

**Minutes of the Meeting of Knowlton Parish Council**  
**7<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7pm**  
**Horton & Chalbury Hall**

Item	
564	<p><b>Attendance &amp; Apologies</b>            Cllr Morgan Antell            Cllr Caroline Barnes            Cllr Colin Davidson            Cllr Steve Butler (Chairman)            Cllr Anthony (Sam) Keet            Cllr Ian Potentier            Cllr Linda Stocks            Cllr Robin Cook – Dorset Councillor Stour &amp; Allen Vale Ward (Horton &amp; Chalbury)            Miss Sarah Forwood (Clerk)</p> <p><b>Apologies received from:</b>            Cllr Trevor Brown            Cllr Jerry Laker (Vice Chairman)            Cllr Paul Millett            Cllr David Tooke – Dorset Councillor Cranborne &amp; Alderholt Ward (Woodlands &amp; Wimborne St Giles)</p>
565	<p><b>Welcome from the Chairman including housekeeping notices</b></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>
566	<p><b>To receive and accept apologies for absence</b></p> <p>Apologies were received from:            Cllr Trevor Brown            Cllr Jerry Laker (Vice Chairman)            Cllr Paul Millett            Cllr David Tooke – Dorset Councillor Cranborne &amp; Alderholt Ward (Woodlands &amp; Wimborne St Giles)</p>
567	<p><b>Declarations of Interest &amp; Grants for Dispensation</b></p> <p>None.</p>
568	<p><b>Confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b></p> <p>It was resolved unanimously that the minutes, having been circulated to members prior to the meeting, are confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p>
569	<p><b>Minutes of the Knowlton Parish Community Benefit Fund held 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting having been circulated to members prior to the meeting were accepted.</p>

570	<p><b>Chairman's Announcements</b></p> <p>None.</p>
571	<p><b>Clerk's Report</b></p> <p>See <b>Annex A</b> of these minutes.</p> <p><i>Clerk to confirm the voting process during the elections. Do residents in the Villages vote for the Councillors standing for elections in their village.</i></p> <p>Members agreed for the Clerk to continue following up with DC Flood Risk Management Team for the leak by Meadow Cottage. If no response is received from DC the Clerk will request quotes from external companies to test the water.</p>
572	<p><b>Dorset Councillors Reports</b></p> <p><b><u>CLlr Robin Cook – Dorset Councillor Stour &amp; Allen Vale Ward (Horton &amp; Chalbury)</u></b></p> <p>Please see <b>Annex B</b> of these minutes.</p>
573	<p><b>Dorset Councillors Reports</b></p> <p><b><u>CLlr David Tooke – Dorset Councillor Cranborne &amp; Alderholt Ward (Woodlands &amp; Wimborne St Giles)</u></b></p> <p>No report received.</p>
574	<p><b>Public Open Session</b></p> <p>None present.</p>
575	<p><b>Planning Applications &amp; Matters</b></p> <p><b>P/FUL/2023/06604</b> Proposal: Retain reception lodge, laundry shed, canopy to picnic area, timber shower and WC structure, canopy to washing sinks, use of caravan for warden / maintenance person. Location: Rivendell, Horton Road, Horton Heath, BH21 7JN Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/FUL/2023/04134</b> Proposal: Demolish existing dutch barns and erect a farm shop &amp; cafe with kitchen, toilets &amp; interpretation and viewing gallery for visitors to Knowlton Circles (as an amendment to approval 3/20/1115/FUL), attached to existing goat barn. Create car parking in existing yard. Location: New Barn Farm, Cranborne Road, Knowlton, Dorset, BH21 5AE Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p> <p><b>P/HOU/2023/07470</b> Proposal: Outbuilding to house office and gym Location: 2 Church Hill, Woodlands, Dorset, BH21 8LW Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p>

