

Yeohead & Castleton Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting on 7th of May 2026 at 7.30 pm in Poyntington Village Hall

The following were present: Councillors Perryman, Buckland, Dillon, Lacey, Simnett, Wheadon, the Clerk and one member of the public.

- 26.01 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Stubbs and Dorset Cllr Legg
- 26.02 **Election of Chairman:** Cllr Perryman told the meeting that he had enjoyed the last two year as chair, but after 21 years as a councillor he has decided to step down. He thanked the members of the council and the clerk for their collaboration. A vote of thanks to Cllr Perryman was warmly endorsed by all present.
Peter Lacey was unanimously elected Chairman
- 26.03 **Election of Vice Chairman:** Cllr Peter Simnett was unanimously re-elected Vice Chairman
- 26.04 **Declarations of interest:** None
- 26.05 **Declarations of any conflict of interest with the parish council auditors, BDO:**
None declared
- 26.06 **The minutes of the meeting held 5th of March 2026** were confirmed and signed.
- 26.07 **Adjournment Session:** A resident of Poyntington told the council that she would like to see a 30mph speed limit introduced in the village. This had been discussed at the recent village meeting and many residents seemed in favour. A subsequent poll on the village WhatsApp group showed that opinions are split on the issue. It was suggested that residents might consider setting up a speed watch group to gather evidence.
- 26.08 **Matters arising:** Sewage contamination in Goathill. Cllr Buckland reported that following works to report a collapsed bridge there has been a dirty discharge into the stream coming from the sewage station which is in Milborne Port Parish to the east of Goathill. It was agreed that it should be reported to the Environment Agency by someone who has witnessed the contamination and that the clerk would write to the EA, Wessex Water and Milborne Port Parish Council.
- 26.09 **The financial report for the year 2026-27** to date was received and accepted. Payments in accordance with budget were approved: Clerk salary: £410.50. The increase in the clerk's salary is in line with the NALC recommendation for 2025-26 as agreed in this year's budget; Osborne Play Field Association £875 maintenance grant; Poyntington Village Hall £875 maintenance grant; Poyntington Village Hall £20 hall hire; Community First Insurance £431.27 policy 2026-27; DAPTC £204.05 annual subscription.
It was agreed that Jason Perryman should be removed from the bank mandate and Cllr Lacey should be added as a full bank signatory.
- 26.10 **The Risk Assessment and list of assets** were reviewed and approved.
- 26.11 **Internal Audit** The internal audit was received and noted following completion by Mr Nigel Masters, for which the Council was very appreciative.
- 26.12 **The Annual Governance Statement** was considered, approved and signed.
- 26.13 **The Statement of Accounts** for 2025-26 was considered, approved and signed.
- 26.14 **Audit exemption.** The council is not required to have an external audit, and an exemption certificate was considered, approved and signed
- 26.15 **Insurance Policy** The clerk reported that she had tried two other brokers and been advised that they were unable to compete with the quote from Community First Insurance. The council agreed to accept the policy with Zurich Insurance through Community First which is a 3 year agreement running to May 2029.

26.16 **Planning Matters**

Planning matters dealt with since the last meeting for approval or to be decided at this meeting are in bold:

Name & Address	Details /Reference	Status
Townsend Farmhouse, Poyntington	P/VOC/2026/01608 Erect farmhouse with garaging and outbuildings, construct new vehicular access (with removal of condition 2 of planning permission 1/N/90/000165 - to remove the agricultural occupancy restriction)	No comments from the PC Granted 27.04.26
Land at Lenthay Road, Sherborne	P/OUT/2025/07170 Erection of up to 37no. dwellings (outline application to determine access only)	Object in line with comments from Sherborne Town Council
Land at Townsend Farm Holway Hill, Poyntington Sherborne DT9 4RZ	P/PABA/2026/01259 Erect Agricultural storage building.	Prior Approval for information only Decision - Not permitted development.
Court House Dairy Thornford Road Sherborne	P/PAPA/2026/01867 Formation of cow tracks	Information only Prior approval not required
Sherborne Golf Club Clatcombe Lane	P/NMA/2026/00909 Non-material amendment to amend the siting of the driving range planning permission P/FUL/2022/06631 (Erection of additional covered driving range bays & swing room & flood lights)	Non material amendment Granted 12.03.26
The Manor, Poyntington	P/HOU/2026/00779/ 791 Alterations to stables and conversion of ground floor to extend existing first-floor residential annexe to form one self-contained annexe	Support Granted 20.04.26
Townsend Farmhouse, Poyntington	P/CLE/2026/00476 Certificate of lawfulness to continue to use the property without Planning permission 1/N/89/0280F dated 21/09/89, condition 2 that states the occupation of the dwelling shall be limited to a person solely or mainly employed, or last employed, prior to retirement, in the locality in agriculture	No comments submitted Granted 18.03.26

- 26.17 **Mobile signal improvement:** Having had no success at finding a mast site in talks with the landowners at the top of the hill, Atlas is now considering the land around the junction with Wheatsheaf Hill. They are looking into the costs of a power connection.
- 26.18 **Dorset Council Asset Listing:** Since the last meeting the clerk had written to Dorset Council to express the parish council's interest in land at the junction alongside the A30 and the adjacent old stone barn and outbuildings as well as the area currently used as an occasional village car park adjacent to the play area. The council approved this and requested that she chase DC for an acknowledgement.
- 26.19 **Neighbourhood Plan, update:** There has been no news since the designation of the area. Cllr Legg had confirmed this.
- 26.20 **Condition of raised pavement at the Batch in Poyntington:** The damaged surface of the pavement towards the village hall has been repaired and satisfactorily patched by Dorset Council. Cllr Simnett reported that a resident had expressed a concern about the

state of the whole raised pavement, but the council considered that following the recent repairs no further action is necessary at the moment.

- 26.21 **Speed limit through Poyntington:** The council's view was that the majority of motorists are already driving in a safe manner below 30mph, due to the layout and nature of the roads. Those vehicles which are driving too fast are deemed unlikely to slow down if new traffic signs are installed. No action was considered necessary.
- 26.22 **Play Areas: Osborne annual inspection:** The price quoted by Fields in Trust had increased significantly this year, whereas Playsafety has quoted a much lower fee available for bookings made by parish councils. The council agreed that it should place the order with Playsafety, on the understanding that the fee of £84 will be reimbursed by the Play Area Committee. **Poyntington Play Area:** The council approved a donation of £200 to kick start fundraising for new play equipment. This will be paid once an appropriate bank account has been opened and fundraising commenced.
- 26.23 **Fingerposts:** A very dilapidated fingerpost at Lime Kiln Farm, Sherborne in Castleton Parish has been reported to the council. It was agreed that Ned Edwards will replace the two fingers parallel to the road. The council agreed that missing letters will be ordered from Bridport Foundry via Tim Beer. One of the fingers on the central Poyntington post has also broken and will be replaced. Jason Perryman offered to look for suitable wood for all three fingers.
- 26.24 **Dorset ward boundaries consultation:** It was agreed that the clerk should draft a response for approval by email, questioning the division of Sherborne Rural Ward.
- 26.25 **Items for the next Agenda:** Send to clerk
- 26.26 **Dates of future meetings:**
2 July, Osborne
3 September, Poyntington
5 November, Osborne
- The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.**