



# GENERAL PURPOSE WORKING GROUP

**MEETING AT CHIDEOCK VILLAGE HALL  
12<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 AT 2 PM**

## MINUTES

FROM: CLERK – Tan Cox  
EMAIL: [chideockparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:chideockparishcouncil@gmail.com)

To: ALL PARISH COUNCILLORS		
Chair: Cllr Richard Benjamin		Vice Chairman: Cllr Caroline Parkins
Cllr Aidan Biggins	Cllr Paul Barnett	

Ref		Owner
	<b>Apologies:</b> None	
	<b><u>PREAMBLE:</u></b> The General-Purpose Working Group is an informal group. Its role is to agree items to be placed onto the Parish Council's Main Committee Agenda and may refer to matters that have arisen during the period. There is no set meeting schedule and meetings will happen when needed.	
	<b><u>MINUTES OF TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2024</u></b> The minutes of 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2024, having been agreed via email during the period have been placed on the parish council website.	
1	<b><u>CLAPPS MEAD:</u></b> <b>TRAMPOLINE (UPDATES)</b> Cllr RAB said there is no further update  <b>PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS</b> Cllr RAB confirmed that the full report from the Play Inspection Co Ltd has been received. This report covers all of the playground equipment, including the playground perimeter, and also the wider Clapps Mead playing field, including its boundaries, water courses and the general state of the area.  <b>IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT:</b> Cllrs RAB and AB go through the report with a view to highlighting the most urgent work that needs to be done. The report can then be subject to a RAG exercise.	Cllrs RAB/AB

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	<p><b>THE ROLE OF THE DAPTC (Dorset Association of Parish &amp; Town Councils)</b></p> <p>The Clerk informed Councillors that she had spoken to NW and can confirm that an independent internal auditor has been sought by DAPTC to look at all aspects of the procurement of the trampoline and produce a report in due course.</p> <p>Once this report has been received the joint meeting that was agreed during the Main Committee meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> October can be arranged.</p>	
2	<p><b><u>POLICIES:</u></b></p> <p>There were no new policies</p>	
3	<p><b><u>PLANNING MATTERS:</u></b></p> <p>RE: TREE FELLING AT NORTHDENE P/TRC/2024/05975 &amp; P/TRT/2024/06002</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed a neutral response has been left with Dorset Council.</p> <p>P/FUL/2024/05626 DOGHOUSE FARM CAMP SITE</p> <p>There were 39 votes FOR (60%) and 26 votes AGAINST (40%)</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that she had communicated these results to Dorset Council.</p>	
4	<p><b><u>BUDGET</u></b></p> <p>Preliminary discussions on percentage change in precept to balance the budget in 2025/26. Councillors will await further discussions with DAPTC for their advice on this.</p>	
5	<p><b><u>OTHER MATTERS:</u></b></p> <p><b>Website Demonstration</b> - Rolled over</p> <p><b>Chideock News Piece</b> The cut-off date is the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024. Cllr Parkins and the Clerk to precis the DAPTC document and submit this to the Chideock News editor.</p> <p><b>Foss Orchard Car Park</b> Nothing new</p>	Cllr CP & Clerk

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5	<p><b><u>OTHER MATTERS:</u></b></p> <p><b>Speed Pole</b> There was discussion around the speed pole. Cllr RAB said that it would be good for the village to have a speed indicator along the A35 and suggested that the speed pole should be re-instated. The estimated cost is about £3500.</p> <p><b>IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT:</b> Cllr AB creates a Facebook village poll to assess the desire within the village for retention/re-instatement of the speed pole.</p> <p><b>Air Monitor Removal</b> The Clerk confirmed that she had received a communication from Dorset Council, and they confirm that they are looking at quotes for removal. Clerk to chase in due course.</p> <p><b>Grit Store / Sandbag Store</b> The Clerk confirmed that examples of sandbag stores and grit bins had been sent to Cllr RAB for his attention, and the examples discussed. To buy and install recommend</p> <p><b>IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT:</b> Cllr RAB seeks quotes for a sandbag store.</p> <p>Cllr CP said that grit bins need checking. Cllrs were asked to check the ones in their area.</p> <p><b>Seahill Lane Slippage / Carters Lane Update</b> <b>Carters Lane</b> – The parish council had received a road closure notice for 18 months. Cllr CP to follow up.</p> <p><b>A35</b> Cllr CP to contact NH to arrange a meeting with National Highways to discuss the A35 issue and the crossing at the top end.</p> <p><b>Asset Register</b> There was some discussion around the accuracy of the current risk register and the need to visit the notice boards and attach the 'three word code' so that they can be located. The Clerk did remind councillors that, should the notice board not belong to the parish council it should be removed from the asset register.</p>	<p>Cllr AB</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllrs CP/PB</p>

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	<p><b><u>OTHER MATTERS:</u></b></p> <p><b>Grounds Maintenance Contract – Invitation to Tender</b>  The Clerk confirmed that Bridport Town Council had declined the acceptance of the 'call-off contract'.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that the Grounds Maintenance Specification had been sent to Derek Smith Landscaping and Countrywide Grounds Maintenance*. The results of the tender exercise are awaited.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that Countrywide Grounds Maintenance will be visiting the area on the 19<sup>th</sup> November at 1pm.</p>	
	<p><b>AOB</b>  Cllr CP said that halfway down Sea Hill Lane is a bench that is completely covered up. She confirmed that both she and Cllr PB will uncover the bench to see what sort of state it is in. It may need to be renewed.</p> <p>The Grounds Maintenance specification may need to be amended in the future to take into account the extra work of maintaining the shrubs and growth around the bench.</p>	

**Next meeting – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at Chideock Village Hall**