



**Minutes of the Chaldon Herring Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 26th March 2025 at Chaldon Herring Village Hall at
7.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs B Guthrie (Chair), J Selfe, S Talbot, J Ostler, P Harvey,

Also present: Mrs A Clothier (Locum Parish Clerk), Dorset Cllr M Baker

1. Apologies

D Clarke, T Watkins,

2. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th January 2025.

It was **resolved** that the minutes held on 15th January 2025 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a true record

4. Matters arising from those minutes

All covered on the main agenda.

5. Public Participation - members of the public are invited to air any concerns or raise matters of public interest relating to the Parish

There were no members of the public

6. Matters ongoing

i. **Update on New Defibrillators** – Three defibrillators have now been successfully installed and registered on the Circuit.

ii. **Update on the Stone Bench** – The stone bench has been installed, and the feedback received has been positive.

iii. **Update on Petty Cash** – Despite investigations, the whereabouts of the petty cash could not be established. As a result, it was resolved to write off the amount.

iv. **Update on Risk Assessment and Insurance for Contractors** – This matter has been deferred to the next meeting.

7. Dorset Councillors' Report

The referendum on the Wool Neighbourhood Plan was held, and the plan was approved. The key elements of the plan focus on preserving green spaces, affordable housing, and facilities. It also addresses transport and rights of way. Dorset Council is working with Wool to establish a community bus for local trips to Bovington and the Innovation Park.

A question was raised about whether the public can use the school bus that passes through the Chaldon Herring, and this will be investigated.

Action: Clerk to investigate further and include the information in the newsletter.

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) Consultation – A consultation is underway regarding PSPOs for Lulworth beaches to address overnight camping. West Lulworth is considering extending these orders to the roads. It was noted that there is a distinction between campervans and motorhomes, and it may be appropriate to differentiate between the two in the orders. If camping is an issue in Chaldon Herring, anti-social behaviour forms can be submitted. Additionally, it was suggested that signage be installed to help deter camping.

8. Finance

(a) To confirm payment of accounts

Payments Requested - March 2025						
Date	Payee	Comments	Cheque Number	Precept £	VAT	
05.02.25	HMRC	PAYE January	382	£28.20		PAID
26.02.25	Gibbs Electrical Services	Installation of defibrillators	383	£396.00	£66.00	PAID
26.02.25	HMRC	PAYE February	384	£28.40		PAID
28.02.25	Lloyds	Bank Charges	BP	£6.75		
26.03.25	Alison Clothier	Salary and expenses for January and	385	£254.25		
26.03.25	HMRC	PAYE March	386	£28.40		
26.03.25	YNH Ltd	Website renewal fees	387	£13.00		
26.03.25	Weld 1994 Settlement	Rent of Gods Pocket 2025/26	388	£300.00		
26.03.25	Admin	Petty Cash	-	£30.00		
		Total amount requested		£1,085.00	£66.00	

The total amount requested is £1085.00. With the exception of the £300.00 for rent of Gods Pocket, which is discussed below, it was **resolved** to make the payments for Parish Council expenses for a total of £785.00 and the cheques were duly signed.

(b) To confirm the reconciliation of accounts, income and position against budget

See **Appendix 1**. The reports were noted. Due to the general reserves being low, it was **resolved** to move £1,000 from ear marked reserves to cover part of the cost of the defibrillators.

- (c) To confirm independent internal auditor for 2024/25 – Barker Fox have quoted for the internal audit at a cost of £100. It was **resolved to** appoint Barker Fox as independent internal auditor for 2024/25.
- (d) To confirm successful VAT claim for 2023/24 – the Parish Council have had a letter confirming a VAT number for future claims. All quotes should be looked at net of VAT. A claim for 2023/24 has been submitted and the money due to be refunded, and 2024/25 will be submitted after year end.
- (e) To note Lloyds bank charges – there is now a charge for the Lloyds account of £4.25 per month and 0.50p per cheque. Alternative banking arrangements were discussed but it was concluded that all suitable alternative banks charge for accounts.

9. Planning / Tree works

P/HOU/2025/01366 Replacement Door/windows and porch fascia 1 The Old Playing Fields, Maeharne, Chydyok Road, East Chaldon

No Objection

P/PAAC/2025/01658 West Fossil Farm House, West Fossil, DT2 8DA

Change of Use of Former Agricultural Building to Residential Under Class Q Agricultural Permitted Development Rights

No Objection

10. To consider and confirm the lease renewal for God's Pocket

The benefits of the lease for God's Pocket were discussed, particularly in light of the increased cost of the lease. If the Parish Council do not rent the land, there is a possibility that the Estate may lease it to someone else, which could restrict public access. It was agreed that it is in the Parish Council's best interest to maintain control over this area, as it has served as a village amenity for the past 15-20 years. The Parish Council agreed to write to the Estate to see if the cost of the lease could be reduced.

