Minutes of the

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
Meeting held on Wednesday 14th January 2026
in the Village Hall, Lytchett Matravers, BH16 6BD

PRESENT: Cllrs R Ong (Chair), A Bush, A Huggins, M Rigby, P Webb, K Korenevsky, R Aspray, M Rigby and Mrs Julie Wigg (Parish Clerk)

The meeting started at 7.00pm

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:
One member of public in attendance.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs K Morgan, V Abbott.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST - AND CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS FOR SPECIAL DISPENSATIONS UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011.**
   Cllr Ong declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 12 as he is a Trustee of the Village Hall.
3. **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GEN PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 10th DECEMBER 2025.**
   These minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Committee Chair.
4. **TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE 2025-26 YEAR TO DATE BANK RECONCILIATION - FOR PURPOSES OF REPORT ONLY AND FOR APPROVAL BY CLLR ASPRAY.**
   A copy of the bank reconciliation was made available to all members ahead of the meeting and is attached at **(Appendix 1)**.

   It was **RESOLVED** to accept and **APPROVE** this reconciliation, which was duly signed by Cllr Aspray, Vice Chair.
5. **TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A REPORT COVERING 2025-26 YEAR TO DATE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE (FOR PURPOSES OF REPORT ONLY).**
   The report was made available to all members by the Parish Clerk. The income and expenditure report is included in **(Appendix 2)**.

   Cllr Ong queried the increase in National Insurance and tax payments. The Clerk explained that this was due to the rise in employer National Insurance contributions to 15% and the backdated increase in contracted hours to 30 per week.

   It was **RESOLVED** to accept and **APPROVE** this report.
6. **TO REVIEW AND MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE 2026-27 BUDGET.**

   It was **RESOLVED** to make a recommendation to Full Council to **APPROVE** the 2026-27 budget.

7. **TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDING TO FULL COUNCIL THAT THE PRECEPT IS SUBMITTED TO DORSET COUNCIL FOLLOWING THE COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

   It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council that the Precept of £126,000 be submitted to Dorset Council.

8. **TO REVIEW THE PARISH COUNCIL'S BANK ACCOUNTS AND NOTE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS.**
   The report was noted.

9. **TO CONSIDER AND RESOLVE TO APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF THE SANTANDER AND CHARITY BANK ACCOUNTS.**
   Cllr Bush proposed that, as the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) bank guarantee limit now provides protection of up to £120,000, the Charity Bank and Santander accounts be closed and the balances transferred to the remaining accounts, ensuring that no individual account balance exceeds £120,000.

   It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council that the transfer take place.

10. **TO REVIEW COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER REQUEST FOR THE LIBRARY (Appendix 3)**
    The review was noted and councillors agreed with Cllr Bush's proposal.
    In response to Dorset Council's refusal to transfer ownership of the library, it was agreed that a letter would be drafted to Dorset Council expressing the Parish Council's interest in registering the library as an asset of community value. The draft letter will be brought to full council for approval before submission.

    It was **RESOLVED** to make a recommendation to Full Council that the letter to Dorset Council, expressing the Parish Council's interest in registering the library as a community asset, be considered and approved.

11. **TO CONSIDER AND RESOLVE TO APPROVE TO APPLY FOR REGISTRATION OF THE LIBRARY AS AN ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE.**

    It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council that the Parish Council apply to register the library as an asset of community value.

12. **TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO INSTALL A DEFIBRILLATOR CABINET AT THE VILLAGE HALL.**

    It was agreed to defer this item as further detail is needed before a decision can be made.

13. **TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL FOR A KEBAB VAN TO OPERATE FROM THE CARPARK FOR FOUR DAYS PER WEEK.**

    It was **RESOLVED** not to allow the request as submitted, but to suggest an alternative of one day per week on a Saturday.

14. **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ORGANISATION OF THE SUMMER FESTIVAL**
    Cllr Ong confirmed that a small team is in place to assist with the organisation of the festival, with the Clerk continuing to manage the administration, including the issuing of licences and invoices. In the absence of hay bales, it will be advertised that attendees should bring their own chairs or picnic blankets. Cllr Ong further advised that there are four core committee members, with additional volunteers typically assisting on the day. It was also confirmed that the Village Hall has been booked.

15. TO CONSIDER ITEMS FOR THE PARISH MAGAZINE

15.1 Library
15.2 War memorial hedge
15.3 NP following on from submitting the consultation.
15.4 Following community consultation the precept has been submitted.

16. TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.

16.1 Cllr Bush reported that there were overgrown trees down Colehill Road which have been reported.
16.2 The Clerk reported that there has been further correspondence regarding road safety along Castle Farm Road following a road traffic accident.

The meeting closed at 7.48pm

Annotated by Julie Wigg (Parish Clerk)

and approved by Cllr R Ong Chair of committee _____

Appendix 1

6 January 2026 (2025-2026)

Lytchett Matravers Parish Council

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____

Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

	Bank Reconciliation at 01/01/2026			
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2025			282,333.65
	ADD			
	Receipts 01/04/2025 - 01/01/2026			159,419.78
				441,753.43
	SUBTRACT			
	Payments 01/04/2025 - 01/01/2026			176,611.28
A	**Cash in Hand 01/01/2026** (per Cash Book)			**265,142.15**
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements			
	Petty Cash	01/07/2024	0.00	
	HSBC Current AC	01/01/2026	1,762.40	
	HSBC Savings AC	01/01/2026	59,151.49	
	Santander Current AC	01/01/2026	450.02	
	Santander Bus Saver AC	01/01/2026	86,993.27	
	Unity Trust Bank (AC no 20450313	01/01/2026	17,731.24	
	Lloyds bank	01/01/2026	66,699.69	
	Charity Bank	30/11/2025	26,510.89	
	Unity Bank Instant Access Saving	01/01/2026	5,843.15	
				265,142.15
	Less unpresented payments			
				265,142.15
	Plus unpresented receipts			
B	**Adjusted Bank Balance**			**265,142.15**
	A = B Checks out OK			

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Appendix 2

Lytchett Matravers Parish Council

6 January 2026 (2025-2026)

Summary of Receipts and Payments

All Cost Centres and Codes

Allotments

Code	Title	Receipts Budgeted	Receipts Actual	Receipts Variance	Payments Budgeted	Payments Actual	Payments Variance	Net Position +/- Under/over spend
261	Allotment Rent	2,600.00	1,064.00	-1,536.00				-1,536.00 (-59%)
262	Allotment Deposits		270.00	270.00				270.00 (N/A)
263	Allotments Utilities				600.00	409.90	190.10	190.10 (31%)
264	Allotments R&M				300.00	168.00	132.00	132.00 (44%)
265	Allotments Annual prizes				50.00		50.00	50.00 (100%)
266	Allotments Miscellaneous							(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL	**2,600.00**	**1,334.00**	**-1,266.00**	**950.00**	**577.90**	**372.10**	**-893.90 (-25%)**

Burials/Cemetery

Code	Title	Receipts Budgeted	Receipts Actual	Receipts Variance	Payments Budgeted	Payments Actual	Payments Variance	Net Position +/- Under/over spend
281	Burials Charges	4,500.00	2,751.00	-1,749.00				-1,749.00 (-38%)
282	Cemetery Utilities				50.00		50.00	50.00 (100%)
283	Institute of Cemetery Manageme				50.00		50.00	50.00 (100%)
284	Cemetery R&M - General		70.00	70.00	4,500.00	4,017.03	482.97	552.97 (12%)
285	Cemetery Miscellaneous							(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL	**4,500.00**	**2,821.00**	**-1,679.00**	**4,600.00**	**4,017.03**	**582.97**	**-1,096.03 (-12%)**

Community Support

Code	Title	Receipts Budgeted	Receipts Actual	Receipts Variance	Payments Budgeted	Payments Actual	Payments Variance	Net Position +/- Under/over spend
161	Library - Extra Hours				1,800.00	1,859.52	-59.52	-59.52 (-3%)
162	Citizens Advice							(N/A)
163	Grants - General				1,500.00	26,070.00	-24,570.00	-24,570.00 (-1638%
164	Grants- Youth							(N/A)
165	Litter Collection/Picks				50.00		50.00	50.00 (100%)
166	Remembrance Day							(N/A)
167	Other Roads & Signage							(N/A)
168	Parish Benches				450.00	525.13	-75.13	-75.13 (-16%)
169	Defibrillator Support				300.00	370.27	-70.27	-70.27 (-23%)
170	Car Park Licences	300.00	175.00	-125.00				-125.00 (-41%)
171	Pharmacy Licence	50.00		-50.00				-50.00 (-100%)
172	Scout Hut Rental		340.00	340.00				340.00 (N/A)
173	General Donations		2,926.99	2,926.99		27.49	-27.49	2,899.50 (N/A)
174	Volunteer Services					2,598.04	-2,598.04	-2,598.04 (N/A)
175	Wessex Internet					27.00	-27.00	-27.00 (N/A)
179	Miscellaneous							(N/A)
180	Community Events Licences	200.00	300.00	100.00	100.00		100.00	200.00 (66%)
181	Community Events Insurance				200.00	165.80	34.20	34.20 (17%)
182	Community Events Grants							(N/A)
183	Community Events General		680.00	680.00	4,500.00	4,437.67	62.33	742.33 (16%)
184	Inpost Locker	1,200.00	900.00	-300.00				-300.00 (-25%)
	SUB TOTAL	**1,750.00**	**5,321.99**	**3,571.99**	**8,900.00**	**36,080.92**	**-27,180.92**	**-23,608.93 (-221%)**

