

CHILD OKEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

An **ORDINARY MEETING** of this Parish Council was held on Monday the 1st February 2010 in the Community Centre at 7-30pm.

		Action by
520	Attendance/apologies Cllrs. Addley, Cotton, Duke, Holdeman, Lewis, Schwier and Yard attended together with County Councillor Campbell, four parishioners and the Clerk. Apologies for absence were received from District Cllr. Deborah Croney. Cllr Holdeman presided for items 520 - 533 and Cllr Schwier for item 534.	Noted
521	Declarations of Interests	
	The following declarations of interest were declared: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Lewis – item 526a – Personal Interest. • Cllr Cotton – item 529d – Personal Interest. • Cllr Holdeman – item 534 – Personal and Prejudicial Interest. 	Noted
522	Minutes	
	The Minutes of the previous Meetings held on the 4 th January 2010, having been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed after item 516b had been amended.	Clerk
523	Matters Arising	
	a A copy of Cllr Duke's reply to the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document – Topic Papers, having been previously circulated, was tabled and accepted with thanks.	Noted
	b A letter of thanks was tabled from Martin Oliver thanking the Council for allowing a marquee to be placed on the Recreation Ground for his father's funeral.	Noted
524	Public Participation	
	a A parishioner reported the large number of pot holes that have appeared in the local roads during the recent spell of cold weather. These have already been reported to DCC asking for remedial action to be taken.	Noted
	b A remedy to prevent water discharging onto the highway at Shroton Brake is being pursued by District Cllr Croney.	Noted
525	Reports	
	a County Cllr Campbell presented his report a copy of which is attached.	Noted
	b A report from District Cllr Croney was tabled – copy attached.	Noted
	c Cllr Lewis reported that the minutes of the last meeting of the DT11 Forum Partnership would be circulated shortly.	Noted
	d A letter was read from Peter Allen informing Council of the recent broken water pipe in the Community Centre and advising the remedial action that had been taken.	Noted
526	Rights of Way	
	a Alan Blundell, Parish Rights of Way Officer, reported that footpath 13 is now passable, following remedial work carried out by the landowner necessitated to overcome the extremely muddy conditions that resulted from work recently carried out. Consideration is to be given to placing a doggie bin in the locality.	Clerk
	b Alan Blundell reported that DCC has recently installed a new footbridge on the path from Gold Hill Farm to Abergavenny Farm and that contractors are to be employed to repair the bridge over the Stour near Bere Marsh Farm. Several other points were raised that the Rights of Way Officer agreed to investigate.	Alan Blundell
	c It was agreed that the Rights of Way Officer and the Clerk should prepare a scheme to replace the stiles on footpath 10 with wooden gates, under the DCC's improvement scheme. (DCC will provide one free gate for each gate purchased and install them all free of charge.)	Alan Blundell & Clerk
527	Council Items	
	a It was agreed that full details of the Code of Conduct are to be circulated to the new Councillors.	Clerk

	b	The Clerk informed the meeting that following the formal advertising of the two casual vacancies, no one had demanded a poll and that the two seats can be filled by co-option. It was proposed by Cllr Addley, seconded by Cllr Schwier and carried unanimously that Jeffrey Booth of Goldrest Cottage, Melway Lane and Sherry Jespersen of 3 The Hollow are invited to become Councillors.	Clerk
	c	The Clerk was instructed to put in place the arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting, in conjunction with the Chairman. (The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Friday the 23 rd April 2010 when, in addition to the statutory business, Charles Upton will give a short talk on Compact and Artreach.)	Clerk
528	Village Items		
	a	The appointment of a Youth Worker for Child Okeford is still pending. Temporary arrangements are in place to transport the children to Sturminster Newton, although this was considered to be an unsatisfactory substitute. A note is to be placed in the Hill explaining the situation and asking if anyone with the required credentials is interested in the post to contact a Councillor or the Clerk for contact details.	Press Officer & Clerk
	b	The Chairman is to discuss with the proprietors the possibility of providing a litter bin outside Cross Stores. Meanwhile, the Clerk to obtain catalogues of the equipment available.	Chairman & Clerk
	c	The Clerk was instructed to obtain quotations from Monumental Masons to repair the defects on the War Memorial – flaking of some of the base stones and crumbling of mortar joints.	Clerk
529	Recreation Ground		
	a	The Clerk reported that the title of the Recreation Ground has been registered with Land Registry. The official Notice of Registration of Title has been placed with the title deeds currently held by Blanchards.	Noted
	b	It was agreed to progress the order placed on Wicksteeds.	Clerk
	c	It was proposed by Cllr Addley, seconded by Cllr Schwier and carried unanimously that the order to fell four trees in the Recreation Ground and for their stumps to be ground out and backfilled is to be placed with Marcus Undery for a sum to be agreed. (£425.00 exclusive of VAT)	Cllr Yard & Clerk
	d	Cllr Cotton undertook to write to the School, seeking their co-operation in preventing the track across the Recreation Ground from spoiling the outfield of the cricket pitch.	Cllr Cotton
530	Planning		
	a	The following decision were tabled: 2/2009/0988 – Erect extensions at Gulliver's Cottage – Withdrawn.	Clerk
	b	Consideration was given to amended application 2/2009/1031/PLNG – to erect no 1 dwelling with garage at Thompson's Cottage. It was agreed to raise no objection.	Clerk
	c	Cllr Yard informed the meeting that the Post Mistress has agreed to expose the concealed letter box in the front of the Post Office. After this has been done, Council will pursue its listing with English Heritage.	Clerk
	d	The Clerk was instructed to refer an alleged breach of planning regulations to the Enforcement Officer at NDDC.	Clerk
	e	Preliminary consideration was given to a possible scheme to install an energy producing scheme at Deer Farm, Farrington to work in conjunction with a poultry unit. As the exact size of this plant is subject to possible enforcement procedure (or the submission of a retrospective planning application) it was agreed to defer a decision until more precise details are available.	Clerk
	f	Details of an application to carry out work on two ash trees at the Old School House, High Street, being in a conservation area, was referred to our Tree Officer to process. (The work has subsequently been approved.)	Cllr Yard & Clerk
531	Finance		
	a	It was proposed by Cllr Yard, seconded by Cllr Schwier and carried unanimously that the following cheques are signed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 001034 – Information Commissioner - £35.00 – Registration fee. • 001035 – D Holdeman - £43.61 – Work in Rec. plus diesel for tractor. 	Clerk

