

# Minutes 10th November 2022

## SOUTH PERROTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 10 th November 2022 at 7.30pm  
the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Jonathan Baker, Cllr Yvonne Harris, Cllr Tom Scott-Malden, Cllr Gill Denny In  
Attendance: Jane Thicknesse, Clerk, and 6 members of the public.

The meeting scheduled for Thursday 8 th September 2022 was cancelled due to the death  
of HM Queen Elizabeth II

Item No.		Action
	<p>Public discussion of items on agenda</p> <p>A resident raised an issue about the state of Pipplepen Lane (see Agenda Item 2022/056)</p>	
2022/054	<p>Apologies / Declarations of interest / grant of dispensations</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Bavalant Barber and PCSO Alex Bishop. Declaration of Interest – Cllr Harris Agenda Item 6b.</p>	
2022/055	<p>Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 21 st July 2022</p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were approved, and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Scott-Malden and seconded by Cllr Denny.</p>	

2022/056	<p><b>Matters arising from Minutes of meeting held on 26 th May 2022</b></p> <p><b>a. Condition of various roads in South Perrott</b></p> <p>Pipplepen Lane was reported to be in a very poor condition (just north of School Hill) and Picket Lane also needs further work (just south of the previous repair). Clerk to report.</p> <p><b>b. Road Signs</b></p> <p>The Clerk reported that road signs outside Rowan Cottage and Swing Gate Cottage which had been reported had been replaced. A resident mentioned that there were various road maintenance signs that had not been collected despite the work being complete. Clerk to report.</p> <p><b>c. Drain/Gully in Picket Lane</b></p> <p>Despite numerous requests this drain has still not been pumped out. Clerk to report.</p> <p><b>d. Pipplepen Solar Farm</b></p> <p>The Clerk reported that the Case Officer for South Somerset District Council was currently writing her final report with the aim of taking it to the planning committee meeting at the end of November. Elgin Energy are optimistic that approval will be granted.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
2022/057	<p><b>Update on The Pound Project</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported that The Pound project was nearly complete. Trees had been pollarded, the noticeboard moved and the lectern/plinth installed. The final things to be done are installation of the new bench and relocation of the rubbish bin. It was agreed that the work had hugely improved the appearance and the area now seemed much bigger and tidier. The Chairman expressed his thanks to Michael Stevenette for his foresight, sponsorship and determination with this project and also to Terence Wybrow for all his hard work.</p>	

<b>2022/058</b>	<b>Wall in Manor Close</b>  <b>Since the last meeting Paul Thomas, Building Control, Dorset Council has visited the site to discuss possibilities with the Cllr Baker, Cllr Scott-Malden and the Clerk. Due to ownership not being known, various utilities bordering the wall, the difficulty of access and prohibitive expense of a stonemason, the decision/advice was for the Parish Council to reinforce/make safe the wall themselves by installing 2 wooden panels supported by concrete posts.</b>  <b>It was suggested that an alternative (and permanent) solution would be to take the whole wall down and sell the stone to cover the cost of the work. This was decided against and the Council proposed to spend up to £400 to make safe the wall.</b>  <b>Proposed Cllr Baker, seconded Cllr Denny and unanimously approved.</b>  <b>A date for the work is to be decided and volunteers to help with the work will be sought.</b>	<b>Chairman/ Cllr Scott-Malden</b>
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<p><b>2022/059</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Matters</b></p> <p><b>a. Applications handled since last meeting</b></p> <p><b>i. P/LBC/2022/05144 – Bridge House – supported by SSPC</b></p> <p><b>ii. P/HOU/2022/04159 – Old Post Office – supported by SSPC</b></p> <p><b>b. Decisions notified by DC since last meeting</b> <b>None</b></p> <p><b>c. New applications to be considered</b> <b>None</b></p> <p><b>d. Tree applications since last meeting</b> <b>None</b></p> <p><b>e. Other Planning Matters</b></p> <p><b>i. WD/D/20/001708 – Coach and Horses</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Harris left the meeting for the duration of this agenda item</b></p> <p><b>The Clerk reported that the appeal against the planning decision had been lodged on 23 August and will be decided by written representations. Following advice from Dorset Council, SPPC submitted a brief comment requesting that the appeal be dismissed for the reasons set out in its objections to the planning application.</b></p> <p><b>To date no decision has been made and there is no indication of how long the process will take.</b></p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
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**Reports from Dorset Councillor, Police Officer, River Warden and Footpaths Officer**

**a. River Warden**

**Following the heatwave conditions in the Summer, the Autumn has been mild but wet.**

**This has not caused any problems, apart from where gulleys blocked by Autumn leaf fall have resulted in minor localised flooding. The dip in the A356 towards Crewkerne being one example. We were fortunate to have a visit from the Dorset Council Highways Maintenance Team at the end of the Summer, who spent time in Picket Lane clearing the gulleys of vegetation.**

**Reservoir Update – Ryan Lloyd, Project Engineer at South Perrott Reservoir, has reported as follows:-**

**“The construction work on the spillway, which includes topsoil and seeding to the trafficked areas, has now been completed, (see photo) and the site was vacated on 4 November.**

**The bridleway closure will remain in place over the winter to allow grass establishment, and to prevent damage to the recently reinstated ground during this wetter period.**

**Our contractor will return in the Spring to remove the temporary fencing to restore full access to the site and the Millennium Green.**

**As this will be the last Reservoir Update, the Environment Agency would like to thank, once again, the local community for their patience and support for this**

**muddy and slippery again and the River Parrett is now flowing freely.**

**Langmoor Lane – erosion of the banks has been an ongoing problem for over a year. The Council's Senior Ranger inspected the Lane earlier in the year and agreed that restoration work was required. In mid-September a local resident reported that part of the bank had collapsed about 50 yards up the lane from the coffin bridge towards Mosterton. This made the path at this point very dangerous to walk. The Clerk reported it to the Rights of Way team at Dorset Council on 23/09/22, with the expectation that they will come and repair it. To date this has not happened and I followed it up again this week and will continue to do so until it's repaired.**

**The Parrett Trail/Bailey's Lane – The EA have completed the work on the Flood Improvement Scheme but the Bridleway will remain closed until next spring and part of the Millennium Green (MG) will also remain fenced off until then. The MG can no longer be accessed via the Engineers Road. The footpath which forms part of the Parrett Trail can be accessed either via the river or the permissive path across Ian Neal's field. The EA have kindly put chippings on the wooden steps at the MG end, where they had sunk and were dangerous. The footpath then continues across the MG and is exited by the stile and then continues up to Chedington.**

**Please continue to enjoy our beautiful countryside and remember to always observe the Countryside Code.**

**Sue Coutanche SP Footpath Officer**

**c. PCSO**

**A local male has been sentenced following a conviction for sexual offences. The Judge sentenced him with a 3 year community order, with conditions to complete up to 60 rehabilitation activity days and a 3 month electronically monitored curfew. He was also issued a 5 year Criminal Behaviour Order not to own, possess, or look after any dog, unless whilst in company with the dog's owner and a 5 year sexual harm prevention order.**

**Whilst there have not been any locally, we have seen 3 Land Rovers stolen (one was recovered with parts stolen) across the Bridport Section in the last couple of months. Please be vigilant and report any suspicious activity to**

	<p>us, at the time, on 101. Call 999 if you believe a crime is in progress.</p> <p>Apologies for having to miss my last engagement at the village coffee morning. My next attendance is on Saturday 19th November at 9.30.</p> <p>PCSO Alex Bishop</p> <p>d. Dorset Councillor See Appendix 1</p>	
2022/061	<p><b>Review and Adoption of SPPC Policies</b></p> <p>Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated copies of the proposed South Perrott Parish Council Standing Orders. After a brief discussion they were adopted, proposed by Cllr Scott-Malden, seconded by Cllr Baker. A copy will be placed on the website and it and will be reviewed annually.</p> <p>South Perrott Parish Council Data Protection and Data Privacy Policies will be reviewed at the next meeting – copies will be circulated prior to the meeting.</p>	Clerk
2022/062	<p><b>Highways</b></p> <p>Nothing further to 2022/056</p>	
2022/063	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>Following discussion it was decided to remove Correspondence as a regular agenda item for future meetings. The Clerk will reinstate as necessary.</p>	Clerk

**Finance****a. Financial Status****Payments made since 14 th July 2022**

<b>Clerking Work (July, Aug, Sep, Oct 22)</b>	<b>721.92</b>
<b>Rubbish Bin Emptying</b>	<b>152.32</b>
<b>Payroll Administration</b>	<b>15.00</b>
<b>Office Expenses – paper for printer</b>	<b>9.85</b>
<b>Audit</b>	<b>240.00</b>
<b>Rubbish Bin Relocation</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1239.09</b>

**Income since 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

<b>Precept (Part 2)</b>	<b>2750.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2750.00</b>

**New cheques/payments for consideration**

**b. Audit**

The Clerk reported that the audit had for 2021-22 had concluded with no discrepancies and no recommendations. The annual accounts for 2021-22 can be found on the SPPC website.

