

Dear Sir,

This is to advise you that as from May of this year I will no longer be editing the Toller Porcorum website and unless someone else wishes to take over or start a new site it will cease to exist. I started the site in December 2012 at the request of the Parish Council to act as a one-stop site for all information concerning the activities in the village and useful contacts for our villagers and those visiting the area as well as fulfilling the need for Parish Council minutes to be published on the internet under a recent government directive.

Over the years we have lost many of the activities that it first reported on, Arts Reach stopped coming to the village due to funding cuts for the arts, The Toller and Hooke Amateur Dramatic Society faded away, the gardening club closed down, The Community Land Trust finished building its houses, The Old Swan group disbanded, The Trailway has completed the stretch to Powerstock, The Fish Wife no longer visits, The Kingcombe Centre has been taken over by The Dorset Wildlife Trust, The Maiden Newton Surgery has been take over by Ammonite, information from the Police and from the Environment Agency seems to have dried up and there is no longer a need for a bus timetable among other changes.

All this along with the emergence of other information channels has caused the web site to be come rather redundant. The Village Hall has created its own web site and no longer needs to advertise on the village web site, Ammonite has superseded the need for the doctors' information, The Dorset Wildlife Trust includes all the information about the Kingcombe Centre, we have The Toller Times distributed fortnightly to every resident with the latest village information, we have Facebook page with daily updates, the creation of the Parish Council website removed the need to publish its activities in the village website. The only remaining organisation to use the village website was the Recreation Area Committee and now this will devolve to the Parish Council and its information will be published on their web site. The Church never wanted to use the village web site as it has its own team ministry site and also distributes Team News.

When I started the village website it regularly got 30 to 40 hits each day, now it averages 3 or 4 hits each day. No one has passed me any information to include on the village website for over a year apart from the Recreation Area committee and the Village Show. I must therefore conclude that not many people find the website as useful as it once was and to a great extent has no real purpose anymore. I own the web site and pay £170.00 every two years to the company that publishes it and the Parish Council has always reimbursed me for this cost. It started as a free site but in 2018 the Parish Council wanted the then clerk to have editorial control of their pages on the site and so it had to upgrade to a 'pro' site and payment was required for facilitating more than one editor.

Since the Parish Council opened its own web site I have tried to revert to a free site but this isn't possible without changing the name and address of the site, which would mean people would have to search for it anew. So I feel that it is best to close it down rather than the Council incur a cost when all the remaining village web site information is available elsewhere for free. The domain name: [www.tollerporcorum.org](http://www.tollerporcorum.org) is owned by the Parish council and its paid for by them directly to 123Reg ([www.123-reg.co.uk](http://www.123-reg.co.uk)) on a regular basis by the parish clerk, it was originally bought from Domain Monster who were subsequently acquired by 123REG. If you wish to retain this domain the payment, which

is only a few pounds every three or four years, needs to be kept up or the domain will be surrendered and become available for anyone to buy.

It has been interesting and a lot of fun to run the web site but it does seem rather pointless now to simply repeat information from these other sources that I have to search out. If someone else wants to take over the site I would be happy to transfer it to them but it would still cost the council about £85 per year, which it seems could be better spent elsewhere. The next payment is due on 20th May 2024 and I will not be paying it. Unless someone else takes over the site it will cease to be published from that date. Please let me know if you need any further information.

Kind Regards

Peter Davies