

7PIMPERNE PARISH COUNCIL

**The Minutes for the above Parish Council Meeting held Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026.  
7.00pm at Pimperne Village Hall.**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs J O'Connell (Clerk), 8 Members of the public.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Dorset Cllr S Jespersen.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None received.

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

**3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

-The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**Chairman**

**4. DEMOCRATIC PERIOD:**

-It was reported that lose chippings had been dumped on the grass verge and were sliding down onto the pavement, Cllr Argles to look at this.

**Cllr Argles**

-A resident requested that Arleks Lane to be made one way, or have speed humps installed, he had experienced cars pulling into his driveway. The PC explained that they fully sympathise with this issue and that we had raised this with DC Highways many times, most recently last year. DC Highways flatly refuses to make this one way as it will create a greater issue at the bottom of Down Rd, and if Arleks Lane was one way, drivers speed might increase as they will know that vehicles will not be coming towards them. They also have refused to introduce speed humps. The PC advised that the resident could write to DC Highways directly to explain the problems that he is experiencing.

**Chairman**

-2 Representatives from Pimperne Sports Society were present as they are looking for assistance with fund raising for improvement works to the Pavilion and the football pitch, as well as volunteers to assist with the running of the tuck shop. The Chairman had approached Blanchards Bailey to search their archives to find the documentation that establishes the ownership of the Pavilion as it was built in 1996 with National Lottery funding. We await their response. Meanwhile Andy Jeffery will be looking at the records stored at the Pavilion to see if he can find any related information. The PC thanked Andy and Ollie from Pimperne Sports Society for preparing a document detailing improvements required for the kitchen area in the Pavilion and requested that further information be provided detailing the rest of the improvements works that they wish to obtain funding for.

**Chairman**

-The Clerk suggested that the prepare an article for the Spring Village Newsletter outlining their activities, the proposed improvements and appealing for volunteers to help with manning the tuck shop.

**Clerk**

-Cllr Tanner reported that the recent hedge trimming on the cycle/footpath to Letton on the A354 had left a lot of vegetation on the pathway and would like the Clerk to write to Mr Taylor to request that it is cleared.

**Clerk**

**5. Hilltop Ward Report:**

-DC proposed budget will be put before full council in February. Council Tax will increase by 4.9%.

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

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

## **8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

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

-The PC had received a non-material amendment to the 490 dwellings application. The Chairman reported that further to the disappointment that Pimperne would not benefit from s106 funding related to this application he would be writing to Simon Hoare MP to raise this issue as North Dorset still operates a s106 system whereby the rest of Dorset operates the CIL. It is believed that if North Dorset operated CIL Pimperne would have benefited from funding related to this application. **Chairman**

-Chairman to attend a forthcoming Roundtable event hosted by Simon Hoare MP at the Corn Exchange in Blandford on the 30<sup>th</sup> January between 10am-12pm. **Chairman**

### **b) Approved Application:**

**-P/HOU/2025/05655:** Proposal: Convert loft into living accommodation with large rear dormer. Location: 12 Portman Road. **Clerk**

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

**-P/ADV/2025/07004:** Proposal: Retain 4.no. non illuminated double-sided signs attached to existing lamp posts. **Clerk**

**-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

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

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

#### **-Primitive Methodist Chapel and Woodbury Site:**

**Chairman**

The end wall of Woodbury cottage is leaning towards Mr Maidment's property and looks in dangerous order, Cllr Jespersen has suggested that we write again to DC on H&S grounds, as previous correspondence to Mr Mulholland has not been responded to. **Chairman/Clerk**

**-S106 Homefield** –Dorset Council Officer Mr Galpin has confirmed the funding will be available for the following projects on receipt of formal application and required quotation: replacement fencing and gates to the Junior play area/completion of the rubber surface in the play area/ removal of the trampoline and replace with another piece of equipment, remove weed growth and bark to swing area/and the completion of the basketball court.

