

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of The Stours Parish Council meeting held at 7.30pm on Thursday 9th May 2013 in Stour Provost Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllrs Mrs J Watkins (Chairman), Mrs D Chard, R Cowan, G Herring, T Jones, Mrs V Jones, Mrs L Newton, Miss H O'Sullivan, M Ratcliffe, M Rymill, Mrs M Rymill, Mrs E Scott, Mrs P Sealy and Mrs C Wilkins.

Also present the Clerk, Mrs M Cox and Mr Hibbert.

The Chairman welcomed everybody present.

Reports, Pre-business matters items and Public participation

DCC MEMBER REPORT – No report received. Cllr Cattaway was re-elected as County Councillor.

NDDC MEMBER REPORT – No report received. Cllr Traci Handford is the District Councillor for the Stours.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION –

Michael Ratcliffe made a short presentation to the members present regarding future broadband services within the Stours area. His company Blackmore Vale Broadband Company Limited has carried out research within this area and appears that 10% is a white area (hard to reach) and the company want to do something about getting faster broadband speeds. Mr Ratcliffe understands that the Superfast Broadband project will not cover this area sufficiently. DCC and NDDC are supporting their initiative. In order to bid for finance they need a submission of interest from the parish council to DEFRA by the 24th May 2013. Mr Ratcliffe asked that a letter of support be sent. The feeling from the members was taken and it was agreed that it is essential that we need to have an improved broadband service within the Stours. This not being an agenda item the Council could not formally support the initiative so the Clerk and Chairman agreed to look into what could be done for Mr Ratcliffe's request. A show of hands took place with the majority in favour.

Footpath and Tree Liaison Officers' report

Mr Martin Hibbert said that the footpath from Riversdale Farm to Quarry Close will be having the stiles replaced with gates. Shade House Farm the main part of the diverted footpath has been completed avoiding the slurry pit. Mr Stratton, Tile House Farm has an application for a footpath diversion. The Ramblers Association have been consulted as statutory consultees. There appears to be no issues and this diversion will be on DCC's list to do. The paperwork for Mead Farm has just been submitted.

The footpath is still blocked at Lyde Farm, Mr Hibbert will talk to Mr Trim.

In general the footpaths are not too bad considering the weather.

Mr Hibbert was thanked for his hard work and it is greatly appreciated what he is doing for the Stours.

Transport: Cllr Mrs Newton said that there has not been a transport meeting.

Flood Warden – no report received.

BUSINESS AGENDA

2013/51 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Mrs J Watkins was proposed by Cllr Mrs Jones, seconded by Cllr Mrs Newton and agreed by all. Elected unopposed.

2013/52 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Cllr R Cowan was proposed by Cllr Mrs Chard, seconded by Cllr Mrs Newton and agreed by all. Elected unopposed.

2013/53 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs Mrs B Edwards, P Gould, J Parker and Lady Stagg.

2013/54 DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Members are reminded that if they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) on their register relating to any item on this agenda, they may not take part in the debate and may not vote. If they have a DPI on any item that

is not on their register they must declare that interest, take no part in the debate or vote and register such interest within 28 days.

2013/55 TO CONSIDER GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS

None received.

2013/56 APPOINTMENT TO VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEES.

Stour Provost – Cllr Mrs C Wilkins

Stour Row – Cllr Mrs J Watkins

East Stour - deferred to next meeting

Proposed by Cllr Mrs Rymill, seconded by Cllr Mrs Jones and agreed by all.

2013/57 TO CONFIRM POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Chairmen of Parish Meetings. Proposed by Cllr Miss O’Sullivan. Seconded by Cllr Mrs E Newton and agreed by all.

2013/58 TO CONFIRM PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEES FOR EAST STOUR AND STOUR PROVOST.

East Stour – to be confirmed at the next meeting. Stour Provost – All the Stour Provost Councillors. Proposed by Cllr Miss O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr Mrs Newton and agreed by all.

2013/59 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO REPRESENT THE PARISH FOR DAPTC, CPRE, NDDC, DCC TRANSPORT, FLOODWARDEN, CRIME AND HOMEWATCH

DAPTC –Cllr J Parker.

CPRE – vacant.

NDDC & DCC – Cllr Mrs J Watkins.

Transport – Cllr Mrs E Newton.

Crime and Homewatch –.Cllr J Parker.

Flood Warden – vacant.

All the above were proposed ‘*en-bloc*’ by Cllr Miss O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr Mrs Jones and agreed by all.

2013/60 TO CONFIRM FOOTPATH AND TREE LIAISON OFFICERS.

Stour Provost footpaths including Stour Row – Mr M Hibbert. Tree liaison officer for Stour Provost – Cllr Lady Stagg.

East Stour and West Stour – deferred to next meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Miss O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilkins and agreed by all.

2013/61 RESOLUTIONS BY STATUTE.

The list of deeds and trusts held by Lloyds TSB Bank PLC were read out by the Clerk. Items held are the same as last year.