Lytchett Matravers Parish Council

Summary of Receipts and Payments

All Cost Centres and Codes

Council Related

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
131	Councillor Training				500.00	150.00	350.00	350.00 (70%)
132	Councillor Expenses				200.00	27.90	172.10	172.10 (86%)
133	Chairs Allowance		280.00	280.00	300.00	113.93	186.07	466.07 (155%)
134	Website Support				800.00	431.50	368.50	368.50 (46%)
135	Public Sector Website Complian							(N/A)
136	Data Protection				35.00		35.00	35.00 (100%)
137	Subscriptions				300.00	160.00	140.00	140.00 (46%)
138	Memberships				1,500.00	1,633.69	-133.69	-133.69 (-8%)
139	Publicity/Advertising				200.00		200.00	200.00 (100%)
140	Premises Hire				700.00	780.00	-80.00	-80.00 (-11%)
141	Professional/Legal Services				600.00		600.00	600.00 (100%)
142	Bank Interest	2,000.00	2,478.03	478.03				478.03 (23%)
143	Bank Charges				300.00	160.33	139.67	139.67 (46%)
144	Insurance				3,000.00	2,859.99	140.01	140.01 (4%)
145	Audit				1,500.00	1,296.43	203.57	203.57 (13%)
146	VAT Refund							(N/A)
150	Miscellaneous							(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL	**2,000.00**	**2,758.03**	**758.03**	**9,935.00**	**7,613.77**	**2,321.23**	**3,079.26 (25%)**

Dorset Council

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
201	Dorset Council Precept	120,000.00	120,000.00					(0%)
202	Dorset Council CIL							(N/A)
203	Dorset Council Grants							(N/A)
204	Dorset Council Footpath SLA				600.00		600.00	600.00 (100%)
	SUB TOTAL	**120,000.00**	**120,000.00**		**600.00**		**600.00**	**600.00 (0%)**

Employee Related

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
101	Employee Salaries				25,000.00	16,026.60	8,973.40	8,973.40 (35%)
102	Pension Contributions				6,000.00	5,595.71	404.29	404.29 (6%)
103	National Insurance and Income				2,999.00	5,392.39	-2,393.39	-2,393.39 (-79%)
104	Handyman				5,000.00	3,465.52	1,534.48	1,534.48 (30%)
105	Locum Services				500.00	155.61	344.39	344.39 (68%)
106	Training				250.00	110.00	140.00	140.00 (56%)
107	Expenses				100.00	102.60	-2.60	-2.60 (-2%)
120	Miscellaneous							(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL				**39,849.00**	**30,848.43**	**9,000.57**	**9,000.57 (22%)**

Lytchett Matravers Parish Council

Summary of Receipts and Payments

All Cost Centres and Codes

Highways

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position	
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend	
211	Consultation - Wareham Road					1,895.00	-1,895.00	-1,895.00	(N/A)
212	Consultation - High Street								(N/A)
213	Consultation - Cycleway/Path								(N/A)
214	Consultation - Parking								(N/A)
215	Consultation - 20 MPH								(N/A)
216	Consultation - Astro Car Park								(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL					**1,895.00**	**-1,895.00**	**-1,895.00**	**(N/A)**

Lytchett Astro

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position	
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend	
341	Lytchett Astro Rental/Hire	5,000.00	1,710.50	-3,289.50				-3,289.50	(-65%)
342	Lytchett Astro Utilities								(N/A)
343	Lytchett Astro R&M				7,700.00	6,476.48	1,223.52	1,223.52	(15%)
344	Lytchett Astro Fixtures & Fittings								(N/A)
350	Lytchett Astro Miscellaneous								(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL	**5,000.00**	**1,710.50**	**-3,289.50**	**7,700.00**	**6,476.48**	**1,223.52**	**-2,065.98**	**(-16%)**