In the Community Field: funding towards the planned community orchard/ picnic seating/ wildflower area. Mr Galpin has agreed that the funding will be made available, the Clerk and the Chairman to submit the formal applications with the appropriate quotes. Any residual funds must be spent. Chairman proposes to include the pathway of the Community Field. **Chairman/Clerk**

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

**-EV Charging site:** No further update **Chairman**

#### **-Other Planning Matters:**

-PPC have received a letter from DC Town and Council Forums, inviting Chairs and Cllrs to a seminar on planning, takes place on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. **Chairman**

-A further Planning Seminar hosted by the DAPTC, on National Planning changes will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> February online, £35.00, Cllr O'Connell to attend. **Cllr O'Connell**

**e) Tree Applications:** None received **Cllr Strange**

## **9. Pimperne Community Field:**

-The PC has been awarded a grant of £1,107.00 from FiPL, subject to confirmation from DC that permission is granted for the trees to be planted, the Clerk has written to DC to gain written permission for the planting of the community orchard. **Chairman/Clerk**

-Saplings have been planted, the PC would like to thank Cllr Martin Strange for submitting the photograph which has appeared on the front cover of the latest edition of The Blackmore Vale Magazine.

**Cllr Strange**

#### **10. Finances:**

a) The Clerk had circulated the financial report for December 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
M Richley Honorarium	£ 100.00
Clerk's Office Allowance	£ 100.00
Sandbags	£ 32.78

#### **11. Brief Update:**

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

-PPC approved the removal of the tree guard from the tree in the VH grassed area and place it around the new tree planted at the corner of Church Rd and Bushes Rd. Chairman to arrange with Mr King.

**Chairman**

-the 420 saplings planted on the Community field have been well watered in and seem to be doing ok. There is one area which requires stick warnings and coloured material to prevent them from being trampled on, this will be rectified. Further packs will be available February/ March with more saplings being planted as hedging.

**Cllr Strange**

-DC Highways have confirmed that the overhanging tree branch on the A354 is under investigation.

**Cllr Strange**

-Further to the felling of the diseased Cherry Tree in the churchyard, DC have requested that a replacement Cherry Tree be planted in the same position in the churchyard.

**Cllr Beckford**

##### **b) Flood Warden:**

The stream is flowing, the rain is raining and has been for a few days after the dry spell over Christmas.

Just to make you realise that flooding can occur not just from ground water from the stream or flash flood along the A354 but from other causes.

I received a phone call from a Pimperne resident a few weeks ago asking for assistance as her home and garage were flooding. The reason being that the door to her garage and front door were located at the end of a driveway that inclined towards her property. Mr Alan Lukins and I attended with sand and sandbags and prevented further water ingress. I relay this story to emphasise the need for every householder to undertake a risk assessment as to possible occurrence of flooding situations and that the flooding warning given out by the Environment Agent may not have relevance to anyone particular situation.

**Cllr Tanner**

##### **c) Highways:**

-**Whites Gates:** The White Gates and signage have now been completed.

**Chairman/Clerk**

-We await a response from Mr Cirio regarding bus stop markings on the road outside of the former Farquharson Arms. The Clerk to request a date for completion.

**Chairman**

##### **d) Village Hall:**

- Car park licence agreement with Hamwic and the PC is moving forward with Hamwics Solicitors agreeing the fees and the draft Licence has been sent by Blanchards to Trethowans for approval.

**Chairman/Clerk**

-The Chairman is meeting with a sound and vision company regarding improvements to the sound system and a new projector and screen for the VH.

**Chairman**

**-f) DAPTC:** AGM date confirmed for 23<sup>rd</sup> March 26.

**Cllr O'Connell**

**g) Transport Officer:**

-We still await the bus stops to be placed and the bus stop markers to be painted onto the road.

**Cllr Richley**

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

-Thank you to Cllr Beckford for her full report:

**Chairman**

-The door to the telephone box needs to be repaired.

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

-The grit bins have been checked and some need refilling, the Chairman to provide shovels to those bins reported to be without.

**Chairman/ Cllr Beckford**

-The bench opposite Langbourne on the A354 needs to be cleared of vegetation.

**Cllr Beckford**

-The vegetation on bench bench in the Community Field has been cut back

**Cllr Beckford**

-The bus shelter has been swept and tidied

**Cllr Beckford.**

-Grit sand for the grit bins to be ordered.

**Clerk**

-The seat under the tree outside of the church has been swept.

**Cllr Beckford**

**-Junior Play Area:** Post at the top of the wooden steps is loose and needs fixing.

**Chairman**

-Metal fitting at the top of the basket swing needs attention.

**Chairman**

## **13. Speed Watch:**

- The bad weather has prevented any speed watch sessions being held. The sessions will recommence as soon as the weather improves.

**Chairman**

## **14.-Items of the next Agenda**

-Date for the Annual Parish Meeting: Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7pm.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.11pm.

**-Date & time of next Parish Council meeting:** Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 7pm.