The Clerk reported that the audit for 2021-22 had concluded with no discrepancies and no recommendations. The annual accounts for 2021-22 can be found on the SPPC website.

**c. 2023-24 Budget/Precept**

The Chairman introduced this item by reminding Councillors of the need to set a realistic budget, particularly with the current cost of living crisis. Increased costs for 2023-24 will include the Clerk's Salary (due to a national pay award) and rubbish bin emptying (due to increased frequency of collections). Other items discussed included an annual grant for grass cutting in the Cemetery and the funding for an event to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III.

The Clerk agreed to circulate the first draft of the budget and suggested that it should be looked at again once Dorset Council had provided the tax base so that the effect on the precept could be studied closely. A final draft will be provided before the January 2023 meeting when the budget must be approved and precept request submitted to Dorset Council.

**d. Village Christmas Tree**

Cllr Scott-Malden reported that a 14' Norwegian Spruce Christmas Tree had been ordered for The Pound and will arrive at the beginning of Advent.

**e. Donation from the Flower and Produce Group**

A donation of £500 was received from the South Perrott Flower and Produce Group which is to be used for a flower or gardening project within the village. The Chairman expressed thanks for the generosity and requested project suggestions.

**Chairman/  
Cllr Scott-  
Malden/Clerk**

**All**

<p><b>2022/065</b></p>	<p><b>Matters of report and items for the next meeting</b></p> <p><b>a. Chairman</b></p> <p><b>i. Dorset Council – Working Together</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported that there is a new initiative to produce a ‘Working Together’ document to clarify the relationship between parishes and towns and Dorset Council. A copy of the draft proposal and timeline for development can be found on the SPPC website.</p> <p><b>ii. Banking</b> The Chairman reported that the signatory problem had been resolved.</p> <p><b>iii. Change of Day and Time for Future Meetings</b> After discussion it was proposed that the day and time of future SPPC meetings should be changed to the second Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and October starting at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Scott-Malden, seconded Cllr Denny and unanimously approved.</p> <p><b>b. Clerk</b> Nothing to report</p> <p><b>c. Members</b> Nothing to report</p>	
<p><b>2022/066</b></p>	<p><b>Dates of Future Meetings</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday 10 January 2023 at 6.30pm</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday 14 March</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday 9 May</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday 11 July</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday 12 September</b></p> <p><b>Tuesday 14 November</b></p> <p><b>The meeting closed at 8.57pm</b></p>	

<b>Public Session to raise items for future agendas</b> <b>Nothing to report</b>
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# Minutes 21 July 2022

## SOUTH PERROTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 at 7.30pm the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Jonathan Baker, Cllr Yvonne Harris, Cllr Balavant Barber, Cllr Tom Scott-Malden, Cllr Gill Denny

In Attendance: Jane Thicknesse, Clerk, and 6 members of the public.

Item No.		Action
	<b>Public discussion of items on agenda</b> A resident raised concern about the poor visibility (due to vegetation) at the junction of Lecher Lane and the A3066. Clerk offered to report to Dorset Council.	Clerk
2022/041	<b>Apologies / Declarations of interest / grant of dispensations</b> Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Rebecca Knox, PCSO Alex Bishop, Martyn Gillingham (River Warden).	
2022/042	<b>Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b> The minutes of the last meeting were approved, and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Scott-Malden and seconded by Cllr Harris.	

<p>2022/0 43</p>	<p><b>Matters arising from Minutes of meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b></p> <p><b>a. Condition of various roads in South Perrott</b>  The Clerk reported that Blair Turner, Highways Officer, Dorset Council had visited and reported that currently Manor Close did not need including in a surface dressing scheme and Picket Lane (which had been recently patched) was still in relatively good condition with no extensive loss or fretting that would require sealing. The surface of the at level footway from Hunters Hatch to Lecher Lane had lost some of its bauxite anti-skid surface treatment but again does not need re-surfacing. An order for the edge of this piece of roadway to be side verged has been issued to re-establish the initial extent of width to address any safety concerns.  Blair Turner is still trying to determine if/when Pipplpepen Lane will be re-surfaced – this work was scheduled for 2020 but was delayed due to COVID.</p> <p><b>b. Road Signs</b>  The Clerk reported that Dorset Council required more information about which signs were of concern to residents. She requested all residents to contact her about particular signs (preferably with photographic evidence) and she will then report them to Dorset Council</p> <p><b>c. Drain/Gully in Picket Lane</b>  Still not cleared</p> <p><b>d. Frequency of Litter Bin Emptying</b>  This has now been changed to fortnightly.</p> <p><b>e. Village Gateposts</b>  It was agreed that the recent painting of the village gateposts had been effective and that they were much more noticeable and looked much better. Cllr Scott-Malden offered to cut back some of the vegetation around them and the possibility of laying a weed barrier and bark chippings to reduce future growth was briefly discussed.</p> <p><b>f. Flowers for Vicky Reed</b>  A thank you note had been received.</p> <p><b>g. Pipplepen Solar Farm</b>  There is still no progress with this project to report. South Somerset District Council website states that the planning application is ‘out for consultation’ and Dorset Council states that ‘a decision is pending’</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>All</p> <p>Cllr Scott -Mald en</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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<p>2022/0 44</p>	<p><b>Update on The Pound Project</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported that a lot of work had been done on The Pound and it was now looking significantly tidier (and larger). The next steps are to move the rubbish bin and noticeboard, purchase and install a bench identical to the one already in position and install a 'lectern' in the centre which will display local walks, all of which are to be funded by a resident. Initially the future upkeep of the area would be funded by the same resident but it is hoped that the Gardening Club might be prepared to take on the responsibility.</p> <p>A discussion about the overhanging trees in The Pound took place as these need to be cut back before the work is completed. The Clerk reported that following her failed attempts to get Openreach, Western Power or Dorset Council to do the work, she had received a quote for £450 from a local contractor. SPPC requested the Clerk to approach Dorset Council again to ask if they would reconsider but if this failed proposed to fund the costs from the Village Enhancements Budget. Proposed by Cllr Baker, seconded by Cllr Harris, 4 in favour, 1 against.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>2022/0 45</p>	<p><b>Wall in Manor Close</b></p> <p>The Clerk reported that she had written to the owners of the two properties bordering the wall in Manor Close. One had replied stating that the wall did not bound their property and was not in their ownership., the other did not respond. As ownership remains uncertain the Clerk contacted Blair Turner, Highways Safety Officer, Dorset Council and Paul Thomas, Building Control, Dorset Council. Both agree that the wall is not a danger to highway users but Paul Thomas does have concerns for children who may play near the wall.</p> <p>He said that a legal approach to establish ownership and responsibility was likely to be drawn out and possibly prohibitively expensive and suggested that SPPC take a pragmatic approach to remove any danger. This may be the removal of removing loose stones to make safe. Paul Thomas offered to visit the site to advise further, an offer which was accepted by the Council.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

2022/0  
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**Planning Matters**

**a. Applications handled since last meeting**

**None**

**b. Decisions notified by DC since last meeting**

**i. P/FUL/20122/00470 – Field along Baileys Lane**

The Chairman reported that this planning application had been refused for a number of reasons. The small size of the site (and no indication that it was connected to a wider agricultural holding) meant that it could not be justified and the scale of the building is not commensurate (too large) for the intended sheep flock. Dorset Council considered that this scheme would result in an ad-hoc building within the open AONB to the detriment of its natural undeveloped beauty in this location. Concern about the proximity to the River Parrett and the possibility of flooding and difficulty of access were also cited. (For full details see [Planning application: P/FUL/2022/00470 – dorsetforyou.com \(dorsetcouncil.gov.uk\)](#))

Since the refusal of the planning application this piece of land has been sold.