	<p><b>P/CLP/2024/00442 (For information only)</b> Proposal: Provision of photovoltaic panels to West and South roof elevations of property. Location: Chase House, Parsonage Lane, Wimborne St Giles, BH21 5NT</p> <p>Members resolved unanimously to respond with NO OBJECTION to the proposal.</p>
576	<p><b>Highways Matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members considered the narrow road at Horton Road between Three Legged Cross and the Cranborne Road. Accidents that are reported to the police would be logged on the Dorset Council evidence data base which is used by the road safety team for guidance. <i>Clerk to request, from the Community Highways Officer at Dorset Council the accident history for Horton Road over the last five years.</i></li> <li>CLlr Ian Potentier gave an update on the meeting that took place on 29<sup>th</sup> January on potential paths along the C2 road. It was noted that a footpath would not be funded, as the highways extent map shows the verge owned by DC is very narrow in places and some of the land is privately owned. To address the concerns over pedestrians in the road it has been agreed by DC that two new warning signs will be installed where the footpaths/bridleways start and a yellow bar will be added to the SLOWS. <i>Clerk to contact DC on behalf of the Parish Council asking for a copy of the highways extent map.</i></li> <li>Members considered the directional sign on the Wimborne/Cranborne Road for Woodlands which has fallen over due to collision/corrosion. <i>Clerk to report the fallen down sign on behalf of the Parish Council.</i></li> <li><i>Clerk to report the road sign on the bottom of Keepers Hill by Verwood Lodge which has fallen over.</i></li> <li><i>Clerk to report the tree that has fallen down in Haythorne and is pushing vegetation onto the road coming from Woodlands direction.</i></li> <li><i>Clerk to contact DC about the progress of the longer layby by Knowlton Church.</i></li> </ul>
577	<p><b>Rights of Way/Open Spaces</b></p> <p>None to report.</p>
578	<p><b>Burgess Field Play Area, Woodlands – Inspections</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weekly visual play inspections completed by Cllrs Morgan Antell and Linda Stocks.</li> <li>Quarterly Inspection report circulated to Woodlands Councillors, noted.</li> <li>Members considered the quote for renewing goal mouths for Woodlands Playfield £1000.00. It was resolved unanimously to accept the quotation of £1000.00.</li> </ul>
579	<p><b>Tree Matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members considered the quote from Cutler Bros for returning the Remedy Oak fallen tree branch £240.00. It was resolved unanimously to accept the quotation of £240.00.</li> </ul>
580	<p><b>Wimborne St Giles Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>The conservation officer has agreed to the amended plan for the Gardens Development. A meeting is taking place on Friday to add the amended plan into the neighbourhood plan. The neighbourhood plan should then be complete and ready to be sent to Dorset Council.</p>

