

## CHARDSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – 7.00pm; meeting held in Chardstock Community Hall.

Present: Cllrs P. Greer, (Chair), F Eames (from 7.18pm), S. Hughes, I. Keam and M. Reeve (quorate).

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

In Attendance: Sally Freemantle (Clerk).

7.01pm	<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.</p> <p>ii) No P3 (footpath) report received.</p> <p>iii) a) Cllr Iain Chubb, Devon County Council, Whimple and Blackdown division had sent a written report which had been circulated to Councillors.</p> <p>b) Cllr. D Mackinder, East Devon District Council, Yarty Ward explained the ongoing work regarding the refresh of the Local Plan and outlined the requirement by the Government to achieve sufficient site allocations to ensure housing needs are met until 2040. He explained that agreed site allocations did not mean that the sites identified would definitely be developed, but that each planning application would be considered on its own merits and in accordance with the Local Plan, government guidance and legislation at the time of application.</p>
7.19pm	<p><b><i>Cllr F Eames arrived at the meeting.</i></b></p>
	<p>Cllr Mackinder also mentioned that he had recently taken carbon literacy training and informed the Council that this training would be extended to any Councillors who would like to receive it.</p> <p>iv) There were three members of the public present. A member of the public stated that he was in attendance to support the grant application submitted by the George Inn Continuity Group. He also explained that notification had been received that the George Inn was going to be put on the market. Two members of the public were in attendance to support a request for ingoing funding to support the anticipated Community Shop revenue deficit.</p> <p><b>The Chair closed Public Forum session at 7.58pm.</b></p> <p><b>Three members of the Public and left the meeting.</b></p>
7.58pm	<p><b>Meeting Commences</b></p>
24/123 i)	<p><b>To note members of the Parish Council in attendance:</b></p> <p>As listed above.</p>
24/123 ii)	<p><b>To note and, if thought fit, to approve apologies for absence received:</b></p> <p><b>(LGA 1972 s.85(1))</b></p> <p>There were no apologies for absence as all councillors were present.</p>
24/123 iii)	<p><b>To note members not present and to receive any other apologies for absence:</b></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Iain Chubb Devon County Council, Whimple and Blackdown division.</p> <p><i>Continued overleaf</i></p>

Initial:

24/124	<p><b>Declarations of interest under the Code of Conduct:</b> There were no declarations of interest at this time.</p> <p>Noted that this did not preclude declarations of interest being made at any point in the meeting that they became apparent.</p>
24/125	<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> RESOLVED that matters relating to Chardstock play area (commercial in confidence) and staffing/budget (confidential) be discussed as confidential business.</p>
24/126	<p><b>To consider and, if thought fit, approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Chardstock Parish Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024:</b> Approval of the minutes of this Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council were proposed by Cllr. Eames, seconded by Cllr. Reeve and RESOLVED. The minutes were signed as a true record of that meeting by the Chair.</p>
24/127	<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> As the Clerk had advised that no applications for the Casual Vacancy had been received, this was not applicable.</p>
24/128	<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> It was noted that an Appeal Decision had been received for Ivy Green Farm, Chardstock, EX13 7BY for Change of Use of existing annexe accommodation to enable dual use as either annexe and/or holiday accommodation. The appeal had been dismissed.</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>
8.11pm	<i>Cllr Duncan Mackinder left the meeting and did not return.</i>
	<i>Continued</i>

