

Manston and Hammoon Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 14th March 2022 at 6.00pm in Manston Village Hall

Present:

Councillors – N. Frampton, E. Clark, S. Vestbirk, L. Tandoh, J. Hussey, P. Easter

In attendance:

Cllr Jane Somper, Dorset Council

J Ramsay (Parish Clerk)

Four members of the public

Chairman's Welcome

Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and noted it was good to see some public participation.

21.73. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Poe.

21.74. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests in relation to the agenda

None were declared.

21.75. Public Discussion Period

Keith Murphy confirmed that he is happy to remain as footpath warden, and does walk around the village clearing paths where he can. If there are any blockages, Keith will clear them if the locations are known.

Other items to note from the public discussion period:

- Village noticeboards – it was raised that Manston's noticeboard, in particular, is in need of repair and maintenance. It was also noted that where it is positioned is quite dangerous by the roadside. There used to be a noticeboard on the side of the Village Hall, however it was taken down when the Hall was redecorated. **Action: Clerk to try and find out what happened to the noticeboard**
- Village signs – these are dirty and letters are falling off. Residents requested the Parish Council take action on this matter. Clerk confirmed that she had been in contact with Dorset Council to do this, however, they have now said that the Parish Council will need to pay to clean and repair the signs.
- Suggestion was put forward that Parish Council minutes should be available at the monthly coffee morning at the Village Hall for residents to review, as an alternative means of communicating with residents. **Action: Clerk to take forward**
- Query was raised as to why the decision was made to grant Cllr Poe a leave of absence. Clerk explained the reasons and the legality to that decision.
- A resident asked why the speed limit is not 20mph in the village of Manston, and why the 30mph speed limit currently in place now is not extended out to the Plough so people reduce their speed before entering the village. Chairman assured residents that this has been a discussion point for the Parish Council for a number of years, however trying to get Dorset Council to change it, is proving difficult. As a result, the Parish Council has paid for a Speed Indicator Device (SID) survey on all three

Chairman:

Date:

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road entrances into Manston. The results show all three roads have speeding traffic (over 30mph) entering the village regularly. So it is the Council’s plan to put up a SID in the village to try and reduce the speeding. **Action: Clerk to contact Dorset Council’s Safety Advisor, Tony Burden**

- Trees on the PlayArea – a petition was received from residents about a proposal to put trees across the playing field. Residents are concerned that planting trees will mean losing open green space and the playing field should be left open for children to run on. Chairman stated that this item is on the agenda for discussion today, any proposals that residents may have seen are just ideas and no decisions have been made as yet.

21.76 Celebrating the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee

Chairman suggested that firstly it needs to be agreed whether the Parish Council should undertake an event for the Jubilee and if that is agreed, determine how best to commemorate the event. Councillors unanimously agreed the Jubilee should be commemorated and that the previous suggestion to create a Jubilee Garden at the end of the playing field would be a fitting tribute.

Cllr Tandoh showed the Council the size of the trees to be planted, and that 60 trees would cover about a quarter of the playing field. There being 3 copses of 20 trees. There will be some paths in between and benches to sit on. A resident offered a 15 year Oak tree to be planted, the Parish Council accepted this kind offer. Another resident questioned whether the gate at the far end would be lost, Chairman stated that this would be kept in place for access. Image of proposed use of space:

Play Area Equipment	Open Playing Field	Trees
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In addition, a cherry tree will be purchased to place in Hammoon churchyard as a commemoration.

- Action: Cllr Tandoh to organize the tree planting and order a plaque.**
- Action: Clerk to get a quote and put the request for 2/3 benches for discussion on the next agenda**

It was noted that there are two significant events occurring in Manston for the Queens Jubilee - the Village Hall Committee are organizing an event to be held on Saturday, 4th June 2022 and Manston Church Fete will be held on Saturday, 2nd July 2022.

21.77 To decide on Play Area Equipment (quote circulated prior to the meeting)

Clerk shared the picture and details of the proposed new play area equipment (pictures on the Parish Council website). The equipment is targeted towards users of up to 8 years in age. Clerk explained the background to the company, Playdale Playgrounds, and what their assurances were regarding maintenance, replacement parts, warranties and lead times. The quote received is for £12,672.40, of which £10,000 has been secured in the form of a grant. The cost therefore is £2,672.40 plus any VAT to be added. Clerk requested that the above quote be sanctioned. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Clerk also requested the Parish Council consider the quote held back from the last meeting, from Paul Corbett, for £740.00 to repair and rejuvenate the existing play area equipment, to be ready in time for the Queens Jubilee event. The quote was approved. ALL IN FAVOUR.

21.78. To agree the minutes of previous meeting on 13th December 2021 are a true and accurate record
The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

21.79. Issues arising from the last meeting – Clerk’s Report

- SID Survey – this has been completed and will be discussed under item 21.83
- Mirror Sign Update – now that the SID survey has been completed, there is enough evidence to get a mirror sign put up opposite the entrance to the Village Hall as it can be dangerous to pull out at times. **Action: Clerk to contact Dorset Council to seek advice on how to progress this**

21.80. Update from the Chairman

Chairman advised he had nothing to add, all items to be discussed are on the agenda.

21.81. To receive report from Dorset Council (*report circulated in advance*)

Cllr Somper gave a brief resume of her report and asked if anyone had any questions from the report, nothing was noted. Councillors noted that it was good to see the mention of re-wilding the verges.

