



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ARNE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
THURSDAY 17th JULY 2025
AT STOBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.15PM

Present: Cllrs: I Church, I Duckworth, A Patrick and M Sims

Chair: Cllr R Cranshaw

Clerk: Mr T Watton

Also Present: Nine members of the public

The Council Chair opened the meeting, welcoming those present.

1. Apologies for absence

25.76 Apologies were received from Cllrs Brodie-James and Ives. Apologies were also received from Dorst Cllr Ezzard.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

25.77 A resident wondered whether the Council had been approached about licensing at a proposed campsite in Nutcrack Lane. The Council Chair confirmed that the Council had made representations in 2024 objecting to this proposal on the grounds that the road is not suitable for the levels of traffic it would be likely to generate.

The same resident reported on a visit to view the Arne Moors site which had been arranged for Ridge residents, through the Ridge Residents' Association. It was noted during the visit that significant emphasis was placed on the RSPB objectives for the project, but little or no mention was made of the original objective of flood relief for Poole and Sandbanks. It was understood that the project is continuing on track – helped this year by the dry weather.

Two residents voiced separate concerns about the further planning application for Floradene, Arne Rd, Ridge (P/FUL/2025/03778). It was noted that there seemed to be no material changes from the previous application and therefore the grounds for objection they had expressed on the previous occasion are still relevant. An adjacent neighbour was concerned to find that it appears the applicant plans to remove the hedge between his property and the development site and replace it with a fence.

A resident reported that he understood that the local member of parliament had met children at Stoborough Primary School to hear about their campaign to have the speed limit reduced on the Corfe Rd causeway from 40mph to 30mph. It was hoped that the MP will be able to influence a positive outcome on this matter.

3. Declaration of Interests

25.78 Cllr Patrick declared an interest in agenda item 9– consideration of planning application P/FUL/2025/03378 Floradene, Arne Rd Ridge. She took no part in discussing this item.

4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 19th June 2025

25.79 A copy of the draft minutes had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting.

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 19th June 2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

5. Matters arising not covered by the agenda – for report only

25.80 The Parish Clerk reported that after the June meeting had taken place but before the AGAR had been submitted to the External Auditors it had come to his attention that the Fixed Asset figure for the Wareham Burial Joint Committee for YE31 Mar 2025 which forms part of the total assets figure for box 9 of the Arne Parish Council AGAR was discovered to be understated. This had resulted in a box 9 understatement of £115.31 on the AGAR signed at the APC meeting. Consequently, following a meeting between the Council Chair and Clerk, a manual correction was made to box 9 for 2024-25 to show the corrected figure of £129515.24 – with the correction initialled by the Council Chair and Clerk. An explanatory note to this effect was prepared by the Clerk and submitted to the External Auditors with the completed AGAR.

6. Dorset Councillor’s Report.

25.81 Cllr. Ezzard had provided a written report for this meeting which was circulated to all members in advance. A copy is associated at **Appendix 1** to these minutes.

7. (a) and 7 (b) To confirm the payment of accounts for June 2025 and consider the bank reconciliation and position against budget for the full year ending 30th June 2025 :

25.82 (a) and (b) The following payments were presented for approval:

INVOICE DATE	BACS number	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Payments already made				
01/07/2025	25/25	Starboard Systems Ltd	Scribe Allotments monthly subscription (INV-11220)	£21.60
Invoice date				
17/07/2025	26/25	T Watton	Salary, July 25	£565.10
17/07/2025	27/25	HMRC	PAYE, July 25	£184.82
08/07/2025	28/25	Smart Garden Services	Regular grounds maintenance (Inv1007)	£590.83
18/06/2025	29/25	I Church	Reimbursement of expenditure on behalf of Council - printer ink	£13.49
14/07/2025	30/25	Stoborough Village Hall	Hall hire Jan - August 2025	£176.00
TOTAL				£1,551.84

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the payments be approved and paid. **Proposed:** Cllr Patrick
Seconded: Cllr Sims

ACTION: THE CLERK

It was also **RESOLVED** to receive and note the bank reconciliation and position against the budget for the year ending 30th June 2025. A copy of these documents is associated at **Appendix 2** to these minutes.

ACTION: THE CLERK

25.82(c) To consider a grant request made on behalf of Stoborough Village Hall for funding towards the purchase and installation of a defibrillator at the Village Hall.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £750.00, representing 50% of the total cost, as a contribution towards this project.

ACTION: THE CLERK

25.82(d) To consider a grant request made on behalf of Stoborough Village Hall for funding towards the purchase and installation of a replacement notice board at the Village Hall.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £149.00, representing 50% of the total cost, as a contribution towards this project.

ACTION: THE CLERK

8. Parish Reports

25.83 Councillors' Reports on meetings attended:

Cllr Cranshaw reported that on 27th June she had attended a Healthcare in Purbeck meeting which was very well attended by around 20 delegates. Concern continues to be expressed that the move of healthcare services to the Royal Bournemouth Hospital will cause problems for local people. There remains considerable support for a local healthcare hub within the Purbeck area.

25.84 Reports from Stoborough Village Hall, Furzebrook Village Hall, Stoborough Meadow Residents Association, Ridge Residents Association and the Stoborough Primary School

Stoborough Village Hall – Representing the Village Hall Trustees, Mr Morgan expressed thanks for the grant award contributions towards the defibrillator and new noticeboard. Village Hall bookings remain strong, with a new group booking having just been secured.

Furzebrook Village Hall – booking business is reported to be picking up.

Stoborough Meadow Residents Association – Nothing to report.

Ridge Residents Association – Cllr Church reported that the Residents Association has a new Chair, Dr Tony Kelpie, and new committee members. It was noted that they have already been busy planning a new programme of activities - including a picnic on the green, a garage sale, a charity supper, a wine tasting event, and carols on the green at Christmas.

Stoborough Primary school – Cllr Cranshaw reported that she had attended a very successful school fete.

25.67 Hayricks:

Cllr Sims reported that three quotations had been obtained for the remedial work on the children's play equipment to address faults identified in the recent annual RoSPA Safety Inspection. These quotations had been circulated to Council members ahead of the meeting. However it was pointed out that in one of the quotations it was left unclear whether rubber mulch safety surfacing had been included under the zip wire. It was **AGREED** that Cllr Sims would clarify this point with the relevant prospective supplier and if necessary would obtain an updated quote- so that the quotations could then be compared and a contractor appointment decided on at the August Council meeting.

ACTION: CLLR SIMS

25.85 SANG:

The Parish Clerk reported that he had been in touch with the Scott Estate Office regarding the problem of traversing the boggy part of the proscribed circuit walk. They had responded to say that the pathway provided had met the requirements of the S106 agreement; and that consequently they would not be adding anything to it. However, they were willing to meet representatives of the Parish Council on the site and indicated that they would be willing to consider positively any proposals put forward for improvements at Parish Council expense. As it was noted that there are a number of points at the SANG for discussion with representatives of the Scott Estate, it was agreed to arrange an on-site meeting with their representative – ideally during August.

ACTION: THE CLERK

25.86 Allotments:

The Clerk reported that of the two tenants he had written to whose plots had been neglected all year, one had responded to ask for an extra week beyond the agreed deadline of 11th July to tidy the plot and bring it back into cultivation. The Clerk had exercised discretion to grant this request.

Whilst the other tenant had not replied to the email or letter sent to him it was evident that he had visited the plot and trimmed off the worst of the weeds – although nothing had been done to bring the plot into cultivation. The Clerk will now write to this second tenant again to point out that merely strimming off the weeds alone is an insufficient response to meet the requirements of the tenancy agreement. The Clerk will also ask the tenant to share his plans to urgently bring it back into cultivation for the remainder of this season.

ACTION: THE CLERK

25.87 Councillors Climate & Ecological Support Group: No report.

9. To consider Planning Applications received

25.88 Delegated –

P/FUL/2025/03778 Floradene Arne Road Ridge BH20 5BH. Erection of 2 detached dwellings with associated access, parking and drainage works.

The Parish Council examined this proposal and notes that it remains very similar to previous ones (P/FUL/2022/04771, P/FUL/2024/05245 and P/FUL/2025/03027). This latest proposal does not address the concerns and grounds for objection submitted by the Parish Council on the previous occasions; namely

- (a) Overdevelopment of the site. The density of the proposed development of this site will adversely affect the surrounding properties and be detrimental to the character of the area.
- (b) The parking arrangements remain inadequate and are likely to lead to additional on-road parking.
- (c) Drainage from the site may also be affected by further development.

In addition, the Parish Council notes with concern about the practicality of the proposed surface water runoff drainage arrangements set out in the Surface Water Drainage Report dated 16th April 2025 – particularly in that it involves an ongoing maintenance schedule – which would be under the responsibility of the owners of the proposed properties. It also involves the disposal of the pumped water into an existing ditch adjacent to the opposite side of Arne Rd.

Consequently, the Parish Council wished to reiterate its **OBJECTION** to this proposal.

P/STA/2025/04026 Worgret Heath Stokeford Heath Morden & Hyde Heath. Replacement of 12 poles under Section 37.

NO OBJECTION.

10. To discuss whether the Council wishes to explore the practicalities of providing a water supply at the allotments.

25.89 The Clerk also reported on investigations he had carried out into the possibility and costs associated with providing a water supply at the allotments. He had looked into three options (i) temporary provision of a bowser during the summer period, (ii) a piped and metered supply from the domestic main running along the adjacent road and connected to a field trough sited just inside the allotment boundary, and (iii) a borehole on site.

- (i) Bowser: availability of a supplier to provide a sufficiently large bowser which could be parked securely on site for the summer period (resupplying as necessary) is very limited. Cost estimate to be around £130 per fill, plus delivery, and a daily or weekly hire charge for the bowser.
- (ii) Piped & metered supply: Wessex Water advise that this is feasible. The main is understood to be within 5m of the allotment boundary. Costs are £166.80 for the initial survey to be carried out by Wessex Water. This will ascertain the cost of the actual

connection – but this is estimated by WW to be somewhere between £1K-£4K depending on the length of connecting pipe run and whether it will be necessary to apply for a temporary road closure to make the connection. Ongoing cost of water usage has been based on actual current annual usage on a comparable PC allotment site elsewhere in Dorset and is calculated to be £4.90 per plot per year - i.e. £133 plus £29 standing charge per year for the Arne PC site as a whole.

- (iii) Borehole: minimum cost to create the borehole is estimated at £6K, but would also need to include a pump, installation of an electricity supply and a secure pump-housing.

After brief discussion options (i) and (iii) were eliminated on grounds of cost and practicality. However, the Council unanimously **APPROVED** the Clerk to approach Wessex Water to apply for the initial survey under option (ii) at a cost of £166.80. It was also noted that the Scott Estate had indicated that they had no objection to the Council progressing this option provided the costs associated with it were met by Arne Parish Council.

ACTIONS: THE CLERK

11. To consider a proposal to explore options for the replacement of the Council website with one specifically designed to meet Parish Council's needs, including ongoing technical support.

25.90 The Parish Clerk explained that this initiative is based on the requirement for continuity planning and Risk Management - which all Local Councils should have in place. He suggested that there were three main problems which arise from the current website: i.e.

(a) Parish Councils are being very strongly encouraged to switch to websites with a .gov.uk domain. The main benefits of this being the enhanced security which comes with formal government approved suppliers authorised to supply .gov.uk domains; and increased credibility and assurance for the public.

(b) It had been established that Cllr Sims is the only person on the Council who has sufficient practical understanding of the technical requirements of the current website to be able to update it - and that even he often has to do so using 'trial and error'. This means it is a slow and inefficient process.

(c) Cllr Sims may be stepping down from the Council in the foreseeable future due to leaving the area.

(d) The structure and content of the website have drawn criticism from the Auditors for difficulties in finding key information.

The Clerk went on to explain that he had recently done some work with another Council which involved searching the market for bespoke websites designed specifically to meet the needs of Parish Councils. Consequently, he already had a shortlist of government approved suppliers who can be approached very quickly for comparative quotes for a .gov.uk domain Parish Council website which comes with a level of practical year-round support and assured ongoing compliance with the Public Sector Website Accessibility Standards WCAG2.2AA (Sept 2018). That same work elsewhere had also enabled the Clerk to develop deeper knowledge of particular features to look for and the most relevant questions to ask prospective suppliers. It was **RESOLVED** to ask the Parish Clerk to arrange to obtain a set of competitive quotes for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

ACTIONS: THE CLERK

12. To note DC's framework for speed reduction decisions and APC's experience of its application. Then to consider following points raised by DC Road Safety Manager, Tony Burden, in response to the serious vehicle incident on Furzebrook Rd on the night of 13th June

25.91 Cllr Cranshaw opened the discussion on this matter with some comments on the process which Dorset Council, as the Local Highway Authority is required to follow. She began by referring to the serious road traffic accident that occurred on Furzebrook Rd on June 13th. She reminded members that at the June meeting the Council heard from residents who assisted in the rescue of the lorry driver and also from nearby residents, and from Dorset Cllr Ezzard as well as members of Church Knowle Parish Council. She noted that the upshot of the discussion was that Arne Parish Council was asked to press for a reduction in the speed limit which is currently 60mph along that stretch of road. In the light of this she thought it might be helpful for the Council to consider how a speed limit reduction might be achieved since it would be wrong for local residents to believe it is simply done by submission of a petition. She went on to explain that the Department of Transport has provided guidance as to the factors involved, and that National Highways set out the criteria that should be addressed by an applicant. These criteria are:

- history of collisions
- road geometry and engineering
- road function (noting that the road in question is a designated C road).
- Composition of road users, including the vulnerable
- existing traffic speeds
- road environment

Cllr Cranshaw remarked that it is understood that these factors may be weighted differently for a rural area - such as the location in question. She went on to comment that the guidelines include a warning note as follows:

“speed limits should not be used to attempt to solve the problem of isolated hazards such as [...] at a bend”

Consequently, it would have to be shown that this is not an isolated hazard. Cllr Cranshaw commented that the advice concerning rural speed management allows that 40mph should be considered where there are many bends, junctions or accesses, where there is substantial development, where there is a strong environmental or landscape reason, or where there are considerable numbers of vulnerable road users. She noted that if the Council and the community were to put together the available information on all of the above issues it should be in a good position to make an application.

She also commented that for a speed limit reduction request to be formally considered by Dorset highways, it should be submitted and fully supported by the relevant Dorset Council Ward Member and the Parish Council. She noted that the required support should be straightforward, however providing the data on the many criteria would require significant work. She concluded by emphasising that every factor and aspect would need to be addressed before a request for a speed limit reduction could be submitted.

The council then went on to consider the following points directed to the Parish Council in a letter from Mr Tony Burden:

- (i) Parish Council support for a speed limit reduction, as requested by local residents.**
This was unanimously **CONFIRMED**
- (ii) Evidence of Public Concerns about the dangers inherent in the road / location in question** – It was noted that this is as detailed in the minutes of the June 2025 Parish Council meeting.
- (iii) Whether the Parish Council wishes to commission and pay for a vehicle speed survey to be carried out by DC Highways on the section of Furzebrook Rd in question.**
RESOLVED to approve.
- (iv) Evidence of any previous engagement with Imerys about limitations on vehicle operations to and from the site overnight.**

It was noted that no such formal evidence has come to light.
The Parish Clerk is to communicate the above responses to Mr Burden.
It was also noted that a site meeting with DC Highways Road safety officers has been arranged for 23rd July. Cllr Cranshaw and the Parish Clerk will be attending.

ACTIONS: THE CLERK

13. To consider the role the Parish Council can play in effective monitoring and supporting residents' complaints about 'noise nuisance' from events at local campsites.

25.92 The Council acknowledged the concerns of local residents about disturbances often caused by such events. Reference was made to some advice provided by Ms Vanessa Gibbard, an officer in the Dorset Council Environmental Health Department at Dorset Council, about the correct way to report noise nuisance to ensure it is dealt with promptly and effectively at Dorset Council. The details were passed to the Parish Clerk who it was **AGREED** would produce an advice notice for the public to be publicised on the Council's website and noticeboards.

ACTION: THE CLERK

Regarding the current local monitoring arrangements for noise from local campsites etc, the Council noted that Cllr Duckworth is keeping an informal personal record; but he pointed out that this may not be complete as he may not be around to witness and note the details of every incident. It was therefore acknowledged that there is a need to put something in place to ensure that every incident is captured on the Dorset Council reporting system. This therefore will need to involve local residents using the established Dorset Council reporting system on all occasions. The online reporting system can be found at <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/noise-nuisance>

14. Report back on Cllr Duckworth's attendance at Dorset Council Plan event.

25.93 Cllr Duckworth reminded the Council members that he had emailed all Council members with his comments on this meeting; and that this was then supported by distribution to them of the set of slides used at the meeting.

He commented that the most important point was that Dorset is now subject to the updated NPPF which has the effect of nearly doubling the previous new housing target for the county – and that the DC Planning Department are now working towards how that requirement may be met. It is understood that the focus for this additional development is expected to be the towns and larger villages (i.e. those with substantial supporting facilities and infrastructure such as a school, shops, bus service, garage, doctors' surgery, etc). It is also understood that the new approach is likely to involve some changes to designated Green-Belt land by potentially re-designating some of it as "Grey Belt" through adjustments to its boundaries. An 8 week online consultation on the emerging Dorset Local Plan (DLP), to which residents are strongly encouraged to respond, will begin on 18th August and run until 13th October. This will be supported by a series of local public engagement / information events run by Dorset Council – the nearest of which will be in Swanage and Crossways.

15. To consider a proposal to approve, in readiness for seeking quotations with regard to the generator container, the Statement of Work having the reference number APC-RFO-SOW-185 Issue 1, Rev. 3 and dated 3rd July 2025.

25.94 The Council members present confirmed that they had received, examined and supported this document. A representative of the Village Hall Trustees confirmed that they had consulted their insurers and that the insurers had no objection to the proposal for secure and safe storage of the spare diesel in the proposed generators container. With regards to the VH Trustees' comments on

the proposed SOW, the Council were advised that it is hoped to gather these over the coming weekend (19-20th July) and they would be collated by their Chairman of the Trustees before being forwarded on to the Parish Council. It is intended that any required responses to the points raised would then be provided in time for the August Council meeting.

16. To consider the Parish Council's response to concerns expressed about the overgrown vegetation causing visibility difficulties at the junction of Corfe Rd and New Rd.

25.95 It was noted that this had been reported direct to DC Highways and that they had responded within 24 hours by sending out a contractor to cut the vegetation back.

17. Correspondence received since the agenda was set:

25.96 There was none.

18. Additional items considered urgent by the Chairman for discussion only:

25.97 There were none.

25.98 Date of next meeting:

Parish Council meeting Thursday, 21st August 2025, At 7:15pm Stoborough Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 20:52

Appendix 1

Cllr Beryl Ezzard DC Report for Arne Parish Council July 2025

Dorset Council (DC) & Cabinet

The full council took place on Thursday 10th July at 6.30 pm, Councillors paid tribute to Cllr Bill Trite who passed away in May. There will be Consultation on the DC's Local Plan coming for all to take part in, in the Summer. The Booking system for HRC's will only take place for the four largest Depots as a pilot scheme, the other 6 will operate as usual, This is to ensure no crossborder operations are happening with no redress by DC. It will also be able to record Tradewaste being taken to HRC's without payment. Efficiencies must be made; the booking system ensures records will be kept. The Cabinet will meet on Tuesday 29th July at 6.30pm

Wareham area Defibrillators Group

We encourage the Town & Parish Councils to support and approve this Campaign by having a briefing of the Swanage Defib Organisation, for what is entailed.

Cost of Living Support for families on Income Support /Pension Credit.

The DC has put aside £500k extra available each year to support those in need. Contact the Citizens Advice or visit the DC Website for information.

Wareham Area Community Speedwatch Team

Regular Sessions monitoring the speed of traffic in the Sandford, Wareham and Arne have taken place. We have sessions in June are being arranged. More volunteers are needed to support this project to gather evidence for reducing speed limits by monitoring driver behaviour and speeding.

I was invited and accepted to visit Stoborough Primary School recently, as the staff and pupils wanted to know about Speedwatch and the possibility of reducing speed limits and traffic calming. Evidence of our Speedwatch Volunteer Team have to gather 2 years of evidence to support reducing speed limits,

Purbeck Shuttle 200 (formerly 2RN Bus) update

The Service200 is now running from Wareham Station on a Wednesday and from Norden – Purbeck Park on a Saturday for 14 weeks until the end of August. PCRP are leading this new project to provide outlying areas to visit – The Blue Pool and RSPB Arne for tourist and locals too. The timetable is found in all the bus Stops enroute, and one can flag it down for a request stop. Bus Passes are accepted, otherwise the fare is £2.00 Go and enjoy a trip to Purbeck’s unique countryside without the worry of driving yourself.

Planning Enforcement & DC Road Works

If any Councillor suspects a breach of planning act 1990, please go to DC website and you can report your concerns there or contact your local DC Cllrs. Local roadwork information is notified to PC Clerk.

Wareham Recycling Centre

There have been a lot of residents contacting Beryl & I over the proposed booking system to visit the centre, only 4 recycling centres in Dorset will be going ahead with a booking system these one’s are located near our county boundaries. So nothing will currently change on visiting the Wareham recycling centre.

RAILWAY 200 Celebration at Wareham Station

On Saturday 14 June; 2 to 5pm the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Keith Critchley, Opened the Event, in very windy conditions for a Programme of celebration; talks, singing, displays, especially the replica of Stephenson’s Rocket made by the Wareham’s Men Shed.

Our MP Vikki Slade cut the Celebration Cake at the Station marking 178 years of the Wareham connection from 1847. Thank you to all who helped and supported the Event, in Victorian dress.

We need volunteers for watering our 20 Tubs – anyone interested please contact Beryl.

<https://gi.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/dorsetexplorer/planning/>

[public#map=19.72/50.67589/-2.09525/-0.3663914922642709&layers=167/100/100/
&basemap=1/100/100](https://gi.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/dorsetexplorer/planning/public#map=19.72/50.67589/-2.09525/-0.3663914922642709&layers=167/100/100/&basemap=1/100/100)

Dorset Cllrs Monthly Advice Surgeries in Wareham Library.

Ryan on fourth Saturday every month; 10-12 noon. Beryl on second Friday every month 10.00-12 noon. All welcome to come along and see us, no appointment needed.

Appendix 2

Bank Reconciliation and accounts update

Please see separate .pdf file.