Action: Clerk to query whether the price of the rent could be reduced.

The grass cutting contractor has informed the Parish Council that he is unable to continue cutting the grass in the village. Cllr Talbot will look at the site to see if his machinery could cut this. The price of this would remain at £800 and insurance implications will be explored. The Parish Council have tendered for commercial grass cutting in the recent past and the quotes were far in excess of the current cost.

Additionally, it was suggested that the village green could be cut less frequently and feature wildflowers, though some areas must remain clear for visibility. There are also several mole hills that need to be dealt with.

11. To receive an update on transport & highways issues –

Pothole between Dairy House and Vicarage Farm buildings– Cllr Selfe will report the pothole using the What3Words app.

Unadopted Passing Place Leading to Five Marys – The passing place remains in poor condition, which becomes problematic in the summer due to increased tourist traffic.

Cllr Watkin will assess the situation.

Stone Signpost – The stone signpost at Limekiln track, by the walkers' car park, needs to be re-erected and may require repositioning.

Action: Clerk to contact Maddie Simcox, Weld Estate Head Ranger, for assistance.

The air ambulance helicopter is unable to land in the usual field due to undergrowth blocking the gate. The farmer plans to burn the undergrowth at a later date. In the meantime, there are other suitable locations available for the helicopter to land.

12. Correspondence received since the agenda was set

- External auditor forms

13. Items for the next agenda

- Gods Pocket
- Passing Place
- Road Repairs

14. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 23rd April 2025

The meeting closed at 20.29

Signed.....

Date.....

Reconciliation of Accounts					
Balance b/fwd	From 31.03.24				8350.59
Add:	Income year to date				4630.02
Less:	Expenditure to date				6688.36
Balance as at 28.02.25					6292.25
Funded by:					
Deposit account	07050484			2921.86	
Current account	00155884			4390.44	
					7312.30
Add:	Uncleared Income				
26.02.25	Gibbs Electrical Services	Installation of defibrillators	383	£396.00	
26.02.25	HMRC	PAYE February	384	£28.40	
26.03.25	Alison Clothier	Salary and expenses for January and February	385	£254.25	
26.03.25	HMRC	PAYE March	386	£28.40	
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26.03.25	Weld 1994 Settlement	Rent of Gods Pocket 2025/26	388	£300.00	
					1020.05
Balance as at 28.02.25					6292.25
			Difference		0.00

Chaldon Herring Parish Council						
Budget Monitoring for the year ended 31st March 2025						
Description		2024/25 Budget	Actual	Balance		
<u>Receipts</u>		-				

Account Interest			30.02	30.02		
Precept		4,600.00	4,600.00	0.00		
CIL receipts			0.00	0.00		
Misc income			0.00	0.00		
VAT refunded			0.00	0.00		
Total receipts		4,600.00	4,630.02	30.02	0.00	
<u>Payments</u>						
DAPTC Subs. + other subs		60.45	60.45	0.00		
Insurance		249.59	214.00	35.59		
Training		200.00	0.00	200.00		
Wages - Clerk		1,144.00	1,280.48	(136.48)		
Clerk Expenses - mileage		0.00	63.24	(63.24)		
IT/Website		80.00	130.00	(50.00)		
Stationery & postage		50.00	26.75	23.25		
Telephones			0.00	0.00		
Rent		320.00	780.00	(460.00)		
Grass cutting		850.00	800.00	50.00		
Audit fees		250.00	100.00	150.00		
Contingencies		100.00	36.75	63.25		
Election costs			50.00	(50.00)		
Grants		1,250.00	0.00	1,250.00		
Defibrillator			2,748.00	(2,748.00)		
Asset maintenance		1,000.00	290.99	709.01		
VAT			107.70	(107.70)		
Total payments	0.00	5,554.04	6,688.36	(1,134.32)	0.00	
Balance b/fwd from 31.03.23	8,350.59			Monies held in bank		7,312.30
Income to date	4630.02					
		12,980.61				
				Add:		
Earmarked Reserves				Income not cleared		
Election costs	1,500.00			Less:		
General Reserves	3,500.00			Cheques not cleared		(1,020.05)
		5,000.00		Earmarked funds		(5,000.00)
Expenses for current year to date	6,688.36					
		6,688.36				
Balance available not yet committed		1,292.25		General Reserve		1,292.25
						(0.00)