

**PIMPERNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**The Minutes for the above Parish Council Meeting held Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025.  
7.00pm at Pimperne Village Hall.**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs P Slocombe (Chairman), A Argles, C Beckford, S O'Connell, M Richley, J Tanner, M Strange.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Dorset Councillor, Sherry Jespersen, Mrs J O'Connell (Clerk) 12 Members of the public.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** None received.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None received

**2. To consider granting dispensations as required:** None required

**3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

-The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**Chairman**

**4. DEMOCRATIC PERIOD:**

-A resident advised that herself, and a group of dog owners have been meeting on the former school field and allowing their dogs to play off lead. She stated that they have been picking up after their dogs and sometimes also picking up mess that had been left behind by others. The Chairman confirmed that the PC had not received any complaints that dogs had been let off lead on the field.

-A resident from Letton Close had visited Blandford Library to find out more about the Local Plan Consultation, as she wanted to find out more information about the 200 proposed houses between Letton Close and the Sunrise Business Park. The resident had experienced difficulty getting information copied for her in the library. Cllr Jespersen explained that it is better to view the Consultation documents online if possible as the maps of the proposed sites would be easier to read, Cllr Jespersen stated that she would speak to the Library to ensure that they are more helpful with enquiries regarding this matter.

The Chairman confirmed that the Parish Council would be submitting a response to the Consultation and expressed the importance that individuals also respond to the online Dorset Local Plan Consultation.

-It was reported that a tree has been taken over by ivy and is falling across the footpath in the Churchyard leading to Queens Walk, the tree is situated in a property in Chestnut farm, it was agreed that the Church Warden would approach the landowner to ask what can be done about this.

- A resident reported that despite the new 20mph speed limit within the village, there have been 2 incidents over the last 2 weeks of near misses and dangerous driving along Anvil Rd, Church Rd and Down Rd. She had reported these incidents on the DC website. The Chairman requested that the Clerk look into purchasing some 20mph repeater signs from DC Highways.

**5. Hilltop Ward Report:**

-Cllr Jespersen explained that The Dorset Local Plan Consultation is open for comment online until the 13<sup>th</sup> October and encouraged all to respond. This Consultation is the first step towards making the plan and is looking at proposed sites for housing development as well as some policy changes such as the removal of settlement boundaries, sustainable development and infrastructure. The housing targets for Dorset have risen by 80% and would be expected to deliver 3246 new houses per annum. These figures are not set on local housing needs but to meet national housing targets.

-

-Another current consultation that everyone is invited to engage with is the Transport Consultation, also accessible on DC website. This consultation is concerned with sustainable communities encouraging less use of cars and more of public transport. It is important that those situated in the north of the county make the point via this consultation that public transport is not largely available to those that live in North Dorset.

#### **6. MATTERS ARISING:**

**-Litter Pick:** The annual Litter Pick took place on 6<sup>th</sup> September, a disappointing turn out of only 5 volunteers, but we extend our thanks to the residents that did help pick up the litter which was collected by Dorset Waste on Monday morning. **Chairman**

**-Hedgehog signage:** Cllr Strange to contact Mr King to see if the signage is ready. **Cllr Strange**

**-Security lights being left on all night** – Cllr Richley to put item in the Autumn Village Newsletter. **Cllr Richley**

**-Posters on telegraph poles:** Cllr Richley to put an item in the Autumn Newsletter requesting that notices placed on telegraph poles be removed promptly. **Cllr Richley**

#### **- URGENT MATTERS:**

-The Chairman and Cllr Tanner had reviewed the new proposed Licence Agreement with

-Licence agreement with Hamwic and PPC, they wish to request some changes to the phraseology and terms of the Agreement, Chairman to discuss with Clerk. **Cllr Tanner**

#### **8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

##### **a) New Applications:**

P/PAF/2025/04138: Manor France Farm – Change of use from Agricultural to flexible use. No Objections raised: **Clerk**

P/HOU/2025/04781: 38 Walters Drive: Single storey side extension: no objection raised. **Clerk**

**b) Approved Application:** None received.

##### **c) Outstanding Applications:**

**-P/HOU/2025/02698:** White Lodge Down Road: Erect first floor front extension and balcony to rear elevation. Erect summer house and new electric gates. **Clerk**

**P/VOC/2025/02848:** Proposal: Planning application to change use to holiday accommodation to be operated in conjunction with occupation of main dwelling (variation of condition 2 of planning permission: P/FUL/2021/02848 to amend approved plans) Location: Berkeley House, Church Road.

**-P/FUL/2024/06927:** Proposal: Erect 33 dwellings with garages and parking, form vehicular access from Salisbury Road, associated infrastructure and public open space. Carry out site preparation and ancillary works. Location: Land South of Bolney, Salisbury Road: PPC Planning objection has been submitted. We still await a date for the Planning Committee meeting.

**-P/FUL/2020/00411** Franwill, Erect 14 houses, 40% affordable with vehicular access. This application is now moving ahead towards an agreement S106 where the mix of dwellings and access has been finalized. They propose to create a public footpath to the school. **Chairman/ Clerk**

##### **d) Other Planning matters:**

**-Dorset Council Local Plan consultation** – The Chairman proposed that Cllrs have an informal meeting with the Clerk to submit the PC's formal response to the consultation: Date and time to be confirmed. **Chairman/Clerk**

##### **-Woodbury/ Former Methodist Chapel:**

-PPC have yet to receive a response to the request for a Section 215 notice to be issued against this site, Cllr Jespersen had attempted to obtain a progress report, but enforcement did not recognize the reference number quoted. Clerk to investigate. **Clerk**

**-S106 Homefield** –The Chairman/Clerk have received 3 quotes for the completion of the basketball court; The Clerk to apply for S106 funding. **Chairman/Clerk**

**-Franwill Site S106:** No current update.

**Chairman**

**-EV Charging site:** We have written to the Planning Department regarding the landscaping at this site, they have requested that this enquiry be raised with Enforcement.