Open Spaces

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position	
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend	
231	Recreation Ground Hire								(N/A)
232	Recreation Ground utilities								(N/A)
233	Recreation Ground electric charg		131.99	131.99				131.99	(N/A)
234	Recreation Ground Rocket Park				1,000.00	14,382.26	-13,382.26	-13,382.26	(-1338%
235	Recreation Ground Exercise Equ				600.00		600.00	600.00	(100%)
236	Recreation Ground Skatepark R				500.00	155.00	345.00	345.00	(69%)
237	Recreation Ground General R&M					4,197.65	-4,197.65	-4,197.65	(N/A)
238	Foxhills Play Park R&M								(N/A)
239	Foxhills General R&M				3,500.00	850.00	2,650.00	2,650.00	(75%)
240	Old School Green R&M				700.00	325.00	375.00	375.00	(53%)
241	Library Green R&M				500.00		500.00	500.00	(100%)
242	Safety Inspections				1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	(100%)
243	Other Open Space Maintenance				10,000.00	1,107.43	8,892.57	8,892.57	(88%)
	SUB TOTAL		**131.99**	**131.99**	**17,800.00**	**21,017.34**	**-3,217.34**	**-3,085.35**	**(-17%)**

Parish Office

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position	
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend	
301	Office Rent								(N/A)
302	Office Utilities				300.00	357.27	-57.27	-57.27	(-19%)
303	Office Supplies				300.00	181.07	118.93	118.93	(39%)

Lytchett Matravers Parish Council

Summary of Receipts and Payments

All Cost Centres and Codes

Code	Title							
304	Office Tariff/Feedback							(N/A)
305	Office IT			500.00	723.72	-223.72	-223.72	(-44%)
306	Office Connectivity	15.00	15.00	500.00	244.50	255.50	270.50	(54%)
307	Office R&M			500.00	69.00	431.00	431.00	(86%)
308	Office Fixtures & Fittings			500.00		500.00	500.00	(100%)
309	Car Park Lighting			300.00	136.21	163.79	163.79	(54%)
310	Office Miscellaneous				27.00	-27.00	-27.00	(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL	**15.00**	**15.00**	**2,900.00**	**1,738.77**	**1,161.23**	**1,176.23**	**(40%)**

Sports Pavilion

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position	
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend	
321	Sports Pavilion Rental/Hire								(N/A)
322	Sports Pavilion Utilities					205.78	-205.78	-205.78	(N/A)
323	Sports Pavilion Tariff Feedback								(N/A)
324	Sports Pavilion Connectivity								(N/A)
325	Sports Pavilion R&M				1,000.00	1,210.00	-210.00	-210.00	(-21%)
326	Sports Pavilion Fixtures & Fitting								(N/A)
330	Sports Pavilion Miscellaneous		4,131.54	4,131.54				4,131.54	(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL		**4,131.54**	**4,131.54**	**1,000.00**	**1,415.78**	**-415.78**	**3,715.76**	**(371%)**

The Youth Hall

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position	
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend	
361	Youth Hall Rental/Hire	1,800.00	1,952.00	152.00				152.00	(8%)
362	Youth Hall Utilities				1,200.00	1,443.70	-243.70	-243.70	(-20%)
363	Youth Hall Grants								(N/A)
364	Youth Hall Dorset Youth Associat				9,000.00	4,736.00	4,264.00	4,264.00	(47%)
365	Youth Hall Connectivity								(N/A)
366	Youth Hall R&M				10,000.00	15,461.64	-5,461.64	-5,461.64	(-54%)
367	Youth Hall Kitchen								(N/A)
368	Youth Hall Furniture								(N/A)
369	Youth Hall Fixtures and Fittings								(N/A)
370	Youth Hall Miscellaneous					514.57	-514.57	-514.57	(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL	**1,800.00**	**1,952.00**	**152.00**	**20,200.00**	**22,155.91**	**-1,955.91**	**-1,803.91**	**(-8%)**