Trustees for the National Savings Bank Account – Cllrs Mrs D Chard and Mrs J Watkins.

Proposed by Cllr Cowan, seconded by Cllr Herring and agreed by all.

2013/62 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES of the parish council meeting of 14th March 2013. The Minutes were **agreed** to be a correct record and duly signed. Proposed Cllr T Jones seconded Cllr Little.

2013/63 MATTERS ARISING

- Stour Provost Bus shelter – Stour Provost parish has had the great expense of paying for the water pipe replacement/repairs at the pavilion and during the present financial year cannot afford to purchase the bus shelter. Following enquiries there appears not to be a need for one. The present one at Quarry Close is being used. It was agreed that if the situation changes to bring the matter up again.
- Fencing around the Millennium Green, Todber has been added to our asset register and Risk Assessment schedule, value £2800.
- Speed along the A30 King’s Arms to East Stour Crossroads. This has been acted upon and speed camera vans have been seen.

2013/64 CASUAL VACANCIES FOR EAST STOUR AND STOUR PROVOST WARDS

Michael Ratcliffe was co-opted for the Stour Provost ward, proposed by Cllr Mrs Jones, seconded by Cllr Mrs C Wilkins. Cllr Ratcliffe duly signed the “Acceptance of Office”.

East Stour - still a vacancy.

2013/65 PLANNING MATTERS

- Appeal Decision1 Church Close, Todber ref APP/N1215/A/12/2185637/NWF. Planning permission is granted to form additional office with storage under including conversion of part loft and additional parking spaces. Todber Village are naturally disappointed with the Planning inspectorate's decision. However there are a number of conditions that must be adhered to. It was agreed that a letter be written to Development Control to reiterate that the planning conditions are met.
- Applications received since last meeting.
See attached appendix 1 for list of applications and decisions received since last meeting.

2013/66 CORRESPONDENCE

- North Dorset Citizens Advice Bureau thanking the Council for the generous donation of £500. They are very grateful indeed for the show of support for the work NDCAB do.
- Toby's Young Peoples Project thanking the Council for the £200 generous donation.
- Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance acknowledging receipt of £500. They also pass on their grateful thanks to the Council for their generous consideration.

2013/67 DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs). Clerk to clarify the position regarding the present proposed request for a 30mph speed limit along Church Lane, Todber from Sue Sadler, Technical Officer DCC, as the letter states that during the financial year 2013/14 there will be no new speed limits.
- A30 West Stour to Kington Magna Junction, 27 June 2013 – 12 July 2013. The closure will be in place between the hours of 0900 and 1630 hours. The road will be opened at night and weekends if applicable (previously circulated).
- Highways Vegetation Management Programme 2013/14 (previously circulated).

2013/68 NORTH DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

No matters came to our attention.

2013/69 CLERK'S PENSION

The Chairman, Cllr Parker and Clerk to arrange a mutually convenient meeting. Deferred to the next meeting as Cllr Parker has sent his apologies for not attending this meeting.

2013/70 GYPSY AND TRAVELLERS AT FIVE BRIDGES WEST STOUR

Following a Court Order to move the Travellers from Five Bridges the Travellers' legal representative has appealed against the Order for Possession granted by Yeovil Court and the case has been referred to Bristol County Court. Deferred to the next meeting.

2013/71 GYPSY AND TRAVELLER NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2013 – CONSULATION BY OPINION RESEARCH SERVICES (ORS) WITH PARISH COUNCILS

Form duly completed with the main comments referring to the Travellers illegally pitched at Five Bridges West Stour.

2013/72 EAST STOUR VILLAGE ACTION PLAN

Cllr Little gave a brief update of the Action Plan (previously the Parish/Village Plan). Village Hall car park a new fence has been erected, 200 beech wood saplings bought and planted. The entrance kerb will be re-positioned as the existing lay out is too dangerous. 20 trees have been ordered for the playing field which will be planted in the autumn. A funding application has been made to NDDC and the outcome will be known by September 2013. There will be one more fund raising event on the 28th July "Afternoon Tea" as it is the 40th anniversary of the hall being built. The derelict land by Oswald's Barn, DCC has given permission that it can be tidied up. There are plans to landscape it. Brian Down has offered to lend the heavy equipment needed. There is a "Working Group" to explore the viability of a village shop. Questionnaires are to be developed and delivered.

2013/73 EAST STOUR ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Miss O'Sullivan said that there are two allotment spaces available at Cole Street Farm. It will be discussed at East Stour Parish meeting whether there is still a need for the allotments by the Fieldings. Clerk to advise Spectrum (Signpost) Housing of the outcome.

2013/74 SHAFTESBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Does our council needs to influence the Shaftesbury Neighbourhood Plan? (e-mail circulated). It was agreed that we do not need to.

2013/75 ELECTORAL REVIEW OF NORTH DORSET

The consultation is being carried out to balance all the wards. The Stours area appears not to be affected.