21.82. To receive a finance report (*report circulated in advance*) and to agree action in response to proposals and payment approvals

Councillors noted the below payments made under delegated powers by either cheque or bank transfer out of Council:

13/12/2021	D&S Air Ambulance	Grant Sum	£300.00
31/12/2021	Unity Trust Bank	Fees (for reserve and current account)	£36.00
10/01/2022	HMRC	PAYE for Quarter 3 (July to September)	£85.20
14/01/2022	Higher Houghton Horticulture	Grass Cut & Repair of Oak Posts at Hammoon Churchyard	£140.00
03/02/2022	Vision ICT	Website Hosting & Support (April 22 to March 23)	£150.00
04/02/2022	ICO	Data Protection Fee	40.00
17/02/2022	Cllr Frampton	Expenses	£29.02

Payments to be sanctioned:

14/03/2022	Clerk	Expenses	£18.90
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Clerk requested that the above payments as listed be sanctioned. Proposed by Cllr Clark and seconded by Cllr Tandoh. ALL IN FAVOUR.

21.83. SID Survey Results & Decision (*results circulated prior to the meeting*)

Clerk explained the results and that two of the three identified sites qualify for a SID, the third one is very close and could be incorporated with the other two. A concern was raised about the aesthetics of the village and that too much signage is not necessarily a good thing. Chairman stated that Councillors need to think about whether we take this forward and order the posts, one is already in place. The costs of the posts are £175.00 each. It was agreed that having signs at Higher Farm and outside the Village Hall would slow traffic on entry to the village. The Parish Council already has a SID, being purchased from Child Okeford Parish Council. A further decision will be required to decide on how the SID is moved around the

village once installed. Councillors took a vote to go ahead with the SID in the village, purchase the posts and pay someone to move the SID dependent on cost. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Action: Clerk to take forward and Clerk to contact the Dorset Lengthsman regarding the costs of moving the signs.

21.84 To decide on East Farm Lane sign action

Chairman read aloud the email received from Adam Marsh at Dorset Council which explains what the options are for changing or moving the sign. On discussion it was felt that the sign should be moved further down the lane, in agreement with the landowner who had suggested this at the last meeting. However, it is unknown how much this will cost. A vote was taken to move the sign, dependent on costs to do so – 5 IN FAVOUR, 1 AGAINST.

Action: Clerk to approach Dorset Council for a quote

21.85 Manston Village Signs – Clean Up and Repair/Replace

Clerk raised that since the last meeting, Dorset Council have now said that they will not clean or repair village signs (such as those in Manston). Councillors discussed options and agreed that there are two signs that require more urgent attention, on the B3091 by the abattoir and the one next to The Plough public house. A vote was taken to get a quote from Dorset Council to clean/repair these two signs. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Action: Clerk to approach Dorset Council for a quote

Cllr Tandoh raised that the sign by the T Junction in Manston, which is a highways sign, has still not been repaired.

Action: Clerk to raise again with Dorset Council

Chairman requested a discussion on the noticeboards since it had been raised in the Public Forum. The current one in Manston is reported to be in a state of dis-repair. The one that used to be on the Village Hall seems to have disappeared. And the Hammoon noticeboard is also not in great condition, suggestion was made to move the noticeboard into the phone box.

Action: Cllr Tandoh to review the Manston noticeboard, Clerk to find out what happened to the Village Hall noticeboard and Cllrs Frampton/Vestbirk to review the Hammoon noticeboard

21.86 To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan

Clerk reported that the first stage is to resolve whether to go ahead with the neighbourhood plan and make it a formal decision in the minutes. Clerk stated that since the last meeting, she had been in contact with Motcombe PC and they had been very helpful in providing some starting information. The purpose of a neighbourhood plan is not to prevent development, but to ensure that the Planning Officers consider the neighbourhood plan as a material consideration. Cllr Somper stated that Fontmell Magna would be a good example for us to review. Although there is no large scale development planned for the parish area, you do have Sturminster Newton one side and Child Okeford the other and Child Okeford is growing. The plan will have weight and value if undertaken, however it is very time consuming and expensive. Currently the Parish

Council has no control over planning and this would help get the control back. Cllr Somper indicated that if a neighbourhood plan is too time consuming, the Parish Council could look at the area becoming an historical heritage site – Iwerne Minster and Milton Abbas have done this. It was agreed this subject needed further discussion and would be put on the next agenda.

Action: Clerk to put on next agenda. Cllrs Vestbirk/Tandoh to investigate further developing a neighbourhood plan

21.87. To receive an update on Hammoon Bridge & Flooding

Chairman reported that two padlocks had been purchased for the flood gates which should be secure enough to prevent them being removed, and that since the last meeting there have been no flood incidents. Cllr Vestbirk stated that the trees under the bridge still have not been cleared, despite raising with the Environment Agency.

Action: Clerk to chase up

21.88. Discussion on any highway issues in both villages (to include traffic and speeding)

Nothing to note.

21.89. To comment on any planning applications

None received since the last meeting.

21.90. To decide whether to become a member of Dorset CPRE

Clerk stated that this agenda item was requested by Cllr Poe. Cllr Hussey spoke a bit about the CPRE and proposed that the Parish Council join it. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Action: Clerk to take forward

21.91. To decide whether meetings should move to a bi-monthly frequency

Clerk asked the Parish Council to think about altering the schedule of meetings as meetings are getting busier and lasting 2 hours each time at least. A discussion was had and it was agreed to keep the meetings quarterly on the second Monday in the month, however should there be a need to hold an extraordinary council meeting, Councillors need to be prepared to attend two more meetings per year. ALL IN FAVOUR.

Date for the next year were agreed: 16th May 2022, 8th August 2022, 14th November and 13th February 2023.

21.92. Confidential Matters (public and press to leave the meeting)

Nothing to note.

21.93. Items for the next meeting

- SID Survey Update
- Play Area Equipment Update
- East Farm Lane Sign Update
- Neighbourhood Plan Update

21.94. Date of next meeting(s)

See item 21.91.

There being no further business to be transacted the meeting closed at 20:14 hours.