to the south. There is space at the end of the bridleway (an area approx. 13m by 12m) for a tractor towing agricultural machinery to exit and enter in a straight line (ie no manoeuvring) – the fact that the theoretical speed limit is 60 mph is irrelevant since all vehicles are slowing to stop at the junction with the A360 only 30m south east of the end of bridleway. Local experience is that traffic is travelling much faster at the location of proposed access than at the current access. Large agricultural machinery would not easily manoeuvre into the proposed entrance – the gates are only 4.5m from the road (this is not as long as an average family car). Any manoeuvring would involve agricultural machinery blocking the road for some time – even a farmer's 4X4 pick up would stick out into the roadway while the gates are opened/closed.
- (iv) The meeting concluded that the current access arrangements are safer and the PC does not support this proposal.

b. **Highways and Byways** The Parish Steward was in the village on 18 March. Idverde had cut the hedges on Whatcombe Brow (though this may not be done next year). The grips had been dug out by hand.

c. **Village Maintenance** We still need a volunteer to take on grass cutting within the village.

69. Date of next meeting 20 May 2019 at 19:15 for the Annual Parish Meeting.

May 2019

S Shepherd Chairman