581	Actions List
July 2019	E59/15 Horse safe path needs extending on incline as tarmac not safe for horse. MNT41120 Dorset Council met with Landowner March 3 <sup>rd</sup> and have agreed actions to resurface where necessary and place appropriate signage for horse riders. March 21: Dorset Council advises funding is hoped to be allocated out of 2021/22 maintenance budget. Dec 21: The Ranger is awaiting an amended quote as one crossing was omitted, then put Contractor in touch with the Golf Club to arrange timings etc. Apr 22 – awaiting update from the DC Ranger. Nov 23: <i>Clerk to follow up with DC Ranger.</i> Jan 24: <i>Clerk has emailed the DC Ranger.</i> Feb 24: Clerk has spoken to the DC Ranger, no further complaints have been received in relation to the path. The DC Ranger has previously been in contact with the golf course and continues to monitor the pathway. It was unanimously agreed by all members to close the action. <b>Action closed.</b>
Nov 2020	E59/7 Woodlands off Jubilee Hill behind houses is waterlogged all year round. July 21: Ranger has visited with MA and will consider a stone surface to improve this path. Dec 21: Ranger has agreed to this work and the Landowner is on board with helping, ground conditions might mean this has to wait. May 23: MA continues to discuss with DC Ranger. Nov 23: <i>Leave on the action list until next summer.</i> Feb 24: The DC Ranger has a pallet of Geogrid that he is going to put down. This is a rigid plastic grid that can be topped with stone. Water springing out of the field here ends up on the sunken footpath but then is reabsorbed after about 20 metres or so. The DC Ranger intends to support the geogrid on some large supports or perforated pie so that water can continue to do what it currently does (diverting or trying to “plug” it will only move the problem further down the path or into neighbouring land). The grid will give a firm surface above it that can be topped with path gravel – effectively suspended over the water flow below. DC do not tend to install boardwalks these days as they become a maintenance liability as timber rots. The DC Ranger would be looking to undertake this work when it is dry enough to get a vehicle in the adjacent field (to transport stone).
Dec 2020	E57/5 Maldry Wood, rotten bridge reported to Dorset Council. MNT50359 DC happy to install sleeper bridge if either the PC or Landowner provide sleepers. April 22: DC cannot enforce work to be carried out on the permissive path, only advise and remind landowners of their duties of care and maintenance. Definitive line unobstructed. May 23: MA will speak with Landowner to repair bridge. Sept 23: <i>bridge now completely collapsed, Clerk to contact Landowner.</i> Nov 23: <i>Cllr Morgan Antell will confirm if the ditch has been filled in by the landowner.</i> Dec 23: <i>Cllr Morgan has not been able to contact the landowner about repairing the footpath through Maldry Woods.</i> Jan 24: The Landowner has visited Maldry Woods and will be removing the fallen trees and repairing the rotten bridge before the Bluebells arrive.
July 2020	Water rising in Woodlands opposite ‘Four Oaks,’ Aug 22: DC plan to install a new gully and pipe to watercourse with adjacent landowners’ permission, subject to priority and funding. Nov 23: <i>Clerk to follow up, ask who is responsible and raise an incident number.</i> Feb 24: <i>Clerk to arrange for the water to be tested along with the water leak opposite Meadow Cottage.</i>
Feb 22	Clerk to report extremely poor surface on Horton Road at Haythorne end, edges of road breaking up further along and at Woodlands Crossroads. 1187924 Mar 22: DC has marked up areas for repair. TB has contacted DC. TB very disappointed that Grange at Furzehill has been prioritised for resurfacing over this area as has Kings Lane and will write to Cllr David Tooke on this. Clerk will report again so that it will be inspected again 1214291. June 23 – inspected and repaired in places. Nov 23: <i>Clerk to follow up.</i>
	Water leak opposite Meadow Cottage, Horton Road, Woodlands. Cllr Trevor Brown has reported to Water Co. Apr 22: not yet resolved. May 23: Clerk reported again to SW Water ref 0012685401. Jan 24: This is a fixer that did not work and has broken again. Jan 24: <i>Clerk to contact the water board.</i>
Dec 22	Overgrown hedges Haythorne 1200765 Cllr Trevor Brown met on site with CHO who has written to landowner. March 23 DC spoken with landowner and asked to cut back however on inspection do not believe problem is at intervention level. April 23 Members believe DC has legal obligation as in their view it is overhanging, Clerk to chase up. June 23: DC satisfied. Dec 23: <i>Enforcement letters have been sent from DC to the landowner.</i>

April 23	1217124 Reported Water is draining from the field from the property Little Haythorne via a gully in the verge onto the highway - we would like to suggest the gully is filled and water is diverted along the line of an old ditch to a manhole cover. DC will inspect and report.
Nov 23	Pond is overflowing at Little Haythorne and going onto the road. <i>Clerk to raise a report with Dorset Council.</i>
<b>582</b>	<p><b>Financial Matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members resolved unanimously to pay items below including Clerk's Salary:</li> <li>ONLINE ELITE PLAY INSPECTIONS Burgess Playfield Quarterly Insp £57.60</li> <li>ONLINE DAPTC New Councillor Induction Training £54.00</li> <li>ONLINE DORSET PLANNING CONSULTANT LTD WSG Neighbourhood Plan £1549.74</li> </ul>
<b>583</b>	<p><b>Woodlands Notice Board</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members considered obtaining a quote for the glass at Woodlands Notice Board. The Clerk has been in contact with a company that can repair/replace the glass and is waiting for a quote.</li> </ul>
<b>584</b>	<p><b>Cllr Email Training</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cllrs present agreed they have access to their new .gov Cllr email address. Cllrs to use their new email addresses and report back at the next meeting with any issues.</li> </ul>
<b>585</b>	<p><b>Other Information for report only</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Litter picking is due to take place in March. Cllr Morgan Antell will organise the litter picking weekend. <i>Clerk to order blue bags from DC.</i></li> </ul>
<b>586</b>	Next Meeting will be Wednesday <u>13<sup>th</sup> March 2024</u> at 7pm in Horton & Chalbury Village Hall.

**Meeting closed at 20:27**

**These minutes are to be signed by the Chairman after approval at the next meeting of the Parish Council**

*Forwood*

Signed;.....

.....7<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Annex AClerks Report7<sup>th</sup> February 2024Correspondence

The Election 2024 Toolkit update has been circulated to all Councillors.

