

NEWSLETTER for PYMORE VILLAGE MANAGEMENT COMPANY (PVMC)



Newsletter 16: 31st August 2024 (1/4)

PVMC BOARD

Current directors:

- Sandra Barnes: Treasurer, Risk Management
- Lorna Coward: Secretary
- Eliot Forsey: Chair, General Works
- Moira Shaw: Director Without Portfolio
- Helen Williams: Environment, Green Areas



The board continues to meet monthly with a minimum quorum of 4 directors.

PVMC AGM

- 2023 AGM: Was held on 19th October 2023 – 17 shareholders attended. The minutes were posted on the PVMC website and will be circulated to shareholders by MW Burrough in advance of the 2024 AGM.
- 2024 AGM: This will be held on Thursday 31st October 2024 - details will be sent to you in advance of the meeting. Please join us for updates and discussion on PVMC activities - we welcome your attendance.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT for 2023 (end of year)

- INCOME 2023: £17,714.25
In line with the estate charge plus additional income for clearing/repairs to the leat and donations received towards the defibrillator of £425.
- SPEND 2023: £12,133.20 including:
 - Work to surface water pump: £462.60
 - Landscaping, tree, leat: £5,774
 - Underspend of £2,836, for reasons discussed in 2023
 - £370.50 of costs recovered from BTD Pension Fund
 - Repairs to the courtyard wall: £1,328
- OVERAL POSITION - end of year: £33,576.23
 - Carry forward fund as insurance against future unknown costs.
 - Our insurance brokers were unable to obtain an insurance quote for material damage therefore, renewal was £675 less than budget. It was decided to retain that as part of the contingency fund.
- Estate charge for 2024: £220 (increase 10%).

Additional details on PVMC finances will be sent to all shareholders in advance of the 2024 AGM

Reminders: PVMC REMIT

To manage the Pymore estate (which includes land and structures, for example - riverbanks, reed beds, trees, walls, footbridge) in a cost effective manner ensuring that covenanted agreements are met and that appropriate insurance cover is kept up to date.

WEBSITE

PVMC website: pvmcltd.com

Includes for example: AGM minutes, newsletters, photographs

If you have any comments on the website, please contact Moira Shaw.

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GREEN AREAS

- Matt Valaitis is the contractor for the village (he started in 2023).
- Matt worked through the winter generally catching up with the weeding, pollarding willows, trimming bushes, keeping the fish pass clear etc.
- With all the rain over the winter and the frequent flooding, a lot of silt was deposited on the banks containing thousands of Himalayan Balsam seeds which all sprang up mid spring this year, some in places not seen before. Matt managed to cut a lot of it back, though some areas are growing again – work is ongoing although some locations are beyond easy reach.
- Most of the willows at the north end of the village were significantly pollarded. Time was spent cutting out the dead wood and now these trees will be easier to keep shaped each year (autumn /winter).
- Forest and Tree Care have been asked to come and trim some taller trees in the autumn including checking and trimming the ash tree by 1 Thread Mill Lane which has some die back.
- With the warm wet spring and summer, the grass has needed cutting frequently and for the first time the wildflower banks, on the advice of the Dorset Wildlife Trust, have been cut in July rather than waiting until October. The last cut is still planned for autumn.
- Weeding is a continual task – Matt has found this hard to keep up with as green growth has been phenomenal this year. We are grateful to Steve Rose for help with this.



- Volunteers: We are grateful to the volunteers who helped with:
 - Planting of daffodils around the village (bulbs donated by Groves).
 - Pulling of Mares' tail on the Morbae Grove wildflower bank.
 - Raking and clearing of the wildflower banks in spring and summer.
- Reedbed 2024:
 - We are due to cut back 1/3 of the reedbed this year (every 2 years). We plan this for Friday, Saturday and Monday 1st-4th November.
 - Matt will be assisted by Andre Reynolds.
 - It looks like the full cost for contractors will be covered by grants promised for the work. We are very grateful to Dorset National Landscapes, Wessex Water and Bridport Town Council for their support with this.



YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU



To minimise costs, we regularly look for volunteers to support PVMC activities around Pymore, for example with the wildflower banks and with reed bed activities. All ages welcome!

We specifically need volunteers for clearing of the reedbed 1st-4th November.

If you are able/willing, please let Lorna Coward know (lornacoward@aol.com)

Thank you to those who speak personally with us or send emails asking about work needed doing in various areas and for giving feedback from time to time

Reminders: PVMC CONTRACTORS

Contractors employed by PVMC directors should not be approached by residents with requests to change or expand the designated work schedule.

If a resident has concerns with the work being carried out, please contact a director.

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RIVER BRIT

The winter of 2023/2024 was incredibly wet. The river rose many times and in November 2023, the height of the river at Netherbury (monitoring station) was around the same level as that experienced in July 2012. Thankfully, our flood alleviation scheme works well – no properties were flooded.



The heavy rain and high water brings the silt into Pymore. This blocks the fish pass (which is regularly cleared) and silts up stretches of the river through Pymore. In November 2023, the Environment Agency cleared the slit in the Mill Basin – there was much excitement with huge diggers on-site. We will continue to monitor the silt levels around the village.

Water Guardians: As part of the Citizen Science initiative, an individual (who does not live in Pymore) has volunteered to periodically sample and test the water quality of the Pymore stretch of the River Brit. We have asked the volunteer to share the data with us however, the nature of the wildlife in Pymore, indicates a decent water quality (eels, otters).

STRUCTURES

Periodic repairs are made to various structures that the PVMC is responsible for, for example –ongoing work to the Pymore Island car park wall and repairs to paving. We have recently assessed the railings around Pymore and will start renovation work on the railings in phases.

NEW BRIDPORT AREA COUNCIL

PVMC met with Bradpole Parish Council and Bridport Town Council (BTC) last year. Following the reorganisation of the area and elections earlier this year, PVMC has again met with BTC (summer 2024). We have the following discussions ongoing with BTC:

- Highways responsibilities for the verges and railings along the adopted roads.
- Central composting facilities.
- Service Level Agreement between PVMC and BTC supporting work on the reed bed.
- Pymore visit for the new councillors from the Bradpole ward.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Defibrillator: As you know, Moira Shaw and Caroline Evans spearheaded an initiative to install a defibrillator in Pymore. Supported by a government grant, we spent £750 on the purchase of a defibrillator and £195 on installation (location – Turner Build, Unit C, Pymore Mills, DT6 5PJ). The total cost was £945 which was fully covered by donations from 16 households (£845) and Magna (£100). Thankyou Moira and Caroline for driving this!



Life Buoy: Thanks to a grant from Bradpole Parish Council, we purchased and installed a second life buoy in Pymore – on the Morbae Grove slipway.

PYMORE VOICE

In 2023, BTC suggested we consider identifying Pymore representatives who can represent the area on broader matters beyond the PVMC remit. Matt Evans and Phyllida Culpin stepped up and have set-up the PYMORE VOICE

**Your village,
your voice!**

We've set up *Pymore Voice* to take input from all residents, including those in Pymore Terrace, Queenwell and the Pymore Road cottages. Contact Matt Evans or Phyllida Culpin with your views on village issues at: pymorevoice@gmail.com

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Residents are welcome to comment or make any proposals for the board's consideration - please contact any PVMC director



PVMC DIRECTORS

- Sandra Barnes: Treasurer and Risk Management
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