

**MINUTES**  
**09.04.2024**  
**GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 8.15 pm at Godshill Village Hall (following the Annual Parish Meeting).**

Present:

Cllr Fell – Chairman

Cllr Atwill

Cllr Cakebread

Cllr Sanger

Cllr Woodward

Mrs Bev Cornish – Clerk

Six members of the public

**Litter Warden**

Mrs Boyd advised that the litter bin in the layby was deteriorating and either needed to be repaired or to be replaced. The Clerk agreed to ask the Lengthsman to check if it was repairable before seeking quotes for a new bin

Mrs Boyd also advised that there had been a further collision at the pinch point which had left one of the bollards on its side. The Clerk said she would report it on the Hampshire Highways online reporting system.

**149.23 Public Question Time**

The owner of St Giles's Farm advised that they had gone into partnership with a Community Interest Company to grow more vegetables. They were hoping to do more work with St Giles's Church as they had Christian links.

A member of the public asked that the Council note the work which the owners of St Giles's Farm had done to improve the landscape, especially with the additional hedging which would improve the wildlife.

**150.23 Business Raised During Public Question Time**

Cllr Fell thanked the members of the public for the information they had provided which was noted.

**151.23 Apologies**

Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the apology be approved from Cllr Stammers due to illness.

**152.23 Declarations of Interest:**

**a. To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers:**

No declarations of interest were received.

**b. To consider any Dispensation Requests received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered:**

The Clerk confirmed that no dispensation requests had been received.

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**153.23 Minutes**

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Cakebread seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

**154.23 Clerk's Report**

**Defibrillator Training:** The Clerk was in the process of chasing the contractor for more dates.

**Newsletter:** The Clerk advised that she was still awaiting clarification from Wessex Internet on the number of properties to be upgraded and whether others can be upgraded in addition to those on the list.

**Highways Issues:** Concerns had been with the Hampshire Highways team regarding before Woodgreen Road was to be resurfaced. No response had been received to either the Chair or Clerk's emails.

**Hampshire County Council Consultation:** The Clerk had submitted the Council's response as per those circulated by Cllr Atwill.

**Newsletter:** The Clerk was still awaiting clarification from Josh at Wessex Internet and hoped to be able to finalise it in the week ahead.

**Annual Internal Audit:** This will take place with Fair Account on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

**155.23 Lengthsman's Contract**

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED to approve and sign the Lead Parish and Associate Parish Lengthsman Contract for 2024-2026.

Cllr Sanger commented that he found Hampshire County Council's annual threat of removing it to be unacceptable especially when they then don't tell councils that it isn't be removed and the first they hear about it is receiving the lengthsman's contract which is for a period of 2 years.

**156.23 Finance and Policy:**

**a. To resolve to approve the sum of £701.55 as the Accounts for payment for April.**

	£
B Cornish April salary	400.75
HM Revenue & Customs PAYE Jan, Feb, March	300.80

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Accounts for payment for April be approved.

**b. To resolve to approve the Bank balances - Cheque and Reserve Accounts.**

**Balances to be Approved and Noted as at 09.04.24**

Current Account: £1,943.35     Deposit Account: £10,722.40 (£73.01 interest added)

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the bank balances for April be approved.

**157.23 Correspondence**

Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted:

1. Email from NFNPA regarding a meeting of the NW Quadrant on 15<sup>th</sup> April at 7 pm at Fordingbridge Town Hall.

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2. New Forest District Council (NFDC) has announced plans to let the grass grow longer this spring. In May and parts of June, grass will be left to grow, rather than being mowed, on some verges and larger patches of land in the district. NFDC's 'Let It Bee' approach to grass cutting will increase the number of plant species, nectar sources for pollinators, and habitats for wildlife.
3. An Invitation from NFDC to the Chair and his partner to the Chairman's Civic Service, taking place on Sunday, 28 April 2024 at 3.00 pm at St Wins, 92 Salisbury Road, SO40 3JA. The service will be followed by a reception where afternoon tea will be available. It will form part of the Council's celebrations for the 50th anniversary of the formation of New Forest District Council.
4. Email from the Chair of the NPA, David Bence, confirming he has received the Council's letter and advising he is fully aware of the situation and wishes to discuss, fully, with colleagues in order to provide a response which will, hopefully, satisfy Godshill Parish Council.
5. Email from BDO advising of the 2023-34 Audit or limited assurance review. to inform you that the documentation for the Limited Assurance Review for 2023-24.

### 158.23 Any Other Business.

**Talk on Bees:** Cllr Fell reported that he had attended a very interesting talk at Salisbury Motorcycling Club on bees and thought it might be of interest to invite the speaker to a meeting in the summer.

**Speed Indicator Device:** Cllr Atwill reported that other SIDs she has come across had flashed with a red sign when she approached it and asked if this could be done on the Council's SIDs. Cllrs Woodward and Fell said that this could be done and asked the Clerk to follow this up.

**Local Bus:** Cllr Woodward had been advised by a local resident that in Dorset a community had managed to divert the local bus so that it stopped in their village. He suggested that this could be something the Council could explore for the X3 even if it were only one or two buses a day. The key would be to seek the likely interest from residents in using it. All agreed.

**Lengthsman jobs:** Cllr Fell asked members and residents to look out for possible jobs for the lengthsman when they were out and about such as work to kissing gates or hedges etc but not highway works because he was not able to carry out jobs on the highway. Cllr Fell said he would look to see how the gates on the footpaths could be repaired.

### 159.23 Next Meeting

Cllr Fell confirmed the date of the next meeting, the Annual Meeting as Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024 to be held at Godshill Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

*Members of the Council considered the foregoing in the matters in consideration of their duties: Equal Opportunities, (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability); Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety, and Human Rights.*