**c. New applications to be considered**

**None**

**d. Tree applications since last meeting**

**None**

**e. Other Planning Matters**

**i. WD/D/20/001708 – Coach and Horses**

Cllr Harris left the meeting for the duration of this agenda item  
The Clerk reported that Darren Rogers, Planning Enforcement Officer, Dorset Council had informed her that Mr John Harris had appealed against the planning decision 2 days prior to the expiry of the 6 month appeal period. The appeal is scheduled to be dealt with by written representations – an exchange of written correspondence between Dorset Council as the local planning authority and the Planning Inspectorate. The first step is the appointment of an Inspector by the Planning Inspectorate which may take up to six months. Only when this person is appointed will the appeal start and the grounds of appeal be available on the Dorset Council website. The Enforcement Team have agreed to notify South Perrott Parish Council once the appeal starts.  
NB As an appeal has been made Dorset Council need to await the outcome of the appeal decision and will only consider taking enforcement action if the appeal is dismissed.

2022/0  
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Reports from Dorset Councillor, Police Officer, River Warden and Footpaths Officer

**a. River Warden**

The River Warden sent his apologies and the following report:

There have been no incidents of flooding reported in the village since my last report in May 2022.

A new Project Manager has been appointed by the Environment Agency to the South Perrott Reservoir project, and Ryan Lloyd has reported as follows:-

“The spillway construction works are progressing well and the precast concrete cellular blocks are now being installed on the crest (see photograph). Periods of wet weather are presenting a challenge, but our Contractor is working methodically to keep the prepared areas covered and protected. Currently the works are due for completion by mid-autumn 2022.

We thank the residents of South Perrott for their understanding of this important project.”

Martyn Gillingham, River Warden

Tel: 891931

Email: [mcvgillingham@btinternet.com](mailto:mcvgillingham@btinternet.com)

**b. Footpaths Officer**

The dry spell reported in May continues and with record breaking temperatures there is just one word – it’s a ‘Scorcher’! The River Parrett has almost dried up and there are no “boggy” patches along the Parrett Trail – a cold drink at the “Gap” is an even more welcomed reward when reaching the top! There is little to report on this occasion as the dry spell has not adversely affected the footpaths. Since my previous report I have now been advised by Dorset’s Senior Ranger (Coast & West) that the erosion of the banks along Langmoor Lane has been given ‘priority’ status. I have asked to be advised when they intend to visit and hopefully accompany them. A big ‘thank you’, to all those who diligently carry clippers with them whilst out walking! Despite the recent lack of rain, the foliage still grows prolifically and the footpaths soon become overgrown. It is most appreciated not only by me but by everyone using the footpaths when not being stung by nettles or having to fight one’s way through vegetation. Please continue to let me know if you find any footpaths matters that need addressing while you are out and about in South Perrott’s countryside.

Sue Coutanche SP Footpath Officer

**c. Dorset Councillor**

No report.

**d. PCSO**

PCSO Alex Bishop sent his apologies and the following report:

On the night of 18<sup>th</sup> June, there was a property fire reported in School Hill. At this time there is an open investigation to ensure

	<p>that there are no suspicious circumstances, so there is little I can say at this time, but it appears that there were no casualties. There is little else to report on incident wise. I want to thank those that attended the Coffee Morning on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July, it was great to see many people there. I will be there monthly, my next appointment being Saturday August 13<sup>th</sup>.</p>	
<p>2022/0 48</p>	<p><b>Review and Adoption of SPPC Policies</b> Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated copies of the proposed South Perrott Parish Council Code of Conduct. After a brief discussion this was adopted, proposed by Cllr Baker, seconded by Cllr Barber. A copy will be placed on the website and it and will be reviewed annually. South Perrott Parish Council Standing Orders will be reviewed at the next meeting – copies will be circulated prior to the meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>2022/0 49</p>	<p><b>Highways</b> The Clerk reported that there were two imminent highway/bridleway closures. Notices have been placed on the Noticeboard and social media.</p>	
<p>2022/0 50</p>	<p><b>Correspondence</b> Emails have been received/sent reference Highways (various), Planning, Banking, Wall in Manor Close Hard copies of correspondence: Lloyds Bank Statement, Clerk and Councils Direct.</p>	

<p><b>2022/0 51</b></p>	<p><b>Finance</b> <b>a. Financial Status</b></p> <p><b>Payments made since 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="352 353 1193 707"> <tr> <td><b>Clerking Work (Jun 22)</b></td> <td><b>180.48</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Donations/Gifts</b></td> <td><b>480.00</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Payroll Administration</b></td> <td><b>15.00</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Office Expenses</b></td> <td><b>26.20</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Village Gatepost Painting</b></td> <td><b>200.00</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>£901.68</b></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Income since 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022;</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="352 786 1099 842"> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>£0.00</b></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>New cheques/payments for consideration</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="352 913 1018 1070"> <tr> <td><b>Rubbish Bin Emptying</b></td> <td><b>£87.04</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>£87.04</b></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Bank balance as at 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 £4826.57</b></p>	<b>Clerking Work (Jun 22)</b>	<b>180.48</b>	<b>Donations/Gifts</b>	<b>480.00</b>	<b>Payroll Administration</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>Office Expenses</b>	<b>26.20</b>	<b>Village Gatepost Painting</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£901.68</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>Rubbish Bin Emptying</b>	<b>£87.04</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£87.04</b>	
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<p><b>2022/0 52</b></p>	<p><b>Matters of report and items for the next meeting</b> <b>a. Chairman</b> <b>i. Visit by PCSO Alex Bishop</b> The Chairman renewed his thanks to PCSO Alex Bishop for his recent visit and confirmed that the next one would be on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August from 0930 in the Village Hall.</p> <p><b>b. Clerk</b> Nothing to report</p> <p><b>c. Members</b> Nothing to report</p>																			
<p><b>2022/0 53</b></p>	<p><b>Dates of Future Meetings</b> Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7.30pm The meeting closed at 8.30pm</p>																			
	<p><b>Public Session to raise items for future agendas</b> Nothing to report</p>																			

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.30pm the Village Hall**

**Present: Cllr Jonathan Baker, Cllr Gill Denny, Cllr Harris, Cllr Balavant Barber, Cllr Tom Scott-Malden**

**In Attendance: Jane Thicknesse, Clerk, and 7 members of the public.**

Item No.		Action
	<p><b>Public discussion of items on agenda</b></p> <p><b>a. A resident requested to discuss a planning item. It was agreed to defer this until later in the meeting.</b></p> <p><b>b. Concern was expressed about the condition of the shared road/pavement surface between Hunters Hatch and Lecher Lane. The Clerk offered to report to DC.</b></p> <p><b>c. A resident requested that Dorset Council inspect all the road sign posts as some are thought to be in a very poor state of repair and potentially a liability.</b></p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>2022/029</b></p>	<p><b>Apologies / Declarations of interest / grant of dispensations</b></p> <p><b>Apologies were received and accepted from Alex Bishop (PCSO)</b></p>	
<p><b>2022/030</b></p>	<p><b>Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b></p> <p><b>The minutes of the last meeting were approved, and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Baker and seconded by Cllr Scott Malden.</b></p>	

