

CHARDSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15th November 2023 – 7.00pm; meeting held in Chardstock Community Hall.

Present: Cllrs C. Wilson (Chair), F. Eames, P. Greer, S. Hughes, M. Reeve and S. Sonnenberg (quorate).

In Attendance: Sally Freemantle (Clerk)

Two members of the public were also present.

6.30pm	<p>Before the meeting commenced, a presentation was made by Kit Brook River Restoration Project Group. The presenter introduced her six colleagues and outlined the work being carried out by the group. The aim of the group is to improve the condition and water quality of Kit Brook as it is a contributory to the River Axe including land management, biodiversity and wildlife, engaging with people including farmers, land owners, schools and the local community. Further information was also provided by one member of the group regarding his work with the farming community and advice he was able to provide in the midst of changes to funding. The Chairman thanked the group for their informative update and councillors expressed a wish for a site visit to see the leaky dams which have been installed to assist with slowing down the speed of the water flow. Everyone is invited to a Café Event with Devon Wildlife Trust on 17th February. <i>The presenter and four of her colleagues left the meeting room and did not return.</i></p>
7.00pm	
7.06pm	<p>The Chair welcomed all in attendance and outlined Fire Safety precautions.</p> <p>Public Forum</p> <p>i) No Police report received. Michael Davis, the Honorary Tree Warden, sent his apologies.</p> <p>ii) It was reported that the footpath between Woodcock Way and Sopers Field floods on the corner, and that the bridge on footpath 24 is in need of repair. It was agreed to ask Ian Ellis to undertake the work on the footpath.</p> <p>iii) a) Apologies were received from Cllr Iain Chubb, Devon County Council, Whimple and Blackdown division. b) Apologies were received from Cllr. D Mackinder, East Devon District Council, Yarty Ward.</p> <p>iv) Two members of the public working on the street lighting consultation updated the Council on the feedback received regarding the new LED lights in the village which was two negative and one positive comment. A request would be made for feedback from the trial to be sent to the group. 141 Parish Councils had been contacted and replies had been received from 23, however none were willing to collaborate. The Parish Clerk explained that Payhembury Parish Council had been in touch and would forward details.</p> <p>The Chair closed Public Forum session at 7.28pm.</p>
7.28pm	<i>The two members of the public left the meeting and did not return.</i>
7.28pm	Meeting Commences
23/069 i)	<p>To note members of the Parish Council in attendance: As listed above.</p>

Initial:

23/069 ii)	<p>To note and, if thought fit, to approve apologies for absence received: (LGA 1972 s.85(1)) There were no apologies for absence.</p>
23/069 iii)	<p>To note members not present and to receive any other apologies for absence: Apologies received from Cllr. Iain Chubb, Devon County Council, Whimple and Blackdown Division and Cllr. D Mackinder, East Devon District Council, Yarty Ward. Noted.</p>
23/070	<p>Declarations of interest under the Code of Conduct: No declarations made.</p>
23/071	<p>To consider any matters listed on this agenda that Councillors consider should be dealt with as confidential business as per the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960: <i>It was resolved that agenda item 23/079 “To consider matters pertaining to staffing” should be dealt with as confidential business.</i></p>
23/072	<p>To consider and, if thought fit, approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Chardstock Parish Council held on 11th October 2023: <i>Approval of the minutes of this Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council were proposed by Cllr. Greer, seconded by Cllr. Hughes. Resolved.</i> The minutes were signed as a true record of that meeting by the Chair.</p> <p>Matters arising from these minutes: <i>None.</i></p>
23/073	<p>Planning matters to be considered:</p> <p>a) i) To consider planning applications received prior to agenda publication: 23/2023/FUL Early’s Garage Chardstock Devon EX13 7BW Erection of 3.6m length of railings around concrete parking slab on the west elevation. SUPPORT proposed by Cllr Wilson, seconded by Cllr Eames. Resolved unanimously.</p> <p>a) ii) To consider planning applications received after agenda publication as per supplementary agenda circulated to all members: 23/1577/FUL Readshill Farm Birchill Axminster Devon EX13 7LB Erection of agricultural fodder and machinery storage building. SUPPORT proposed by Cllr Wilson, seconded by Cllr Hughes. Resolved unanimously. 23/2361/FUL Keates Farm Broom Lane Tytherleigh Axminster Devon EX13 7AZ Replacement & extension of existing outbuilding roofs to provide car port. SUPPORT proposed by Cllr Wilson, seconded by Cllr Sonnenberg. Resolved unanimously. 23/2381/FUL Land Adjacent Sunnyside Birchill Erection of Lean-to and Laying of Concrete Pad NOTED</p>

Continued overleaf

Initial:

	<p>b) Determinations/Decisions advised by LPA: None advised.</p> <p>c) Tree Matters: None advised.</p> <p>d) Appeals lodged / in progress: APP/U1105/W/23/3321677 Tytherleigh Bathrooms and Farm Shop Country West Trading Estate Tytherleigh Axminster EX13 7BE Construction of 5 no. dwellings, means of access and associated works. RESOLVED that the objections raised by the Parish Council during the Planning consultation process be re-iterated.</p> <p>e) Planning correspondence: Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan Survey received from East Devon District Council. RESOLVED that the survey be forwarded to the Chairman</p> <p>f) Ward planning applications to be considered at EDDC: None advised.</p> <p>g) Planning consultations pending/in progress: None advised.</p>
23/074	<p>Financial Matters to be considered:</p> <p>a) To consider and if thought fit, to approve Council’s Payments for October 2023: RESOLVED that Council payments for October (£2,527.29) be approved.</p> <p>b) To receive and note RFO report for October 2023: Reports received and noted.</p> <p>c) Questions to the RFO on accounts / financial reports: None.</p> <p>d) To note items of expenditure authorised under Chair/Clerk delegated authority: (Financial Regulations May 20215.4.1 and Delegation Appendix). None.</p> <p>e) To note and consider the newly agreed pay rates (notification received from NALC): RESOLVED (1) that the NJC/NALC Pay Settlement for the Financial year 2023/24 be noted and agreed as per terms of employee’s contract; and (2) that the new pay rate be backdated on staff payments made since April 2023.</p> <p>f) To consider the budget for Financial Year 2024-2025: It was agreed that the budget be considered at the next meeting of the Council.</p>

	Chardstock Parish Council Business to be considered:
23/075	<p data-bbox="316 174 1367 208">“Matters of Council consideration may include public participation if so invited by Chair”</p> <p data-bbox="316 237 1367 309">a) To consider matters relating to roadworks in the Parish and a letter from a resident regarding verges:</p> <p data-bbox="316 349 1367 421">Discussion took place regarding a letter received from a resident about the verges along the A358.</p> <p data-bbox="316 421 1367 492">RESOLVED (1) that the matter be noted; and (2) that the correspondence be referred to the County Councillor.</p> <p data-bbox="316 533 1367 604">b) To consider any matters pertaining to tree planting projects/initiatives in the parish:</p> <p data-bbox="316 604 1367 676">Due to the absence of the Honorary Tree Warden the matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Council.</p> <p data-bbox="316 716 1367 788">c) To consider matters pertaining to ecology and climate action in the parish:</p> <p data-bbox="316 788 1367 860">The presentation received by Kit Brook River Restoration Project had been received before commencement of the meeting.</p> <p data-bbox="316 860 1367 891">Noted.</p> <p data-bbox="316 931 1367 967">d) To consider ongoing work on the Emergency Planning for parishes:</p> <p data-bbox="316 967 1367 1084">Cllrs Greer, Hughes and Sonnenberg reported back on the progress being made which included research on medical personnel residing in the Parish and starting a support list of vulnerable people.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1084 1367 1155">It was requested that Councillors have the ability to send emails from their .gov.uk email addresses.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1155 1367 1272">It was suggested that a reminder about the information required from the community be included in the next parish newsletter and that Cllr Reeves would add it to the Parish Facebook page.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1272 1367 1303">Noted.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1344 1367 1379">e) To receive an update on the ongoing streetlighting consultation:</p> <p data-bbox="316 1379 1367 1415">Feedback had been reported in Public Forum.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1415 1367 1447">Noted.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1487 1367 1523">f) To consider information relating to The George Inn:</p> <p data-bbox="316 1523 1367 1594">It was reported that the petition had been presented to East Devon District Council on 20th October 2023.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1594 1367 1626">Noted.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1666 1367 1738">g) To consider the invitation to the Code of Conduct Training on 30th November:</p> <p data-bbox="316 1738 1367 1774">Cllr Sonnenberg agreed to attend.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1774 1367 1805">Noted.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1845 1367 1917">h) To note receipt of the Play Area Inspection Report and consider actions required:</p> <p data-bbox="316 1917 1367 2033">It was agreed that Cllr Eames would remove the nets, a parishioner would be asked to attend to the woodwork and that Ken Hussey would be asked to carry out the required work to the flat seat.</p> <p data-bbox="316 2033 1367 2105">RESOLVED that contractor, Ken Hussey be asked to carry out the required work to the flat seat.</p>

	<p>i) To consider submission of articles to Parish Newsletter for the December 2023 edition: RESOLVED that a reminder about information required from the community for the proposed Emergency Plan be added to the December newsletter.</p>
23/076	<p>Other matters considered as urgent by presiding Chair for discussion only: None.</p>
23/077	<p>Date of next meeting: Next Ordinary meeting of council scheduled for 13th December 2023 7.00pm start time. Clerk: Please prepare agenda and publicise accordingly through usual channels.</p>
23/078	<p>"It is proposed by the Chair that, under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by Local Government Act 1972, the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed. Members to agree upon matters to be discussed in confidential session, as per agenda item 23/016 above." RESOLVED: unanimously.</p> <p>At this point of the evening, all members of the public had already left the meeting.</p>
23/079	<p>Matters for discussion under Part Two (Confidential) business: To consider matters pertaining to staffing and pay. RESOLVED that the verbal report from the Parish Clerk be noted.</p>
	<p>With no further business to transact, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.35pm</p>

**Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15th November 2023 – 7.00pm;
meeting held in Chardstock Community Hall.**

Signed: _____ Date: 13th December 2023
(Chair)

Initial: