

PIMPERNE PARISH COUNCIL

**The Minutes for the above Parish Council Meeting held Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025.  
7.00pm at Pimperne Village Hall.**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Dorset Councillor S Jespersen, Mrs J O'Connell (Clerk) 4 Members of the public.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None received

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

**3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

-The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**Chairman**

**4. DEMOCRATIC PERIOD:** None raised

**5. Hilltop Ward Report:**

-Cllr Jespersen reported that the Local Plan Consultation has now ended, many of the proposed sites for development included in the plan will be removed and PC's will be informed of sites that have been removed, mostly the removed sites will be the ones where the landowners had not given permission for the sites to be included. The next part of the Local Plan Consultation will be released in August 2026.

-The C13 will be closed for slope stabilisation next year the prediction is that the work will take 7 months to a year to complete. Traffic will be displaced to the A350 and the surrounding villages. Cllr Jespersen requested that she be kept informed of any impact that traffic displacement has on the village.

-Due to budget cuts, DC Highways have had to delay some of the scheduled repair and resurfacing work, Cllr Jespersen advised to continue to report items to DC Highways.

-Enforcement issues: The Instavolt signage had been reported to Enforcement and the Road Safety Team, there has now been a retrospective planning application submitted for this signage.

-Woodbury/Former Methodist Chapel – it has been established that there has not been a breach of a planning application, therefore this is not a planning issue, Cllr Jespersen stated that there is not anything else that can be asked of DC as they do not consider the site to be dilapidated.

**6. MATTERS ARISING:** None raised.

**7.- URGENT MATTERS:** None raised.

**8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**a) New Applications:**

-P/ADV/2025/0651; Hyde Farm: Retain 2 no. non-illuminated 2m high Totem signs.

-P/ADV/2025/06508: Hyde Farm: Retain 2 no. non illuminated 3.8m high Totem signs.

The Cranborne Chase National Landscapes are raising an objection to this signage as they feel that it is urbanising the village, the CCNL would be prepared to accept smaller signage in green.

-The PC stated that the signage is too large and visually intrusive to the environment, they are not well positioned as they are only visible from the Blandford approach to the village.

-The PC to object to both applications for signage.

**Clerk**

**b) Approved Application:**

**P/FUL/2024/06927:** The Chairman and Cllr Richley had attended the DC Northern Area Planning Committee meeting where this application had been discussed, unfortunately the Committee voted in favour of this development of 33 houses winning the vote, 4 votes to 3. They stated that this development is an infill development extension to Blandford, it will not have any impact on the CCNL, subject to the condition lighting, and would not affect the important gap as mentioned in the Pimperne Neighbourhood Plan. PPC expressed their disappointment that Blandford Town Council had sent a representative to speak in favour of this application and against the Pimperne Neighbourhood Plan.

Pimperne will not benefit from any s106 funds relating to this development, all has been allocated to go to Blandford Town Council.

**Chairman/Cllr Richley**

**c) Outstanding Applications:**

**-P/FUL/2020/0041:** Erect 14 houses. 40% Affordable.

**Chairman**

**d) Other Planning matters:**

**-Primitive Methodist Chapel:** See matters arising above:

**Chairman**

**-S106 Homefield** – No current update.

**Chairman/Clerk**

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

**Chairman**

**-EV Charging site:** Landscaping a planning enforcement matter, the trees have died. **Chairman**

**e) Tree Applications:** None received

**Cllr Strange**

**f. Licence application on Franwill Industrial Estate:** PPC had established that this was a food delivery service: No objection raised.

**Chairman**

**9. Pimperne Community Field:**

-PPC wish to thank Mr Lukins who will be cutting the hedge to the agreed height of 2m on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November, Cllr Strange and the Chairman will be attending to establish the distance that needs to left between the hedge and the areas where the trees will be planted to ensure that there is enough space left for the hedge cutting machinery for future cuts.

-PPC would like to thank Debbie Streeter for her assistance with the drawings of the plans for the Community Field. The drawings will be updated to include where the new trees will be planted and where a scrape will be installed and then circulated to the PC for approval. **Chairman**

**10. Finances:**

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

**Clerk**

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

Clerks Salary:	At agreed rate.
HMRC PAYE	£ 112.00
Bank charges	£ 4.25
Mr King Maintenance/repairs	£ 170.00
Defibrillator battery and replacement pads.	£ 208.80
Martin Park Gardening Services	£ 1,660.00

c) The Clerk had circulated a proposed budget for 2026 – 2027: It was debated and 2 adjustments made, the Sports Society grant to be increase in line with inflation and increase of £54.00, and the DAPTC subscription increase by £23.00. The precept request will be 20K **Clerk/RFO**

e) PPC have received requests for funding assistance for improvements to the pavilion at the Pimperne Sports Field: PPC to request that Andy Jeffery attend the next PC meeting to discuss further in order for a detailed/formal grant application be made. PPC to establish the terms of the current lease in relation to responsibility for repairs. **Chairman/Clerk**