WG Highways

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position	
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend	
521	WG Admin								(N/A)
522	Wareham Road Crossing								(N/A)
523	High Street Crossing				75,000.00	4,357.00	70,643.00	70,643.00	(94%)
524	Tesco Island				20,000.00		20,000.00	20,000.00	(100%)
525	20 MPH Zones				30,000.00		30,000.00	30,000.00	(100%)
526	Huntick Path/Cycleway				35,000.00		35,000.00	35,000.00	(100%)
527	Drop Kerb Program								(N/A)
528	Signage								(N/A)

Lytchett Matravers Parish Council

Summary of Receipts and Payments

All Cost Centres and Codes

	SUB TOTAL			**160,000.00**	**4,357.00**	**155,643.00**	**155,643.00 (97%)**

WG Library (RFU)

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
601	WG Admin							(N/A)
602	Legal/Planning Expenses							(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL							**(N/A)**

WG Neighbourhood Plan

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
581	WG Admin				5,000.00	149.00	4,851.00	4,851.00 (97%)
582	NP Revision					3,663.00	-3,663.00	-3,663.00 (N/A)
583	Neighbourhood Plan Training							(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL				**5,000.00**	**3,812.00**	**1,188.00**	**1,188.00 (23%)**

WG Other Premises

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
561	WG Admin							(N/A)
562	Parish Office				6,000.00		6,000.00	6,000.00 (100%)
563	Sports Pavilion				10,000.00		10,000.00	10,000.00 (100%)
564	Lytchett Astro							(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL				**16,000.00**		**16,000.00**	**16,000.00 (100%)**

WG Sports Complex (RFU)

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
621	WG Admin							(N/A)
622	Legal/Planning Expenses					1,845.00	-1,845.00	-1,845.00 (N/A)
623	Groundworks - car park							(N/A)
624	Groundworks - Sports Centre							(N/A)
625	Ongoing management							(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL					**1,845.00**	**-1,845.00**	**-1,845.00 (N/A)**

WG Village Environment

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
501	WG Admin							(N/A)
502	Recreation Ground - Rocket Par							(N/A)
503	Recreation Ground - Exercise Ec							(N/A)

Lytchett Matravers Parish Council

Summary of Receipts and Payments

All Cost Centres and Codes

504	Recreation Ground Skatepark							(N/A)
505	Recreation Ground General							(N/A)
506	Recreation Ground - Hannams C				8,000.00		8,000.00	8,000.00 (100%)
507	Foxhills Play Park							(N/A)
508	Foxhills General							(N/A)
509	Allotments							(N/A)
510	Cemetery/Closed Churchyard							(N/A)
511	Village Improvements					19,844.93	-19,844.93	-19,844.93 (N/A)
	SUB TOTAL				**8,000.00**	**19,844.93**	**-11,844.93**	**-11,844.93 (-148%)**

WG Village Hall (RFU)

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
611	WG Admin							(N/A)
612	Legal/Planning Expenses							(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL							**(N/A)**

WG Youth Hall

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
541	WG Admin							(N/A)
542	Youth Hall							(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL							**(N/A)**

Summary

NET TOTAL	**137,650.00**	**140,176.05**	**2,526.05**	**303,434.00**	**163,696.26**	**139,737.74**	**142,263.79**
V.A.T.		19,243.73			12,915.02		
GROSS TOTAL		**159,419.78**			**176,611.28**		

Appendix 3

Lytchett Matravers Parish Council

Community Asset Transfer Request – Lytchett Library

January 2026

We recently applied (again) to have the library transferred to the PC under the Community Asset Transfer scheme. That was refused because with the following comment:

I have discussed the application with the Service Manager for Libraries, and I have been informed that Dorset Council is committed to the library in Lytchett Matravers. Therefore, in accordance with the council's community asset transfer policy the asset is not available for transfer as it is used operationally by Dorset Council to deliver council services.

While this is good news that DC are committed to our library, for how long we don't know.

Options

1. Stay as is, DC continue to run the library. The PC 'secures' the library by registering it as an 'Asset of Community Value'. This would give us the first right of 'purchase' should they decide to close in future. That right would probably mean taking option 2.

2. We opt for a community library whereby we need to staff with volunteers. DC supply books, technology, etc. but no staff. The benefit is that the PC obtain ownership of the building and land as a library/hub for the future. It would also allow us to extend the building into the courtyard for more space.

Recommendation: Option 1

The process for Option 1 will establish some further detail and should help address the longer term plans for the library. Based on our previous efforts to assign a similar status to British Legion building, this is not a simple process. It would require us to evidence the community usage and plans for a library and a building that could act as a central hub.