<p>2022/03 1</p>	<p><b>Matters arising from Minutes of meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b></p> <p><b>a. Pipplepen Solar Farm Project</b> No progress to report. Both the Dorset Council and South Somerset District Council websites indicate that a decision is still pending.</p> <p><b>b. Picket Lane – Gullies</b> The River Warden reported that the gullies still had not been cleared. Clerk to chase.</p> <p><b>c. Bank Account</b> Still not resolved despite the Chairman receiving reassurance from Lloyds Bank that new approvals for Cllr Scott-Malden and Clerk had been granted. Chairman to follow up.</p> <p><b>d. Litter Bin on corner of Manor Close</b> The Chairman reported that the bin had now been moved and was in a better position (further from the bench and closer to Picket Lane)</p> <p>Several residents had commented that both bins are well used, resulting in them occasionally overflowing. The Clerk reported that during discussions with Dorset Council Waste Services they had also commented on this and had suggested that the collection/emptying frequency was changed from monthly to fortnightly. The Clerk informed the Council that the annual cost for fortnightly emptying would be approximately £240 (currently £120) and that a budget of £150 had been set. The Chairman suggested that the additional £90 could be found from the Village Enhancement/Improvements budget and proposed that the collection should be increased to fortnightly. This was seconded by Cllr Denny and unanimously approved.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Chairman</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>2022/03 2</p>	<p><b>Annual Village Meeting</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported that the Annual Village Meeting had been held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April. He gave a brief summary of the meeting which had been well attended. (Minutes from the meeting can be found on the PC Noticeboard and Website.)</p>	

<p>2022/03 3</p>	<p><b>Update on The Pound Project</b></p> <p>The Chairman reminded the meeting of the nature of this project (a new bench, a new noticeboard showing footpaths, re-siting the rubbish bin, moving the PC noticeboard and some re-pointing and/or re-walling) which had been proposed by Michael Stevenette. Cllr Denny reported that she had managed to obtain two quotes which included construction of a retaining wall, laying of pavement slabs, moving the noticeboard, removal of rubbish etc which were in the region of £3900. (Although this was felt expensive the meeting was reminded of the recent increases in building costs). The Chairman offered to speak to Michael Stevenette about these costs which would be in addition to those for the new bench and new noticeboard/plinth.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Western Power Distribution, BT Openreach and Dorset Council ref the trees overhanging The Pound which needed to be reduced due to their weight and position above a crumbly limestone cliff face. None of the organisations were prepared to accept responsibility for the trees as they were either not considered a risk or under their jurisdiction. However, as the Council consider them a liability it was agreed to get two quotes to reduce/remove the overhanging branches. Once these had been obtained a decision would be made about financing the work and a tree application submitted to Dorset Council.</p>	<p>Chairman</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>2022/03 4</p>	<p><b>Update on Painting of the Village Gateposts</b></p> <p>Cllr Scott-Malden reported that he had obtained two quotes for the work. After a lengthy discussion which included the merits of painting the gateposts, the Chairman proposed that the cheaper quote (£200 to cut back vegetation and apply one coat of exterior satinwood paint to 4 gates) was accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Barber and unanimously approved. (It is hoped that this work will be carried out on 26 June 2022.)</p>	<p>Cllr Scott-Mal den</p>

2022/03

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## Planning Matters

### a. Applications handled since last meeting

None

### b. Decisions notified by DC since last meeting

None

### c. New applications to be considered

None

### d. Tree applications since last meeting

#### i. P/TRC/2022/01076 – Maple Cottage

Fell two conifers for safety reasons – SUPPORTED

### e. Other Planning Matters

#### i. P/FUL/2022/00470 – Field along Bailey’s Lane.

The Chairman reported that a comment had been sent to Dorset Council Planning ref the proposed application. A resident questioned the decision to request locking bollards to prevent motorised vehicles as this would restrict access to landowners. The Chairman explained that the bollards would prevent unauthorised driving along the bridleway and river bed but land owners who had historic rights of access would still be able to gain access to their land as they would be provided with a key to the bollard. (NB No decision has been made by Dorset Council ref this planning application and the land is due to be sold at auction on 30 June 2022 by Greenslade Taylor Hunt).

#### ii. P/HOU/2022/02822 – Old Post Office

Erection of second floor extension and glazed link to rear of property.

This application has been withdrawn.

#### iii. P/LBC/2021/04645 – Hunters Hatch

Following submission of revised drawings and plans the retrospective planning application has been approved by the Conservation Officer. All remedial work has to be completed within 6 months. (For full details see Dorset Council Planning Application website ([dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](https://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)))

#### iv. WD/D/20/001708 – Coach and Horses

Due to a Conflict of Interest Cllr Harris left the meeting for this agenda item.

The Clerk reported that following the refusal of the

**retrospective planning permission in January 2022 there was a 6 month appeal window. This window closes on 10 June 2022 after which Dorset Council Planning Department will be approached to ask what happens next.**

**Clerk**

**Reports from Dorset Councillor, Police Officer, River Warden and Footpaths Officer****a. River Warden**

The River Warden reported that it had been a quiet period with a single instance of possible contamination which had been reported but not proven due to heavy rain dispersing the evidence. The works at the South Perrott Reservoir are continuing well – with minor interruptions from some heavy rain recently. New concrete beams have been cast in the ground at the reservoir crest. These will be used as foundations for the new erosion protection material – this is a precast concrete cellular system that has to be laid with great accuracy. Re-shaping has also started on the righthand side spillway embankment which will enable it to receive its new erosion protection. The works are broadly on target to complete mid-autumn this year.

**Martyn Gillingham River Warden**

**b. Footpaths Officer**

The Footpaths Officer reported that with the recent dry spell the footpaths are now easier underfoot and visitors and locals alike are continuing to enjoy the beautiful countryside that they traverse.

Further to my previous report:

- **The Parrett Trail**  
Remains open whilst work continues on the SP Flood Relief Scheme and continues to be well used with some walkers on a “mission” to enjoy refreshments at the Winyards Gap Inn, at the end of the Trail!
- **Way marker in Baileys Lane**  
Further to my previous report this remains broken. It was probably erected by the now defunct Parrett Trail Trust. It has been reported to Dorset Council along with other footpath matters.
- **Footpath No.1 by School House in Pipplepen Lane.**  
Following a recent theft and rubbish dumped in one of the farmer’s other fields, the farmer has locked the gates to the field that this footpath crosses; however the official entrance from the Lane is waymarked and the footpath can still be accessed. It follows the “Yellow Brick Road” as far as the hedge and then veers off to the left to cross a wooden bridge into the next field.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Langmoor Lane –</b>  <b>Erosion of the banks continues by the stone bridge crossing. I have contacted Dorset Council a number of times in the last couple of months and am still awaiting a response. I will continue to chase up.</b>  <b>Please let me know if you find any footpaths matters that need addressing whilst you are out and about in South Perrott’s countryside.</b>  <b>Sue Coutanche SP Footpath Officer</b></li> </ul> <p><b>c. Dorset Councillor</b>  <b>No report.</b></p> <p><b>d. PCSO</b>  <b>PCSO Alex Bishop sent his apologies but no report.</b></p>	
<p><b>2022/03</b>  <b>7</b></p>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p><b>Emails have been received/sent reference Highways (various), Planning, Banking,</b></p> <p><b>Hard copies of correspondence: Lloyds Bank Statement, Clerk and Councils Direct.</b></p>	

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**Finance**

**a. Financial Status**

**Payments made since 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

<b>Clerking Work (Mar, Apr, May 22)</b>	<b>567.02</b>
<b>Rubbish Collection</b>	<b>32.64</b>
<b>Payroll Administration</b>	<b>15.00</b>
<b>DAPTC Annual Subscription</b>	<b>88.02</b>
<b>Rubbish Bin Relocation</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£802.68</b>

**Income since 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

<b>Precept (Part 1)</b>	<b>2750.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2750.00</b>

**New cheques/payments for consideration**

<b>Total</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
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**Bank balance as at 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022**                      **£5815.29**



**Clerk, SPPC**

**Jonathan Baker, Chairman of South Perrott Parish Council welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded the attendees that, despite him chairing the meeting, this was not a Parish Council meeting but an opportunity to discuss issues, improvements or ideas that could benefit the village.**

## **1. Resume**

**The Chairman gave a short resume of things that had happened in the village since the last Village Meeting (September 2021). These included:**

- a. Reinstatement of the finger post at corner of Lecher Lane and A356 (thanks to particular residents of Chedington for all their work)**
- b. New steps and repaired gate along Baileys Lane (thanks to Sue Coutanche, Russell Gough and Ian Neal)**
- c. Decision to move the litter bin in Manor Close (pending)**
- d. Plans to improve The Pound which include a new retaining wall, cutting back the overhanging trees, ongoing hedge trimming and tidying, a new bench to mirror the existing one and the installation of a plinth showing local walks. Michael Stevenette was thanked for his generosity which will enable this work to be done.**
- e. Painting of Village Gateposts (pending)**
- f. Decision not to put up a new noticeboard in Manor Close (after consultation with residents).**
- g. Decision by the Parish Council not to appoint a lengthsman (due to insufficient regular jobs) but for the money allocated in the budget to be set aside for enhancements/improvements which would be considered on merit. Any suggestions should be forwarded to the Clerk or any Parish Councillor.**
- h. No progress on the Pipplepen Solar Farm Planning Application – a decision from DC and SSDC is still pending.**

## **2. Issues**

### **a. Annual Village Clean Up**

**It was suggested that that the annual village clean-up should take place before the Platinum Jubilee weekend. This was favourably supported and the date of Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022 was selected. More details will be promulgated nearer the time.**

### **b. Millennium Greem (MG)**

A resident had written to the Chairman expressing concern about the MG and requesting the meeting consider circulating a questionnaire about the future of the MG around the villages of South Perrott and Chedington. (The resident acknowledges that a questionnaire was circulated 4 years ago but believes that recent changes in the population of both villages justifies repeating the exercise.)

Martyn Gillingham, Secretary to the MG, gave a short informative presentation. The MG was established in 1998 when a Trust, registered with the Charity Commission, was set up to manage the MG on a 999 year lease, initially from the Local Authority, but now from the Environment Agency (EA). The establishment cost of approximately £40,000 was funded from a grant of £20,000 from the Countryside Commission's MG Fund, a grant of £5000 from the Millennium Festival Awards for All, a grant of £9000 from the Countryside Agency and the balance from local fundraising, including sponsored parachute jumps.

It is maintained as public open space for the benefit of residents of South Perrott and Chedington and with the objective of providing a more diverse, sustainable habitat for flora and fauna.

Current maintenance costs are £150 a year for insurance and about £150 a year for grass cutting. These costs are covered by voluntary donations and fundraising events.

In October 2018 a survey carried out in both villages produced the following results:

South Perrott (44 forms returned 41%) 50% for retention, 41% against

Chedington (26 forms returned 68%) 54% for retention, 35% against

A lively wide-ranging discussion then took place about the pros and cons of the MG in its present form. Points included:

- the importance of hanging on to village amenities eg Church, Village Hall, MG
- currently the only public open green space in the village
- responsibility to all the people who set it up 20 years ago
- if MG was returned to the EA for them to maintain, would such free access continue to be available
- being custodians to what we have
- Trust has only been going for 24 (out of 999) years so much too early to hand it back
- possible improvement to condition if maintained by EA (eg grass cutting)
- improved usage recently, possibly due to new steps

**Martyn Gillingham concluded the discussion by saying that he appreciated that things were not perfect and he accepted some of the criticisms eg location of the pond, condition of the picnic tables, frequency of grass cutting and that the MG was not in the ideal place. To counter the criticisms, he said they would be recruiting new trustees to boost the current number, consider moving the pond to a more suitable location, plan to replace the picnic tables with new benches and chairs and even moving the MG if there was another public open space available in the village.**

**The Chairman then asked the attendees if they thought a new questionnaire should be circulated to the villages. A show of hands was asked for and the overwhelming majority (approx. 17 against, 3 for) voted against having one. From the attendees at the meeting it would therefore seem that the need for a new questionnaire is not currently required.**

#### **c. Village Enhancements**

**i. A resident requested that the oak posts along the river were oiled to maintain their life but that railings should not be painted.**

**ii. Attention was drawn to a wall along Manor Close which is considered dangerous. Ownership is unknown but it is in much need of repair. (Clerk to get photos and speak to Dorset Council).**

**iii. Various roads (Manor Close, Pipplepen Lane and Picket Lane) are considered to need re-tarmacking. (Clerk to contact Dorset Council).**

#### **d. Forthcoming Events**

**i. South Perrott Café is open in the Village Hall from 9.30am to 12.00pm on Saturday mornings. Tea, coffee, cake, newspapers and free internet are all available. (Volunteers to help run the mornings are required – please contact the Village Hall committee)**

**ii. Lunch in the Village Hall on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 12pm. A two-course lunch for £7 cooked by Kate Organ will be available. Booking essential. Contact Dave McSkelly – 01935 891891.**

**iii. Platinum Jubilee Lunch on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022 from 12 – 3pm. This will be held in Pipplepen Lane (a road closure has been applied for) and the Village Hall. Personal invitations will be sent to each household with a RSVP by the end of May.**

**iv. Commemorative Mugs for the Platinum Jubilee will be presented to all South Perrott children under the age of 16. These are not personalised but will be accompanied by a certificate. (Surplus mugs may also be available to purchase – if interested contact the Village Hall committee.)**

**v. Pop Up Pub on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022 in the Village Hall. Food available from 7 – 9pm. Food and alcohol donated – all proceeds to Macmillan Cancer Research. (UPDATE – £ 316 raised)**

vi. Flower and Produce Show on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2022. More details available on the South Perrott Flower and Produce Facebook page in due course. (Volunteers required to help on the day – please contact Richard Caile [richard@caile.me.uk](mailto:richard@caile.me.uk))

e. Church Roof

A new report is awaited but it is hoped to show that the vestry roof can be repaired rather than replaced at a much reduced cost. Fund raising continues and currently stands at over £5700.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05pm.

## Minutes 10th March 2022

### SOUTH PERROTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm the Village Hall

Present: Cllr Jonathan Baker, Cllr Gill Denny, Cllr Balavant Barber, Cllr Tom Scott-Malden

In Attendance: Jane Thicknesse, Clerk, and 7 members of the public.

Item No.		Action
	Public discussion of items on agenda None	
2022/011	Apologies / Declarations of interest / grant of dispensations Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Yvonne Harris and Alex Bishop (PCSO)	
2022/012	Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 13th January 2022 The minutes of the last meeting were approved, and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Barber and seconded by Cllr Scott-Malden	

<p>2022/0 13</p>	<p><b>Matters arising from Minutes of meeting held on 13th January 2022</b></p> <p><b>a. Pipplepen Solar Farm Project</b> No progress to report. Both the Dorset Council and South Somerset District Council websites indicate that a decision is pending</p> <p><b>b. Steps and Gate along Baileys Lane</b> New steps have been installed and the gate repaired and reinstated. Thanks were expressed to Russell Goff, Senior Ranger (West and Coast) Dorset Council and his team for their work and also to the Footpaths Officer for her efforts ensuring this work was carried out so quickly.</p> <p><b>c. Noticeboard in Manor Close</b> After further surveying of residents, it was decided that there was currently insufficient support to install a noticeboard at the end of Manor Close.</p> <p><b>d. Picket Lane</b> The Clerk reported that the work to repair parts of the road surface in Picket Lane had been completed. The River Warden reported that the gullies in Picket Lane had still not been emptied and were a matter of concern.</p> <p><b>e. Bank Account</b> The Chairman reported that since the last meeting the Clerk had established that the Co-op were not accepting new clients and she had been working to enable more Councillors to have signatory rights on the current Lloyds account. Although time consuming and frustrating it was thought that progress was being made.</p> <p><b>f. Road Sign on A3066</b> Re-positioned.</p> <p><b>g. Litter Bin on the corner of Manor Close</b> The Chairman reported that having visited the site (with Cllr Scott-Malden and the Clerk) he thought that there was good reason to move the bin from its current location to a site further from the bench and closer to Picket Lane. This would have to be done by Dorset Council at a cost of £100 to cover work and materials. This proposal was unanimously approved.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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**Lengthsman**

The Chairman reported that he, Cllr Tom Scott Malden and the Clerk had completed a walk around the village on Friday 25 February. Overall it was thought that the village was looking neat and tidy but possible work for a lengthsman might include:

1. **Painting the gateposts to the village**
2. **Painting the railings along the river**
3. **Restoring various footpath and bridleway signs**
4. **Keeping The Pound in good order (sweeping, hedging, weeding)**
5. **Maintaining pavements in School Hill (sweeping, weeding)**
6. **General hedge trimming**

They had all been concerned about how much regular work there would be and how to get best value for money from a lengthsman.

The Chairman went on to suggest that it might be better to employ somebody to do a specific task as and when it was required. A discussion followed after which the Chairman proposed that a lengthsman was not employed but that work was done on a piecemeal basis by individuals who were invited to quote for the work and had the necessary qualifications and insurances.

This proposal was unanimously approved.

Clerk/Chairman

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**Donations**

Clerk

**a. Request from Village Hall Committee for commemorative mug to celebrate HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee**  
The Councillors unanimously approved a donation of £200 for the Village Hall Committee to provide commemorative mugs for children of South Perrott.

**b. Request from St Mary's PCC for assistance with grass mowing costs**

Jane Baker, Treasurer of St Mary's, said that at the February PCC meeting the accounts for 2021 had been reviewed and that the costs of maintaining the churchyard had now risen to over £1000 a year. She went on to say that the PCC does not want to reduce the amount of maintenance or mowing that is done as a lot of residents of South Perrott use the communal footpath through the churchyard when dog walking or just out exercising. However the costs were proving debilitating, especially as due to COVID restrictions and lack of fund raising events, the finances were approximately £7000 below what they would usually be.

As a result she had been requested to write to the Parish Council and ask if they would be prepared to contribute to the costs of maintaining the churchyard. (Many other churches either split the costs of this maintenance with the Parish Council or receive a donation towards the costs).

A lively and informative discussion took place to consider various options for financing the church and churchyard which concluded with Councillors and members of the public being invited to St Mary's PCC AGM on 30 March 2022 at 2pm.

The Chairman then reminded the Councillors that it was the duty of the Parish Council to maintain the assets of the village and asked if they would:

**a. support making a donation to grass mowing costs**

**b. the amount they were prepared to give.**

The Council unanimously approved a donation of £250 towards the 2022 costs.

	(It was suggested that if support was required for the future it should be included as an item in the SPPC budget.)	
2022/0 16	<p><b>The Pound</b></p> <p>The Chairman introduced Michael Stevenette who addressed the Council about the possibility of enhancing The Pound. His suggestions included a new bench, a new noticeboard showing footpaths, re-siting the rubbish bin, moving the PC noticeboard and some re-pointing and/or re-walling. Interest was expressed in his ideas and it was suggested that all the Councillors should meet at The Pound to discuss the ideas further.</p>	All
2022/0 17	<p><b>Planning Matters</b></p> <p>a. Applications handled since last meeting None</p> <p>b. Decisions notified by DC since last meeting</p> <p>i. P/FUL/2021/03918 – Land at the western end of the village – erection of agricultural store – APPROVED Full details of this application and the reasons for the decisions can be found at <a href="http://dorsetforyou.com">Planning application search – dorsetforyou.com</a> (<a href="http://dorsetcouncil.gov.uk">dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</a>)</p> <p>c. New applications to be considered</p> <p>i. P/HOU/2021/02822 – The Old Post Office – erection of second floor extension and glazed link to the rear of the property – SUPPORTED</p> <p>ii. P/FUL/2022/00470 – Land known as The Paddock, Baileys Lane -Erection of sheep shelter and store (agricultural) The Clerk reported that this application had only just been received and to date there was no documentation available. It was agreed that this would be chased and a decision made (out of meeting) by the deadline of 31 March 2022.</p> <p>d. Tree applications since last meeting</p> <p>i. P/TRC/2022/01076 – Maple Cottage – fell two conifers for safety reasons – SUPPORTED</p> <p>e. Other Planning Matters</p> <p>i. Field along Bailey’s Lane – see above (P/FUL/2022/00470)</p> <p>ii. Planning Training – Cllr Gill Denny Cllr Denny reported that the Planning Training provided by</p>	Clerk

	<p>DAPTC had been useful and she had learnt some useful information although much of it had been more relevant to larger councils.</p>	
<p>2022/0 18</p>	<p><b>Highways Updates</b></p> <p><b>a. Parking in The Pound</b></p> <p>The Clerk reported that she had asked Blair Turner, DC Community Highways Officer, about imposing some parking restrictions in The Pound and he had replied:</p> <p><i>“As long as those vehicles are taxed /have a current road fund licence in place or are not posing a hazard/obstruction to the passage of other vehicles there is very little that Dorset Council (DC) can do. To impose any form of enforceable parking restriction would require the creation of what is known as a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) on the site, the cost of under taking this is quite considerable; DC only impose a handful of TROs in any one year and their creation is based on a hierarchical system related to benefit and to be quite honest the cost/benefit ratio would never really figure for this site. There is then the issue of policing or monitoring the site, Parking Services are unlikely to send an officer out on a regular basis to South Perrott to enforce any TRO.</i></p> <p>He had gone on to say that SPPC are entitled to put in a request for a TRO but in his experience, and for the reasons above, he feels it would be a pointless exercise.</p>	

<p><b>2022/0 19</b></p>	<p><b>Reports from Dorset Councillor, Police Officer, River Warden and Footpaths Officer</b></p> <p><b>a. PCSO</b> PCSO Alex Bishop sent his apologies and a short report which can be found at the end of these minutes.</p> <p><b>b. River Warden</b> The River Warden gave a short report which can be found at the end of these minutes. He also reported that he had no update on when work would re-start at the reservoir as his meeting with the Environment Agency had been postponed until later in March.</p> <p><b>c. Footpaths Officer</b> The Footpaths Officer repeated thanks to Russell Goff and his team for their work on the steps and gate along Baileys Lane. She and also thanked Ian Neal, owner of the permissive path for his work restoring the other gate. Full report can be found at the end of these minutes.</p> <p><b>d. Dorset Councillor</b> No report.</p>	
<p><b>2022/0 20</b></p>	<p><b>Correspondence</b> Emails have been received/sent reference Highways (various), Planning, Banking, Hard copies of correspondence: Lloyds Bank Statement, Clerk and Councils Direct.</p>	

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**Finance**

**Financial Status**

**Payments made since 13th January 2022**

<b>Clerking Work (Jan, Feb 22)</b>	<b>347.52</b>
<b>Rubbish Collection</b>	<b>42.00</b>
<b>Training</b>	<b>78.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£467.52</b>

**Income since 13th January 2022**

<b>Total</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
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**New cheques/payments for consideration**

<b>Total</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
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**Bank balance as at 10th March 2022**                      **£3867.97**