Temporary Traffic Regulation Order for B3078 Cranborne Road 5th-16th April 2024

Queen Copse Bridleway 46/17 A meeting is being arranged between, Cllr Keet, DC Ranger and Forestry England to discuss the plan.

The lock on the notice board at Horton is being changed to a more substantial one free of charge.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY - 8th May 2024 - Nominations are required to be received at DAPTC no later than Monday 26th February 2024.

Update on actions from previous meetings

July 2019 E59/15 Horse safe path needs extending on incline as tarmac not safe for horse. MNT41120 Dorset Council met with Landowner March 3rd and have agreed actions to resurface where necessary and place appropriate signage for horse riders. March 21: Dorset Council advises funding is hoped to be allocated out of 2021/22 maintenance budget. Dec 21: The Ranger is awaiting an amended quote as one crossing was omitted, then put Contractor in touch with the Golf Club to arrange timings etc. Apr 22 – awaiting update from the DC Ranger. Nov 23: Clerk to follow up with DC Ranger. **Update Jan 24:** An email has been sent to the DC Ranger asking for an update. **Update Feb 24:** Clerk has spoken to the DC Ranger, no further complaints have been received in relation to the path. The DC Ranger has previously been in contact with the golf course and continues to monitor the pathway. It was agreed to close the action. **Action closed.**

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Clerk to obtain a quote from Cutler Bros for the Remedy Oak branch to be returned. **Update Jan 24:** An email has been sent to Cutler Bros asking for a quote. **Update Feb 24:** A quote has been received and is on the agenda for a decision 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Feb 22 - Water leak opposite Meadow Cottage, Horton Road, Woodlands. Cllr Trevor Brown has reported to Water Co. Apr 22: not yet resolved. May 23: Clerk reported again to SW Water ref 0012685401. Jan 24: This is a fixer that did not work and has broken again. Jan 24: *Clerk to contact the water board.* **Update Jan 24:** Contacted the waterboard, who have previously tested the water and it shows that there is no chlorine in the water so the leak is from ground water. Environmental agency have advised the PC to contact Dorset Council's flood risk management team. A phone call (left message) and an email were sent on 25 January to Dorset Council to gain advice what are the next steps that need to be taken to remedy the leak. **Update Feb 24:** Phoned Dorset Council, no reply left message for the Flood Risk Management team to contact the Clerk. Waiting for a response.

Jan 24: *Clerk to email to the three village halls; Woodlands, Wimborne St Giles and Horton & Chalbury to see if they would like to consider having an EV Charging site in the village hall car park.* **Update Feb 24:** An email was sent to the three village Halls. Woodlands have expressed an interest in finding out more about the EV Charging point, Wimborne St Giles have been sent further information and Horton and Chalbury will be discussing it at their meeting.

Jan 24: *Clerk to email the DC highways team noting due to the reoccurring accidents at Sutton Holms DC highways to consider changing the road priority for the B3081.* **Update Feb 24** Email has been sent to DC Highways team on 11 Jan and 5 Feb 24. No response has been received.

Jan 24: E40/8 Brockington Lane footpaths is being blocked by a fallen down tree. *Clerk to report the fallen down tree to the DC ranger.* **Update:** The tree was reported and has been removed. **Action Closed.**

Jan 24: *Clerk to report to DC Highways on behalf of the Parish Council. The issue starts at Ashley Cottage, runs along the ditch and then comes out onto the road again at Beaufort Cottages/Bull Inn.* **Update Feb 24:** The Clerk has reported this to DC on behalf of the Parish Council.

**DORSET COUNCILLORS REPORT FOR KNOWLTON PC MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY 7th FEBRUARY 2024**

**Council budget for 2024/25**

Dorset Council has published its initial proposals to deliver a balanced budget next financial year, 2024-25. The proposals will see essential frontline council services continuing to be provided to residents and businesses and protected from cuts.

In total, Dorset Council provides around 450 different services to just under 380,000 residents, including adults and children's social care, road maintenance, waste collection, housing support and libraries. Around 60 per cent of the budget will support vulnerable children, families, older people and those with disabilities.

The proposals would see an increase in council tax next year by just under 3% and to levy the adult social care precept of 2%. They have been considered by two scrutiny committees, the Cabinet, and will be presented to Full Council on February 13<sup>th</sup> for final approval.