**Chairman/Clerk**

**e) Tree Applications:** None received.

**Cllr Strange**

**9) Former School Field:**

-Results of the public consultation held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July have shown that the most popular items were the formation of a wildflower area, a community orchard and a recreation area to be on the former school field. The Chairman requested that a scaled drawing be produced so that these areas could be plotted accurately, Debbie Streeter kindly agreed to assist in the preparation of the drawing. Cllr Strange has been investigating grant funding from the Wildlife Trust, and Cllrs are planning to meet a representative from the CCNL onsite with a view to obtaining some grant funding for this project.

**Chairman/Cllr Strange/Cllr O'Connell**

-Cllr Strange has obtained saplings from the Woodland Trust, Jane Stockdale from the Yellow Bus Project has kindly offered to assist with the wildflower planting.

**Chairman/Cllr Strange**

-Farwell Contracting Ltd have removed a large number of brambles from the corner of the field, it was necessary to remove the brambles up to the boundary fence, we will plant new hedging in this area. Mr Lukins will be cutting the hedge and reducing the height to 2m, being to the top of the chain link fence.

**Chairman/Clerk**

**10. Finances:**

a) The Clerk had circulated the financial report for August 2025.

b) Payment Approval: The Parish Council approved the following payments.

Clerks Salary:	At agreed rate.	
HMRC PAYE	£ 112.00	
New Solar Panel for SID	£ 330.00	
Viking Direct	£ 95.93	
Viking	£ 29.93	
Bank charges	£ 4.25	
The Blandford School – printing of Spring Newsletter	£ 309.75	<b>Clerk</b>

**11. Brief Update:**

**a) Tree Warden:**

-There are at least 3 trees looking distressed at the charging station- Clerk to write to DC Enforcement.

**Cllr Strange**

-Following the public event, co-hosted with Wilder Communities, Dorset wildlife Trust, 23<sup>rd</sup> July about the future of the former school field, Cllr Strange contacted Nature Connection – North Dorset, they are looking for projects in North Dorset and will know if there will be funding available in October/November. The Parish Council have also applied for grants through the CCNL and await their response.

-Cllr Strange has been successful in securing a large pack of free tree saplings which will be arriving between the 4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> November. The variety of saplings includes, hawthorn, rowan, blackthorn, silver birch, hazel, common oak amongst others, some will be used to replace hedgerow where necessary.

-There will be a further meeting of the Field Committee: Date and time to be arranged.

**Cllr Strange/Cllr O'Connell**

**b) Rights of Way:**

-Cllr Argles to check that the footpath to the Camp has been cut back.

**Cllr Argles**

**c) Flood Warden:**

-Autumn has arrived, and rainfall is increasing, as yet little danger of flood water flooding, please remember that there is still a risk of flash flooding.

**Cllr Tanner**

-Cllr Tanner had received 2 phone calls in recent weeks regarding purchasers of houses in Pimperne being advised against purchasing property in the village and refused insurances due to the danger of flooding as on certain websites Pimperne is being incorrectly shown as being on a flood plain. The Solicitors involved with the conveyancing process of these properties should be using the Central Government websites which are more accurate.

**Cllr Tanner**

**d) Highways:**

- PPC to make a response to an email regarding newly proposed speed limits on the Blandford Bypass.

**Chairman/Clerk**

**-Whites Gates:** The design and the position of the white gates and signage have been agreed, and the quote within our budget, with some funding towards the signage being paid for the CCNL. PPC approved the funding for this project and instructed the Clerk to contact DC to accept their quote.

**Chairman/Clerk**

**e) Village Hall:** No current update.

**Chairman**

**-f) DAPTC:**

-Cllr O'Connell advised that there is a consultation about potential devolution that the PC needs to respond to; Clerk to respond.

**Clerk**

**g) Transport Officer:**

-We still await the road markings denoting the bus stop at the former Farquharson Arms- Clerk to request an update from DC Highways,

**Cllr Richley/Clerk**

-Cllr Richley to write to Damory again regarding extending the 20-bus route to Salisbury Station.

**Cllr Richley**

**12. Community Officer Property checks:**

-Cllr Beckford had issued a full report on both play areas and reported that the play bark need to be replaced under some of the equipment, she had also removed a lot of rubbish from the area.

Cllr Beckford extended her thanks to the Chairman for removing brambles whist she swept out the bus shelter. Cllr Beckford reported that the bench in the A354 opposite Langbourne is covered with weeds and foliage that needs to be removed.

-Cllr Beckford had spoken to Los Coffee shop about the multiple signs that have been permanently erected around the village, requesting that they be removed.

**Cllr Beckford**

-Priory Sports Field – The Chairman had spoken to Mr Jefferey about the benches and the grass bank near to the car park being maintained.

**Chairman**

**--Tommy memorial** – There is still uncertainty where the Tommy should be positioned. This will be mentioned in the forthcoming Autumn Village Newsletter requesting suggestions from residents.

**Cllr Richley/ Chairman**

**Speed watch:** -The Chairman to speak to Mr Andrews about more frequent speed watch sessions.

**Chairman**

**14-Play areas:**

**-Trampoline** – The repair of the trampoline has been put on hold as there are insurance issues regarding this equipment, Clerk is dealing with the insurance companies involved, should we not be able to insure this piece equipment for liability in the future we may need to look at replacing this equipment with something else.

**Chairman/Clerk**

**-Date & time of next Parish Council meeting:** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025, at 7.00pm –The Village Hall. Meeting closed. 8.45 pm.