	b	It was proposed by Cllr Schwier, seconded by Cllr Lewis and carried unanimously not to bulk buy fuel for the tractor.	Clerk
	c	Consideration was given to the Risk Assessment prepared by the Clerk and tabled at the January Meeting. After debate it was proposed by Cllr Duke, seconded by Cllr Lewis and carried unanimously that it was accepted without amendment.	Clerk
	d	The Clerk tabled figures of the contributions pledged by Local Councils, NDDC and DCC to maintain the Blandford Leisure Centre in operation.	Noted
	e	It was proposed by Cllr Yard, seconded by Cllr Schwier and carried unanimously that the estimate of £126.00 from Accounts & Audit Services Ltd, to carry out the 2009/10 Internal Audit, is accepted.	Clerk
	f	The Clerk was instructed to obtain an estimate for a heavy duty strimmer for use in the Rec. from a local supplier up to a net value of about £250.00.	Clerk
532	<u>Correspondence</u>		
	a	A number of items of correspondence was presented and left on the table. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Duke agreed to carry out the review of NDDC's Housing Strategy. • Cllr Addley and possibly Cllr Schwier agreed to attend DAPTC's Planning Course/Seminar. • The Clerk agreed to attend the Course/Seminar on Finance. 	Noted & Clerk
533	<u>Other Business</u>		
	a	The Clerk had previously written to the Surgery regarding the reported confusion over making an appointment by telephone.	Clerk
	b	The Clerk was instructed to ascertain from the Surgery the whereabouts of the two Best Kept Village plaques lodged with them and to ask if they will cut back the two hedges that overhang the highway on both sides of the entrance.	Clerk
	c	The Clerk is to ask NDDC to arrange for the disposal of the disused sail board dumped in Netmead Lane.	Clerk
	d	Council agreed to refer to Signpost Hosing Association alleged breaches of tenancy agreements on properties in Cooper Gardens.	Clerk
	e	A note is to be displayed in The Hill requesting residents who place rubbish at the kerbside overnight for disposal and recycling to ensure that it is protected so that it does not become scattered over the highway to cause a litter problem.	Press Officer
	f	The Clerk is to refer the following traffic problems to Dorset Police: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speeding at the entrance to the village when approaching along the Manston Road. • HGVs driving through the village despite the 7½ tonne weight restriction. • Indiscriminate parking at Cross Stores and a number of other locations. 	Clerk
534	<u>Employment of Groundsman & Staff</u>		
	a	At this point in the proceedings it was proposed by Cllr Cotton, seconded by Cllr Schwier and carried unanimously that because of the confidential nature of the subject matter that discussions are held 'in committee'. Thereupon the members of the public together with Cllr Holdeman left the meeting at 10.00pm.	Noted
	b	The Clerk presented details of his investigations with DAPTC, Came & Co (our insurers) and the NFU in Sturminster Newton. It was agreed that Cllrs Yard and Schwier, accompanied by the Clerk, should seek the advice of two local tax experts.	Cllrs Yard, Schwier & Clerk
	The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.15 pm.		

Signed Presiding Chairman Date

Please note that the foregoing do not become minutes until approved by Council and signed to that effect by the Presiding Chairman at the next meeting.