**Local Transport Plan**

Here is your opportunity to help shape travel and transport across Dorset.

We are working with BCP Council to gather views on transport and travel across the whole of Dorset, and we have put together a briefing note with further details.

Residents, businesses and visitors are being invited to share their views on what they consider to be the big transport issues across the whole of Dorset. This work plays an essential role in helping the councils understand the different transport needs of our diverse communities.

We are encouraging people to fill in our online survey, or they can ask their local library for a paper copy of the questionnaire. Events are also taking place where people can share ideas and find out more, with an online event also planned for February. More details on this link [Help shape travel and transport across Dorset - Dorset Council](#).

Closing date is 3<sup>rd</sup> March, if you have any questions regarding the survey or the Local Transport Plan, please do get in touch with the team by email at [ltip@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:ltip@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

**QE Leisure Centre**

Dorset Council is preparing to hand over the running of Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre (QELC) to its owners, Queen Elizabeth's School Trust, who also own the adjacent school at Wimborne Minster.

Following the decision by elected members back in early 2022, the trustees were given two years' notice by Dorset Council confirming that they would withdraw from the current management arrangements at QELC at the end of March 2024. At this point, the day-to-day operation of the facility becomes the responsibility of the Trust.

This decision was made as the Council subsidises QELC by around £500,000 each year, which is around a third of their overall leisure centres budget. In an area where seven public leisure facilities are within a 20 min drive of QELC - three of which are owned by Dorset Council – it was considered that the Council could not justify the continued public-funding of the centre.

As the Trust has been unable to reach an agreement with a new partner to manage the facility, they have now confirmed that QELC will cease operating as it does now on 31st March 2024. The facilities will still be utilised for the school curriculum and made available for community clubs and groups during non-school use times.

Future bookings and administration will be managed through the school's staff.

Dorset Council will work with Initio Learning Trust (who operate Queen Elizabeth's School) over the coming months to inform current QELC customers, user groups, and clubs about what is happening with services and scheduled activities in the future.

If anyone has any questions about services and activities at QELC from 1st April 2024 onwards, please contact [office@queenelizabeths.com](mailto:office@queenelizabeths.com) or call 01202 885233. To discuss existing services and activities at QELC up to 31st March 2024, please contact the centre at [Queenelizabeth@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Queenelizabeth@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) or by calling 01202 888208



**Dorset Council tops the national polls for recycling!**

DEFRA have just published the annual recycling figures for 2022/23. We have just found out that we are the number one unitary and disposal authority in the Country for the first time ever!

Those ahead of us are collection only councils (i.e. the figures are on the kerbside service only and do not include Household Recycling Centres).

This is testament to the commitment of our residents, our waste strategy teams and our frontline waste operatives. This is a fantastic achievement for Dorset and one that we are hugely proud of.

**Former East Dorset District Council office site and buildings in Wimborne**

Dorset Council has instructed its agents to begin marketing the vacant buildings and site of the old East Dorset District Council (EDDC) offices in Furzehill, Wimborne.

Following Local Government Reorganisation in 2019, the unitary authorities of Dorset Council and BCP Council were created to replace the county's former district and borough councils. As Furzehill was declared surplus to requirements by EDDC, Dorset Council inherited the empty office buildings.

Following Cabinet's approval of the Council's capital programme in March 2023, Furzehill was identified as a priority to sell to generate capital receipts. Capital receipts are money that councils can spend on funding other capital expenditure – such as land, buildings, and equipment - or for paying off debt. They generally cannot be used to fund services.

The Furzehill site consists of 2.73 hectares (6.76 acres) which was allocated for residential development and other alternative uses in the Christchurch and East Dorset Local Plan back in 2014.

**Reusable nappy offer**

Dorset Council offers parents a free reusable nappy starter pack or £30 off reusable nappies (minimum spend £45).

Apply before 31st March 2024 and you could also win one of two reusable nappy sets worth £80 each in our prize draw! So if you know anyone in the Dorset Council area who would be eligible to apply, please let them know. More information and how to apply can be found here [Reusable nappies - Dorset Council](#)

**Household Support Fund**

The next window for round 4 of the Household Support Fund (HSF) opened yesterday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024. The fund is to support low-income households in the Dorset Council area. Details available here [Household Support Fund - Dorset Council](#)

**CLlr Robin Cook**  
**2024**

**7<sup>th</sup> February**