## **11. Brief Update:**

### **a) Tree Warden:**

-PPC wished to thank Cllr Strange and Mr King who have planted an Oak tree at the corner where Bushes Road and Church Road meet,

-All the saplings have now arrived from the Woodland Trust and are looking healthy, but will need to be planted as soon as possible, with the help of volunteers to plant them. The Chairman to contact the Yellow Bus Project as they have stated that they will assist with the planting.

-Cllr Strange had chased Nature Connection – North Dorset about funding but waits a response.

-The Chairman had noticed a lot of tree felling in Pimperne Wood and had contacted the Forestry Commission who confirmed that a felling licence had been granted. There were 2 officers from the Forestry Commission inspecting the work and a report was being compiled. An investigation is taking place into the work as it appears that the licence has not been complied with. Once the investigation is complete, we will be given access to the report.

**Chairman**

**b) Rights of Way:** No current update.

**Cllr Argles**

### **c) Flood Warden:**

-Autumn rains are raising ground water levels, consequently the stream will commence flowing in the not-too distant future. We would like to remind the riparian owners of their responsibilities.

**Cllr Tanner**

### **d) Highways:**

**-Whites Gates:** The White Gates and CCNL signage has now been made and is awaiting installation at the agreed sites, the CCNL will be paying the invoice for this work. Once payment has been received DC will need to obtain a road licence to carry out this work with temporary traffic lights.

**Chairman/Clerk**

-Instavolt have fixed signage to the Highway's 'Slow Down' sign on the approach to Anvil bend, Clerk to advise DC Highways Officer, Mr Skeats.

**Clerk**

-A new Portman Road sign has been installed.

**Chairman**

-We await a response from Mr Cirio regarding bus stop markings on the road outside of the former Farquharson Arms.

**Chairman**

**e) Village Hall:** The Chairman had met with the Solicitors and had finalised the Licence agreement with Hamwic Academy for the use of the VH carpark by the school. The draft Licence had been circulated to the PC who are the custodians of the car park for approval. The PC approved the document which will be signed by the Clerk after agreement of the Licence by Hamwic.

**Chairman/Clerk**

-The VH AGM will be held at the VH on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 7pm.

**Chairman**

### **-f) DAPTC:**

-Cllr O'Connell had attended the Devolving Dorset Conference hosted by the DAPTC. It was explained that in 2027, unitary council's will be looking to pass down responsibility of community assets to Parish and Town Councils, this is a cost shunting exercise, that we need to be aware of and look out for. There will also be a further Governance review.

**Cllr O'Connell**

### **g) Transport Officer:**

-The bus shelter needs to have a new timetable.

**Cllr Richley**

## **12. Community Officer Property checks:**

-The Phone box needs painting as the paint is flaking off at the bottom.

**Chairman**

-The noticeboard near to the Willows needs a new back board, Mr King to make necessary repair.

-The grit bins have been checked and are sufficiently filled with grit; regular inspections will take place during the winter months. More shovels are required.

**Cllr Beckford**

- The bench opposite Langbourne on the A354 needs to be cleared of vegetation. **Cllr Beckford**
  - The bus shelter has been inspected and is clean. **Cllr Beckford.**
  - The Clerk to contact DC to order some new sandbags. **Clerk**
- 13. Speed Watch:** The next speed watch is scheduled for Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>. **Chairman**

**14-Play areas:**

**-Junior Play Area:** Cllr Beckford had identified some areas in the play park that need to be repaired, the Chairman to ask Mr King to make any necessary repairs. Mr King made the gate and elm boarding for the Junior Play area. Further work needs to be done, the area needs weeding, a new play surface required and the swings need to be lowered. **Cllr Beckford/Chairman**

**Multi-play Area:** The blue bench needs to be repainted. Goal posts need to be cleaned, and a large puddle in the goal area needs attention. New play bark required underneath the swings.

**Cllr Beckford/ Chairman**

**-Trampoline:** The trampoline needs to be removed and replaced with an alternative piece of equipment.

**15. Correspondence** – The PC had received an email from the resident at 23 church road asking if we knew who owned the land in front of her house as she would like to purchase it. The PC did not know who owned the land but suggested that she contact, HM Land Registry, or ask her neighbour as it is believed that they have the required information. **Chairman**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.55pm.

**-Date & time of next Parish Council meeting:** Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.