<p><b>2022/0 22</b></p>	<p><b>Matters of report and items for the next meeting</b></p> <p><b>a. Chairman</b></p> <p><b>i. Date of Annual Village Meeting</b>  <b>Thursday 28th April 2022 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall</b></p> <p><b>ii. Vice Chairman</b>  <b>The Chairman spoke of the benefits (although not a legal requirement) of having a Vice Chairman and asked Councillors to consider appointing one at the AGM in May.</b></p> <p><b>b. Clerk</b>  <b>Nothing to report</b></p> <p><b>c. Members</b>  <b>Nothing to report</b></p>	
<p><b>2022/0 23</b></p>	<p><b>Dates of Future Meetings</b></p> <p><b>Thursday 26 May 2022 at 7.30pm, preceded by the AGM (NB this is re-scheduled from Thursday 12 May)</b></p> <p><b>The meeting closed at 8.50pm</b></p>	
	<p><b>Public Session to raise items for future agendas</b>  <b>No items raised.</b>  <b>Sue Coutanche reminded people that contributions for the next edition of the Pump and Pound needed to be received by 21 March 2022.</b></p>	
	<p><b>PCSO Report – March 2022</b>  <b>Fortunately I have nothing to feedback at this time in relation to incidents in South Perrott. I would like to urge vigilance amongst residents and urge people to report any suspicious activity, preferably at the time. You can either call 101 or report online at <a href="http://www.dorset.police.uk">www.dorset.police.uk</a> if the incident has already occurred, or call 999 if you believe a crime is in progress. Also, <a href="https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/thinkwiden">https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/thinkwiden</a> this link takes people to the Neighbourhood Watch website and the latest campaign to help people target harden their property to help prevent burglary. Fortunately burglaries are rare in this area, but it is well worth spending some time considering crime prevention methods.</b>  <b>For people wanting further information about what is going on in the area they can follow our Bridport Police Facebook page and also register to our Dorset Alert system at</b></p>	

**www.dorsetalert.co.uk, to receive local information.  
For info, my next surgery at Mosterton Village Hall (Post Office) will be on Monday 4th April, at 1.30pm.  
PCSO Alex Bishop**

**River Warden Report – March 2022**

**Since the January meeting, we have experienced a very stormy period of weather, resulting in five named storms. Storms Malik and Corrie, over the period 29 – 31 January, seriously affected Northern Scotland and Eastern England, but the South West escaped any damage. Storms Dudley, Eunice and Franklin affected the UK within the space of a week (16 – 20 February), resulting in rare Red Weather Warnings for South Western coastal areas from Storm Eunice. A 122mph gust at The Needles, IOW, set a new England gust speed record, and a gust of 90mph was recorded at Portland. Although this storm caused widespread traffic disruption, structural damage to buildings, fallen trees and power cuts, mercifully South Perrott seems to have escaped any serious damage. There have been no incidents of flooding reported in the village since my last report in January 2022.**

**Martyn Gillingham  
River/Flood Warden  
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#### **Footpaths Officer Report**

The fields as expected at this time of the year are still very muddy and some locals are making use of the recently laid hamstone tracks laid to carry heavy agricultural vehicles and machinery to the Legg's fields. In particular the track of off Pipplepen Lane is frequently used by walkers as it follows Footpath No 1 which is then re-joined a couple of fields along.

Further to my previous report:

- **Steps and Gate from the permissive path into Bailey's Lane – Dorset Council has now installed steps and a handrail, to a previously hazardous section of this path. We are extremely grateful to the Council and especially to their West Dorset Senior Ranger who arranged for this work to be carried out. Thanks also go to Ian Neal, the owner of the Permissive path, who has restored and painted the gate at the entrance to the path at the Picket Lane end of Baileys Lane.**
- **Way marker in Baileys Lane – this has broken and is lying on the side of the bank. It was probably erected by the now defunct Parrett Trail Trust. It will be reported to Dorset Council along with other footpath matters.**
- **Langmoor Lane – The erosion to the headwall and sandbags at the SP end of the Lane has been reported to Dorset Council's Senior Ranger. No further update since the last SPPC meeting.**

As a reminder it is important that both farmers and other countryside users respect each other's rights and safety for the benefit of both.

Sue Coutanche  
SP Footpath Officer

## **Minutes 13th January 2022**

**SOUTH PERROTT PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7.30pm the Village Hall**

**Present: Cllr Jonathan Baker, Cllr Gill Denny, Cllr Tom Scott-Malden**

**In Attendance: Jane Thicknesse, Clerk, and 5 members of the public.**

Item No.		Action
	<p><b>Public discussion of items on agenda</b></p> <p><b>a. The River Warden thanked the Parish Council for providing a Christmas Tree for The Pound.</b></p> <p><b>b. A resident informed the Parish Council that the Village Hall Committee would be organising a village event on Sunday 5th June 2022 to celebrate HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. They enquired whether the Parish Council might be prepared to provide a donation, specifically for a commemorative mug for children of the village, to celebrate this occasion.</b></p>	
2022/001	<p><b>Apologies / Declarations of interest / grant of dispensations</b></p> <p><b>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Balavant Barber (subsequent to the meeting), Alex Bishop (PCSO), Cllr Rebecca Knox (Dorset Councillor)</b></p>	
2022/002	<p><b>Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 18th November 2021</b></p> <p><b>The minutes of the last meeting were approved, and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Harris and seconded by Cllr Scott-Malden</b></p>	

2022/03	<p><b>Matters arising from Minutes of meeting held on 18th November 2021</b></p>	
	<p><b>a. Pipplepen Solar Farm Project</b></p> <p>The Clerk reported that she had recently been in contact with Michelle Howley from Elgin Energy who was optimistic that there would be a good degree of progress on the project in January. Updated Design and Access and Planning Statements and a revised layout for the project that reflect the revisions required by Wessex Water and the outcomes of the Geophysical Survey had recently been provided to both South Somerset District and Dorset Councils. Further information on ecology and landscape was due to be provided shortly and it is hoped that once all this information has been received a decision would be made relatively quickly.</p>	Clerk
	<p><b>b. Fingerpost</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported that the fingerpost had been repaired and replaced.</p>	
	<p><b>c. Steps and Gate along Baileys Lane</b></p> <p>The Footpaths Officer reported that she had been in touch with Russell Goff, Senior Ranger (West and Coast), Dorset Council who had agreed that Dorset Council would provide steps at the end of Baileys Lane. It is hoped that they will also install a new gate but this is still to be confirmed along with the timescale for the work.</p>	Clerk/Footpaths officer
	<p><b>d. Noticeboard in Manor Close</b></p> <p>Cllr Denny said that although some village residents had been asked about erecting a noticeboard in Manor Close the survey had not been fully completed. The Chairman requested the outstanding residents were questioned to enable a decision to be made at the next meeting.</p>	All
	<p><b>e. Picket Lane</b></p> <p>Work to repair parts of the road surface in Picket Lane had been due to start on Monday 10th January but appeared to have been delayed. There was evidence that it may commence imminently.</p>	Clerk
		Clerk

***NB Since the meeting it can be confirmed that work has started.***

**f. Bank account**

**The Clerk reported that she had made initial contact with the Co-op Bank with the aim of opening a new bank account. To date progress had been limited but she would persevere and hoped to have more to report at the next meeting.**

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## Reports

### a. River Warden

Storm Arwen (25th to 29th November) caused serious damage across northern England, Wales and Scotland but, luckily, had little impact here in Dorset. The second storm, Barra, on 7th December, also passed without incident. There have been no incidents of flooding reported in the village since my last report in November 2021.

**Martyn Gillingham**

**Tel: 891931, Email: [mcvgillingham@btinternet.com](mailto:mcvgillingham@btinternet.com)**

### b. Footpaths Officer

At this time of the year the fields become a quagmire especially as most of the local paths traverse farmland. As a result it becomes treacherous underfoot and extra care needs to be taken.