24/129	<p><b>Financial Matters to be considered:</b></p> <p><b>a) To consider and if thought fit, to approve Council's Payments for October 2024:</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b> that Council payments for October (£1,826.66) be approved.</p> <p><b>b) To receive and note RFO report for October 2024:</b>  <b>Reports received and noted.</b></p> <p><b>c) Questions to the RFO on accounts / financial reports:</b>  <b>None.</b></p> <p><b>d) To note items of expenditure authorised under Chair/Clerk delegated authority:</b>  <b>(Financial Regulations May 20215.4.1 and Delegation Appendix).</b>  <b>None.</b></p> <p><b>e) To consider a grant application from the George Inn Continuity Group (previously forwarded to Councillors)</b>  <b>Proposed by Cllr Eames, seconded by Cllr Reeve and RESOLVED to award £2,000 to the George Inn Continuity Group in line with their grant application.</b></p> <p><b>f) To consider a request for financial support from Chardstock Community Shop (previously forwarded to Councillors)</b>  <b>AGREED to consider including a contribution in the budget for the 2025/26 financial year and confirm the matter at the December meeting of the Parish Council.</b></p> <p><b>g) To note and consider the newly agreed pay rates (notification received from NALC)</b>  <b>Proposed by Cllr Reeve, seconded by Cllr Hughes and RESOLVED to note and agree the newly agreed pay rates.</b></p> <p><b>h) To consider the budget setting for 2025/26</b>  <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.</b>  <b>AGREED to increase the precept by a suggested £1.07 per week for a Band D property, subject to further consideration at the December meeting of the Parish Council and following confirmation of any changes to the tax base.</b></p>
	<p><b>Chardstock Parish Council Business to be considered:</b></p>
24/130	<p><b>"Matters of Council consideration may include public participation if so invited by Chair"</b></p> <p><b>a) To consider parish maintenance, highways and footpath (P3) matters:</b>  <b>None received.</b></p> <p><b>b) To consider any matters pertaining to tree planting projects/initiatives in the parish:</b>  <b>None received.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Continued overleaf</i></p>

	<p><b>c) To consider matters pertaining to ecology and climate action in the parish:</b> None received.</p> <p><b>d) To consider ongoing work on the Emergency Planning for parishes:</b> To be deferred to the New Year.</p> <p><b>e) To consider applications for the Invitation to Tender for Lengthsman:</b> None received, however Ben Coath offered to cut the grass at the play area and the junction at Holy City at a cost of £25.00 per hour. Proposed by Cllr Greer, seconded by Cllr Hughes and <b>RESOLVED</b> that Ben Coath be asked to regularly cut the grass seasonally at the play area and the junction at Holy City. As no other applications for lengthsman had been received, it was agreed that that other maintenance would be contracted out as required.</p> <p><b>f) To consider the Play Area inspection report (previously circulated to Councillors):</b> Proposed by Cllr Reeve, seconded by Cllr Greer and <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Play Area inspection report be noted.</p> <p><b>g) To consider submission of articles to Parish Newsletter for the December 2024 edition:</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> that a brief outline of the proposed budget increase per Band D property be submitted for the December edition of the community newsletter.</p>
24/131	<p><b>Other matters considered as urgent by presiding Chair for discussion only:</b> The Clerk explained that, as had been previously agreed by Council, the .co.uk website had now been taken offline and all documents saved to a memory stick and sent to the Clerk by Function 28 at a cost of £50. This would ensure that documents and information could be reviewed and updated as necessary. Noted.</p>
24/132	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> The next Ordinary Meeting of Chardstock Parish Council is scheduled for Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 7.00pm.</p>
24/133	<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 24/125 above."</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> unanimously that the Play Area and staffing/budget be discussed as confidential business.</p>
24/134	<p><b>Matters for discussion under Part Two (Confidential) business:</b> <b>a) Chardstock Play Area (Commercial in Confidence):</b> Quotes for improvement of the areas behind the basketball goal and the football goal were discussed and compared. <b>RESOLVED</b> that the cheapest quote for the improvement be accepted.</p>

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	<b>b) Staffing/budget (Confidential):</b> Following approval of the new pay rates (agenda item 24/129g) it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to back date the pay increase to April 2024 and increase and backdate the Working from Home Allowance as per the agreement by NALC.
	<b>With no further business to transact, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.41pm</b>

**Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – 7.00pm;  
meeting held in Chardstock Community Hall.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024  
(Chair)

Initial: