Manston and Hammoon Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**

**Held on Monday 24th February 2025 at 6:30 pm in Manston Village Hall**

**Present: Councillors -**

J. Hussey (Chair), P. Easter (PE), A Frampton (AF), D. Honeybun (DH), A. Yarwood (AY), M Woods (MW)

**In attendance:** Mike Harris

**Chair’s Welcome**

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

**25.01. Public Discussion Period**

There were no public questions.

**25.02. To receive and accept apologies for absence**

Cllr Somper

**25.03 Declarations of pecuniary and other interests in relation to the agenda**

None were declared.

**25.04. To agree the minutes of previous meeting on 16th December 2024 are a true and accurate record**

These were unanimously **AGREED**

**25.05. Councillor vacancy – Manston PC**

It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mike Harris as Councillor for Manston PC. The Chair welcomed Cllr Harris to the Parish Council.

**25.06 Issues arising from the last meeting/Chair & Clerks report**

* Cllr Woods has been added to the bank account mandate.
* A WhatsApp Group exclusively for Parish Council use has been created.
* Work on transferring the PC website to a gov.uk domain is underway.

**25.07 To receive report from Dorset Council**

Cllr Somper will send a written report.

**25.08 To receive a finance report and to agree action in response to proposals and payment approvals:**

The Clerk reported that reserves were low and expenditure should be avoided if at all possible.

1. **Retrospective payments approved**:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Supplier** | **Description** | **Amount** |
| 18/12/2024 | Dorset Council | Election recharge fee |  £ 50.00  |
| 20/12/2024 | The Hill | Donation |  £ 50.00  |
| 23/12/2024 | David Green | Defib signage for phone box |  £ 34.56  |
| 30/12/2024 | David Green | Salary December 2024 |  £ 156.96  |
| 31/12/2024 | Bank charges | Unity Bank |  £ 6.00  |
| 16/01/2025 | HMRC | PAYE Q3 2024-2025 |  £ 113.40  |
| 28/01/2025 | David Green | Salary January 2025 |  £ 156.96  |
| 31/01/2025 | Unity Bank | Bank Charges |  £ 6.00  |
| 06/02/2025 | Vision ICT | Annual website hosting fee |  £ 161.26  |
| 21/02/2025 | ICO | Data Protection Fee |  £ 47.00 |

1. **Current due payments approved**: Expenditure re defibrillator installation agreed
2. **Internal Auditor** – it was agreed to appoint JP Consultants as Internal Auditor 2024-2025

**25.09 Community Defibrillator**

There were electrical issues relating to installation in the telephone box and it was decided not to proceed with this idea. The defibrillator will now be installed on the outside wall of the Village Hall.

**25.10 To receive an update on Hammoon Bridge & Flooding gates liability issue**

Cllr Woods reported that Dorset Council had prepared a draft agency agreement and protocol concerning the operation of the gates; this was deemed to be unacceptable in its present form in that it appeared to attempt to pass all risks onto the Parish Council and also to indemnify Dorset Council against any potential claims. The draft protocol also included an impractical requirement for Dorset Council to be informed before any closure/opening action is taken. Cllr Woods will seek a meeting with Dorset Council in the Parish to discuss these issues further.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Woods, Frampton and Yarwood for all their work in relation to the operation of the gates and for considering the liability issues.

Cllr Woods raised a query in relation to surface water road flooding in Hammoon generally, noting that a number of local gullies and ditches were blocked, and this was becoming a regular problem which effectively trapped some residents in their homes; this could be a serious issue in an emergency situation. Guidance has been sought from Dorset Council but this has not been forthcoming. It was agreed that Cllr Woods would contact the Community Highways Officer to ascertain whether any remedial action could be taken to reduce the flooding problem.

* 1. **Highway issues in both villages (to include traffic and speeding)**

There were no issues with the Speed Indicator Device. Cllr Woods has attempted, without success thus far, to speak to the landowner responsible for the hedge adjacent to the Village Hall,

* 1. **Footpath/Right of Way issues**

It was noted that parts of the Trailway were in need of resurfacing and there were drainage issues; the Clerk noted that this is the responsibility of the Dorset Rangers. Any issues should be reported using the published link:

<https://gi.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/rightsofway/reportproblem>

* 1. **Mower Lane bridleway**

The PC had been advised by the Orchards & Margaret Marsh PC that Dorset Council had agreed to take responsibility for the Mower Lane bridleway. Manston & Hammoon PC has not been asked for any further assistance.

* 1. **To comment on any planning applications**

**P/FUL/2025/00382 - Fitelstones Lower Road Manston DT10 1EX** - Retain 2 No. Stables, 1 No. Store and 1 No. Storage Container. The Clerk confirmed that an OBJECTION has been raised to this application in relation to the painted shipping container, which is unacceptable in a rural environment in clear view of the road.

* 1. **Correspondence**

The following items of correspondence had been received:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **From** | **Subject** |
| 16/12/2024 | Orchards & Margaret Marsh PC | Mower Lane bridleway update |
| 20/12/2024 | Dorset CPRE | Dorset CPRE December 2024 Newsletter, NPPF and BCP Local Plan examination |
| 15/01/2025 | Flood Wessex | Flood Warden Newsletter Winter 2024-25 |
| 17/01/2025 | Cllr Jane Somper | Views sought on the transport schemes  |
| 17/01/2025 | Cllr Jane Somper | Dorset, Somerset and Wiltshire Councils confirm support for Devolution Priority Programme |
| 22/01/2025 | DAPTC | Future Planning Event - 4 March 2025 |
| 28/01/2025 | Dorset Highways | \*Revised\* Temporary Traffic Regulation Order for East Farm Lane, Hammoon |
| 31/01/2025 | Dorset CPRE | Dorset CPRE January/February 2025 Newsletter |
| 05/02/2025 | Cllr Jane Somper | Guidance on Vegetation and Highways |
| 05/02/2025 | Dorset Council | Outcome of Wessex Devolution Bid |
| 21/02/2025 | Marnhull PC | Neighbourhood Plan consultation |

It was noted that any responses to the Marnhull Neighbourhood Plan should be submitted by 31st March 2025.

**25.15 Confidential Matters (public and press to leave the meeting)**

No items to discuss.

* 1. **Any Other Business**

Cllr Woods enquired regarding the possibility of replacing a wooden bench seat near the church – it was agreed that no decision can be made until the next precept installment is received.

Cllr Yarwood enquired as whether use could be made of the telephone box in Hammoon. It was noted that Stour Provost had converted theirs into a museum. It was agreed that Cllr Yarwood would investigate possible uses.

Cllr Hussey raised the issue of the poor condition of the Hammoon noticeboard. It was noted that other parishes have received funding from Wessex Internet. An appropriate enquiry would be made.

Cllr Woods raised the issue of the failure of Dorset Council to collect refuse whenever the flood gates are operational. It was queried whether the Dorset Waste Partnership would be prepared to change to route of the round to combine this with the Fiddleford collection.

**25.17. Items for the next meeting**

Annual Parish meeting, Annual meeting of the Parish Council and a Parish Council meeting.

**25.18 Date of next meeting(s)**

Monday, 19th May 2025 at 6.30pm

There being no further business to be transacted the meeting closed at 19:30 hours.