2013/76 FINANCE – ACCOUNTS

Accounts for the period 1st March 2013 – 30th April 2013

Payments

DD	TalkTalk	18.40
1488	ESE Direct supply of grit bin	127.44
1489	S Corfield – domestic duties pavilion	30.00
1490	Stour Row Village Hall hire	12.00
1491	Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance – grant	500.00
1492	NDCAB grant	500.00
1493	Toby's Young People project grant	200.00
1494	S J Stokes hedge cutting E S & SP	165.00
1495	S J Stokes V Hall hedge cutting	80.00
SO	Safe Custody Fee	7.50
1496	D Little ESPP reimburse expenses	15.00
1497	Mrs M Cox sal & exp Feb	411.59
1498	HMRC 3 months tax	272.80
1501	D Little reimburse Ashridge Trees (ESPP)	396.88
1502	Bourton Fencing	403.20
1503	Mr A Balchin (contribution tree surgery)	200.00
DD	TalkTalk	21.33
1504	SD Playgrounds inspection fee	52.92
1505	St Andrew's Church Todber grant	150.00
1506	Mrs M Cox sal & exp March	432.36
1507	Southern electric pavilion	7.81
1508	St Andrew's Church Todber meetings	50.00
1509	Stour Row Village Hall	6.00
Total		4060.23

Receipts

NDDC Precept	10287.50
Southern & Scottish Electricity	29.62
Stour Provost FC	30.00
Wessex Water refund	79.32
East Stour Village Hall	10.00
Total	10436.44

Balance of Accounts as at 30th April 2013 – NSB £4854.86. Scottish Widows - £7931.58. Lloyds TSB plc – £12215.63. (Included in these balances is £2055.00 which has been ring fenced for Clerk's pension (min ref 2010/94).

Copy of account reconciliation and comparison of expenditure to budget 1.4.13 to 30.04.13 were handed out.

The council **approved** the accounts. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Jones, seconded by Cllr Miss O'Sullivan and agreed by all.

2013/77 FINANCE – PAYMENTS

- DAPTC annual subscription - £457.81
- Western Counties cleaning - £48.00 (cleaning of bus shelters).
- Mrs M Cox - £108.00 reimburse the cost of photocopier toner
- Mrs M Cox - £9.99 reimburse the cost of a USB stick
- Stour Provost Village Hall hire - £15.
- P M Buttress grass maintenance - £190.00.

It was agreed to pay the above items *en-bloc* proposed by Cllr Miss O' Sullivan, seconded by Cllr M Rymill and agreed by all.

- The PCC of Christ Church, East Stour wish to apply for an increase of the sum currently £200 per year to £300 with effect from November 2013. It was proposed that the sum be increased to £300 by Cllr Miss O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr Rymill and agreed by all.

Local Delivery Project First Instalment

a) It was agreed to pay Gillingham Town Council £426.72 and Shaftesbury Town Council £336.00 Proposed by Cllr T Jones, seconded by Cllr Miss O'Sullivan and agreed by all.

2013/78 AUDIT FOR THE YEAR END 31ST MARCH 2013

Section 1 – The Council approved the accounts for the financial year 2012/2013.(previously circulated).

Section 2 – The Chairman read out the Statement of Assurance to the members present (which also had been previously circulated), duly completed by and approved by the Council. Proposed by Cllr Miss O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr Mrs Rymill and agreed by all.

2013/79 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

a). Chairman's

The Chairman said that there is very little to report. Cllr Cattaway was re-elected on the 2nd May. The Stour Lane, Woodville the road and the passing bays have all been re-surfaced.

b). Clerk's

- Community.com. Local Councils update. The Clerk Journal. Clerk & Councils Direct and LCR.
- DAPTC – Chief Executive's Circulars – previously circulated.

c). Playing fields

East Stour – Following SD Playground's inspection report some minor matters are being attended to.

Stour Provost – The tree surgery has been carried out on the trees between Springfield and the playing field.

The water meter is read monthly. The hire of the pavilion and or playing field fees have been revised to £15 for Stour Provost residents and £25 to outsiders.

d). Crime – P C Maureen Hayward's report was read to the meeting. Ringmaster messages are circulated by e-mail.

e) DAPTC – The next Northern Area meeting is Monday 13th May 2013, Gillingham Town Hall.

f) CPRE - Countryside Voice and Fieldwork.

2013/80 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- Swings at Stour Row Village Hall.
- Planning Applications.
- Woodland Trust – free trees.
- All Saints Church Stour Row request for an increase to the annual grant.
- Gypsy and Travellers at Five Bridges.
- Broadband.
- The venues for holding parish council meetings.

2013/81 DATE OF FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ALL THURSDAYS AT 7.30pm

11 July 2013 at East Stour, 12 September 2013 at Stour Row, 14 November 2013 at West Stour,

9 January 2014 at Stour Provost, 13 March 2014 at East Stour, 8 May 2014 at Stour Row, 10 July 2014 at West Stour, 11 September 2014 at Stour Provost, 13 November 2014 at East Stour.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm and thanked everyone for attending.

.....Chairman

Date