Further to my previous report I have been in contact with Dorset Council's Senior Ranger who has provided the following update:

Steps and Gate from the permissive path into Bailey's Lane – One of the Ranger's team has been and measured up for the steps and the work is in hand. (I understand that they have liaised with the landowner);

Langmoor Lane – The erosion to the headwall and sandbags at the SP end of the Lane has been reported to Dorset Council's Countryside Ranger and it is still on their work schedule.

Parrett Trail and the Millennium Green – although work has ceased for the winter, as previously reported, the footpath remains diverted and the bridleway closed. Further fencing has been erected at the far (MG) end of the Engineers Road.

There had been an issue with speeding quadbikes on the "Yellow Brick Road" off of Pipplepen Lane, however now that the livestock has been moved the problem has been resolved.

It is important that both farmers and other countryside users respect each other's rights and safety for the benefit of both.

**Sue Coutanche**

### c. PCSO Report

PCSO Alex Bishop sent his apologies. He reported that whilst not in South Perrott, there was a burglary in the early hours of Sunday 19th December in a house in Chedington. The investigation is still on going. Stolen

**items include a hand bag containing bank cards and cash, and also a few Christmas presents.**

**d. Councillor Rebecca Knox**

**Cllr Knox sent her apologies and a report. In her report she offered her assistance with any planning matters or other matters arising from the meeting and reminded people to stay safe during this period when the Dorset COVID figures remain concerning.**

<p>2022/05</p>	<p><b>Planning Matters</b></p> <p><b>a. Applications handled since last meeting</b></p> <p><b>None</b></p> <p><b>b. Decisions notified by DC since last meeting</b></p> <p><b>i. WD/D/20/001708 – Coach and Horses Inn (Parrett Hotel) – REJECTED</b></p> <p><b>ii. P/LBC/2021/01552 – Bakers Arms – installation of secondary double glazing – REJECTED</b></p> <p><b>iii. P/HOU/2021/01325 – Bellamy Farm – erection of garage and log store – APPROVED (with a number of conditions). Full details of these applications and the reasons for the decisions can be found at <a href="https://planning.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/">https://planning.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/</a></b></p> <p><b>c. New applications to be considered</b></p> <p><b>None</b></p> <p><b>d. Tree applications since last meeting</b></p> <p><b>i. P/TRT/2021/05508 – Shepherds Farmhouse – reduce crown of oak by 1m to rebalance</b></p> <p><b>ii. P/TRC/2021/05704 – Hill Farm House – fell 3 ash trees due to die back</b></p> <p><b>e. Other Planning Matters</b></p> <p><b>i. Field along Bailey’s Lane</b></p> <p><b>The Clerk reported that she was in regular contact with Reg Willing, Senior Enforcement Officer for West Dorset. He had been informed by the agent acting for the landowner that the caravan and two of the three sheds had been removed. Unfortunately this was not the case at the time but subsequent work has resulted in only the caravan and larger shed (erected in 2021) remaining. The Clerk will continue to liaise with the Senior Enforcement Officer about this matter.</b></p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
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<p><b>2022/0 06</b></p>	<p><b>Highways Updates</b></p> <p><b>a. Road sweeper</b></p> <p><b>Recently seen operating in the village.</b></p> <p><b>b. Shrub in Manor Close</b></p> <p><b>Trimmed back to expose street light</b></p> <p><b>c. Outstanding Matters</b></p> <p><b>i. The yellow warning triangle at the junction of Picket Lane and the A356 to be added.</b></p> <p><b>ii. The overhanging trees at the junction of Pipplepen Lane and School Hill to be cut back /p&gt;</b></p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>2022/0 07</b></p>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p><b>Emails have been received/sent reference Emails have been received/sent reference Highways (various), Planning, Precept</b></p> <p><b>Hard copies of correspondence: Lloyds Bank Statement, Clerk and Councils Direct.</b></p>	

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**Finance**

**b. Financial Status**

**Payments made since 18th November 2021**

<b>Clerking Work (Nov, Dec 21)</b>	<b>347.52</b>
<b>Christmas tree</b>	<b>52.00</b>
<b>SID setup costs</b>	<b>1614.00</b>
<b>Plaque for Bench</b>	<b>28.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2041.52</b>

**Income since 18th November 2021**

<b>VAT Refund</b>	<b>940.37</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>940.37</b>

**New cheques/payments for consideration**

<b>Payroll Admin</b>	<b>30.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.00</b>

**Bank balance as at 13th January 2022: £4335.49**

**b. Village Enhancements, Budget and Precept**

The Chairman thanked the Councillors for their work collecting suggestions for village enhancements which were wide ranging and are listed at the end of these minutes. Some were thought to be achievable relatively easily but others would need investigation and costing before informed discussions could take place. The Chairman suggested that one immediate enhancement could be the employment of a 'lengthsman' to be responsible for various jobs to keep the village looking tidy. These could include cutting back overgrown vegetation, strimming of public spaces, ensuring pavements are kept clear and checking drains and gullies. The Chairman suggested that the sum of £1000 was included in the 2022/23 Budget which he thought would

	<p>provide about 50 hours of specific work spread over a 9-10 month period. The work would be advertised locally and interested parties (who had their own equipment, insurance and liability) would be asked to tender. The scheme would be reviewed at the end of the year. After discussion it was unanimously agreed to proceed with this suggestion and for £1000 to be included in the 2022/23 budget.</p> <p>The Chairman asked the Councillors if they had any further questions about the proposed 2022/23 budget which had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was suggested that in view of the request for a donation towards HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations the Donations was increased from £100 to £200.</p> <p>The budget was subsequently set and a precept request of £5500 was approved. Proposed by Cllr Baker, seconded by Cllr Denny and unanimously approved. (This is equivalent to an increase of £6.23 on a Band D household.)</p>	<p>Chairman/Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>2022/09</p>	<p><b>Matters of report and items for the next meeting</b></p> <p><b>a. Chairman</b></p> <p>The Chairman asked if the Councillors thought a South Perrot Parish Council Facebook page would be useful. It was agreed that there were already sufficient media platforms available for the village but that direct access the South Perrott Support Group Facebook page could be useful for the Clerk.</p> <p><b>b. Clerk</b></p> <p>The Clerk informed Councillors that various training courses were available and she would be forwarding details. The Clerk suggested that a notice was put in the Pump and Pound inviting people interested in receiving news from South Perrott Parish Council to contact the Clerk.</p> <p><b>c. Members</b></p> <p>Nothing to report</p>	<p>Chairman</p> <p>Clerk</p>

<p><b>2022/0 10</b></p>	<p><b>Dates of Future Meetings</b></p> <p><b>Thursday 10th March 2022 at 7.30pm.</b></p> <p><b>The meeting closed at 8:40 pm</b></p>	
	<p><b>Public Session to raise items for future agendas</b></p> <p><b>a. Concern was expressed about parking in The Pound, specifically the number of vehicles which appear to use it as a permanent parking location. The Clerk was asked to investigate whether it might be possible to introduce some form of restrictions.</b></p>	
	<p><b>Village Enhancement Suggestions</b></p> <p><b>Planters</b></p> <p><b>Christmas Tree Brackets</b></p> <p><b>Paint railings from Swing Gate Cottage along A356 and up Picket Lane</b></p> <p><b>Fingerpost on Baileys Lane</b></p> <p><b>BT Phone Box – adopt for use as a charity books swap or sale of veg and plants</b></p> <p><b>Shop – in the village hall or pub</b></p> <p><b>Post Office in Village Hall (coffee, tea etc available) like Mosterton</b></p> <p><b>Safe additional footpath to Misterton to catch bus</b></p> <p><b>More rubbish bins or more frequent collections</b></p> <p><b>Jubilee Party for Queen’s Platinum Jubilee</b></p> <p><b>Christmas Tree decorations</b></p> <p><b>Lease land near village hall for a playground and seating</b></p> <p><b>Retaining wall in The Pound</b></p> <p><b>Lengthsman</b></p>	