

## CHARDSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

**Draft – yet to be approved**

### **Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – 7.00pm; meeting held in Chardstock Community Hall.**

Present: Cllrs P. Greer, (Chair), S. Hughes and I. Keam (quorate).

Also Present: Cllr Duncan Mackinder, East Devon District Council, Yarty Ward.

In Attendance: Sally Freemantle (Clerk).

7.00pm	<p><b>The Chair welcomed all in attendance and outlined Fire Safety precautions.</b></p> <p><b>Public Forum</b></p> <p>i) No Police report received. ii) No P3 (footpath) report received. iii) a) Apologies were received from Cllr Iain Chubb, Devon County Council, Whimple and Blackdown division. b) Cllr. D Mackinder, East Devon District Council, Yarty Ward provided an update on the Local Plan and explained the input provided by District Councillors through the strategic planning process and meetings. He added that publication of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was expected soon.</p> <p>iv) There was one member of the public present. The member of the public stated that he was in attendance to provide an update from the George Inn Continuity Group. He explained that the GICG was now a member of the Plunkett Foundation and that a survey on the property had recently been carried out.</p> <p><b>The Chair closed Public Forum session at 7.08pm.</b> <b>The member of the Public left the meeting.</b></p>
7.08pm	<b>Meeting Commences</b>
24/135 i)	<b>To note members of the Parish Council in attendance:</b> As listed above.
24/135 ii)	<b>To note and, if thought fit, to approve apologies for absence received:</b> <b>(LGA 1972 s.85(1))</b> Apologies for absence were received from Cllr F. Eames (personal reasons) and Cllr M. Reeve (personal reasons). <b>Apologies for absence approved with the reason given.</b>
24/135 iii)	<b>To note members not present and to receive any other apologies for absence:</b> Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Iain Chubb Devon County Council, Whimple and Blackdown division.
24/136	<b>Declarations of interest under the Code of Conduct:</b> There were no declarations of interest at this time. <b>Noted that this did not preclude declarations of interest being made at any point in the meeting that they became apparent.</b> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Continued overleaf</i></p>

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24/137	<p><b>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:</b>  <b>None.</b></p>
24/138	<p><b>To consider and, if thought fit, approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Chardstock Parish Council held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024:</b>  There was one amendment required as an incorrect name had been included at agenda item 24/130(e).  <b>Subject to this amendment, approval of the minutes of this Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council were proposed by Cllr. Hughes, seconded by Cllr. Reeve and RESOLVED.</b> The minutes were amended and signed as a true record of that meeting by the Chair.</p>
24/139	<p><b>i) To consider the co-option of a Councillor onto the Parish Council (any applications received were forwarded to Councillors ahead of the meeting):</b>  The Clerk advised that no applications for the Casual Vacancy had been received.</p> <p><b>ii) Should a Co-option take place, the new Councillor to sign the declaration of acceptance of office:</b>  No applications for the Casual Vacancy had been received, so this was not applicable.</p>
24/140	<p><b>Planning matters to be considered:</b></p> <p><b>a) i) To consider planning applications received prior to agenda publication:</b>  None advised.</p> <p><b>a) ii) To consider planning applications received after agenda publication as per supplementary agenda circulated to all members:</b> None advised.</p> <p><b>b) Determinations/Decisions advised by LPA:</b> None advised.</p> <p><b>c) Tree Matters:</b> None advised.</p> <p><b>d) Appeals lodged / in progress:</b> None advised.</p> <p><b>e) Planning correspondence received:</b> None advised.</p> <p><b>f) Ward planning applications to be considered at EDDC:</b> None advised.</p> <p><b>g) To consider feedback from the Clerk and Chair following attendance at East Devon Parish and Town Council Planning meeting:</b>  The Chair explained that the meeting had outlined the recent changes and emphasis in planning control. <b>NOTED</b></p> <p><b>h) To consider any feedback from the East Devon District Council Strategic Planning Committee meeting:</b>  The Clerk explained that no feedback had been received – other than that already provided by Cllr Mackinder – and that the minutes of the meeting were not yet available. <b>NOTED</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Continued</i></p>

24/141	<p><b>Financial Matters to be considered:</b></p> <p>a) To consider and if thought fit, to approve Council’s Payments for November 2024: RESOLVED that Council payments for November (£2198.99) be approved.</p> <p>b) To receive and note RFO report for November 2024: 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 consider payment of December accounts on or around 20<sup>th</sup> December prior to Christmas closedown period: Proposed by Cllr Greer, seconded by Cllr Hughes and RESOLVED that the December accounts be paid on or around 20<sup>th</sup> December.</p> <p>f) To consider applications for grant funding: None received.</p>
8.12pm 8.13pm	<p><i>Cllr I Keam left the meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Cllr I Keam returned to the meeting.</i></p>
	<p><b>g) To consider the budget setting for 2025/26 and set the precept in accordance with the budget:</b> Councillors considered the priorities and essential functions for 2025/26 and agreed that the budget should be increased to include an allocation as a base fund for the play area and an increase in reserves. It also agreed a £5,000 contribution to Chardstock Community Shop for the financial year 2025/26 to assist with the predicted deficit. The change in the tax base from 411 to 428 and the effect on the precept calculation was noted. AGREED to increase the precept by 96p per week for a Band D property. It was proposed by Cllr Greer, seconded by Cllr Keam and RESOLVED to set the precept at £54,485 for the 2025/26 financial year.</p>
	<p><b>Chardstock Parish Council Business to be considered:</b></p>
24/142	<p><b>“Matters of Council consideration may include public participation if so invited by Chair”</b></p> <p>a) To consider parish maintenance, highways and footpath (P3) matters: None received.</p> <p>b) To consider any matters pertaining to tree planting projects/initiatives in the parish: The tree warden had emailed to explain that the trees on Westcombes verge required attention. Cllrs Greer and Hughes agreed to carry out the work on the weekend following the meeting. RESOLVED that the suggested work be carried out by Cllr Greer and Cllr Hughes and the Clerk be contacted should any materials be required.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Continued overleaf</i></p>

Initial:

	<p><b>c) To consider matters pertaining to ecology and climate action in the parish:</b> None received.</p> <p><b>d) To consider information relating to The George Inn:</b> Information had been provided during public forum. <b>NOTED</b></p> <p><b>e) To consider submission of articles to Parish Newsletter for the January 2025 edition:</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> that (1) a brief outline of the agreed budget increase per Band D property; (2) the proposal to potentially provide skips in the autumn only next year to save costs; and (3) the vacancy for a Councillor on the Parish Council be submitted for the January edition of the community newsletter.</p>
24/143	<p><b>Other matters considered as urgent by presiding Chair for discussion only:</b> None.</p>
24/144	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> The next Ordinary Meeting of Chardstock Parish Council is scheduled for Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.00pm.</p>
24/145	<p><b>"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 24/137 above."</b> None.</p>
24/146	<p><b>Matters for discussion under Part Two (Confidential) business:</b> None.</p>
	<p><b>With no further business to transact, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.24pm</b></p>

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meeting held in Chardstock Community Hall.**

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
(Chair)

Initial: