

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of The Stours Parish Council meeting held at 7.30pm on Thursday 10th May 2012 in Stour Row Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllrs J Parker (Vice-Chairman), Mrs D Chard, R Cowan, Mrs B Edwards, P Gould, Mrs V Jones, Mrs L Newton, Miss H O'Sullivan, Mrs S Panton, M Rymill, Mrs M Rymill, Mrs P Sealy and Mrs C Wilkins.

Also present the Clerk, Mrs M Cox, NDDCllr P Webb and three members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everybody present.

Reports, Pre-business matters items and Public participation

DCC MEMBER REPORT – No report

NDDC MEMBER REPORT – Cllr Webb said that there is a lot going on within the District Council. It is a slow process and there will be a number of changes. The Local Plan is expected to be approved next March/April. Neighbourhood planning must conform to the National Policy Planning Framework and Local Policies. Housing will be promoted. The Gypsy and Traveller sites consultation will resurface. The Rolls Mill site at Sturminster Newton has been removed from the Gypsy and Traveller list as it is an ideal enterprise site. Superfast Broadband in Dorset is a complicated matter, but it will mean a vision being turned into a reality.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION –

Mr D Wiggins and Mrs A Heywood spoke about the problems of flooding along Scotchey Lane. There are problems with flooding, drainage and clearance of ditches. This has been reported to DCC last October. The source of water is unknown. The Chairman said that we now report highway issues to the Depot at Henstridge and we are Area 6. The Clerk to give the contact numbers of Mr Dunford (Community Officer) and Mr Skeats (Technical officer at Gibbs Marsh) to Mr Wiggins and Mrs Heywood.

Footpath and Tree Liaison Officers' report

Mr Martin Hibbert gave an overall report for the Stours (please see attached).

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 the Olympic Torch Relay is scheduled for Shaftesbury 12th July.

The road will be closed between 8 – 10.30 am. There will be a park and ride scheme.

The bus service from East Stour to Blandford goes on to Poole (there is no need to change).

Flood Warden – no report received.

It was commented that there has recently been some flooding at Red Lane, Todber. This has occurred since DCC carried out some highway improvements last year. Should there be a reoccurrence of flooding to let DCC Highways know.

BUSINESS AGENDA

2012/44 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Mrs J Watkins was proposed by Cllr Mrs Newton, seconded by Cllr Mrs Jones and agreed by all. Elected unopposed. As Cllr Mrs Watkins was unable to attend the meeting Cllr Parker chaired this meeting.

2012/45 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Vice-Chairman – Cllr J Parker was proposed by Cllr Mrs Sealy, seconded by Cllr Miss O’Sullivan and agreed by all. Elected unopposed.

2012/46 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs G Herring, T Jones, Mrs V Lowe, L Payne, Mrs E Scott and Mrs J Watkins.

2012/47 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS – Cllr J Parker, prejudicial interest for agenda item 24 the authorisation of DAPTC subscription renewal and any other matters pertaining to DAPTC, being an employee of Dorset Association of Town and Parish Councils.

2012/48 APPOINTMENT TO VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEES.

Deferred to next meeting

2012/49 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.

2012/50 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 Rymill and agreed by all.

2012/51 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO REPRESENT THE PARISH FOR DAPTC, CPRE, NDDC, DCC TRANSPORT, FLOODWARDEN, CRIME AND HOMEWATCH

DAPTC – Cllr Mrs D Chard.

CPRE – Cllr Mrs S Panton.

NDDC & DCC – Cllr Mrs J Watkins.

Transport – Cllr Mrs E Newton.

Crime and Homewatch – Cllr J Parker.

Flood Warden – to ask Cllr Payne if he will continue the post.

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

2012/52 TO CONFIRM FOOTPATH AND TREE LIAISON OFFICERS.

East Stour, Stour Provost including Stour Row and West Stour – deferred to next meeting.

Todber – Cllr R Cowan. Proposed by Cllr Miss O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilkins and agreed by all.

2012/53 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 Mrs Wilkins, seconded by Cllr Mrs Jones and agreed by all.

2012/54 MINUTES of the parish council meeting of 8th March 2012. The Minutes were **agreed** to be a correct record and duly signed. Proposed Cllr Mrs Jones seconded Cllr Miss O'Sullivan.

2012/55 MATTERS ARISING

- Allotments. The Clerk read out the e-mail sent by Wendy Dyer. Legal Officer, Spectrum Housing quoting the development officer's response. Wendy will speak to the solicitor to decide the best way forward. It was agreed to invite the Development Officer to one of our meetings to clarify the issue.
- Stour Provost Bus shelter. If there is no further developments by the next meeting it was agreed that we would write to DCC Highways.

2012/56 PLANNING MATTERS

- Appeal decision Coking Farm, West Stour (APP/N1215/A/11/2162119) development proposed is use of land for stationing six static caravans for holiday use in association with existing fishing lakes. Appeal dismissed.
- Section 211: Notification of intent to carry out works to tree(s) within a conservation area Church House, Stour Provost remove poplars, macrocarpas & willow. The trees being removed are diseased and the healthy ones are not being cut.
- Applications received since last meeting.
See attached appendix 1 for list of applications and decisions received since last meeting.

2012/57 CORRESPONDENCE

- A community steering group with Mere Parish Council is being set up to discuss the low flows in the Shreen and Ashfield Waters. Cllr Parker said he had intended to attend this meeting but it clashed with a DAPTC meeting. However this will be monitored.
- 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 £300. They also pass on their grateful thanks to Council members.
- St John Ambulance – Having Access to a defibrillator within your community could be the difference between a life lost and a life saved. It was agreed not to have one.
- Dorset Police Enquiry Review revised Enquiry Office opening times effective 1st May 2012.

2012/58 DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- Grass cutting regime for 2012 – previously circulated. The council might need to take on additional services so this will be discussed at a future date.
- Changes to Routine Maintenance – previously circulated.
- Letter from Andrew Brown, Traffic Engineering Team Manger. Their budgets have been drastically cut and to improve their service they will only consider request from town or parish councils after a local discussion has been held. (Letter previously circulated).
- Dorset Highways Capital Programme - April 2012 to March 2013 previously circulated.
- Mobile Library Service Review - previously circulated. The mobile library keeps a log of visits as they have annual reviews of usage. Following closure of some static libraries the mobile service now has to make another 9 stops. Should usage at a designated stop decline it might cease. Comments to Clerk to forward to DCC.
- Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders Dover Street Stour Row and Todber 30th May – 4th July, New Lane, Stour Provost 8th May for 4 weeks (previously circulated).
- Consultation on Community Involvement in Snow Clearing Operations responses by 25th May (previously circulated). Concerns were raised about the rates that will be charged. Cllr Gould

will contact DCC for further information. Councillors to let the Clerk know yes or No and their thoughts.

2012/59 NORTH DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

North Dorset Travel Study Workshop, 14th June 2012 at the District Council Offices. Cllr Mrs Newton might attend. To ask Mrs Diana West (POPP) who is involved with this if she can give us a report.

2012/60 LOCALISM ACT – STANDARDS NEW CODE OF CONDUCT

This is supposed to be adopted by 1st July 2012. However the Secretary of State has not defined disclosure of 'pecuniary interests' (DPIs). National Association of Local Councils (NALC) has said that some councils will be unable to adopt the new code by 1st July as they do not meet every month. The District Council could issue a common model code for all town and parish councils to adopt. However town and parish councils could devise their own code as long as it complies with the Act. NALC will issue a model code. One important change is the failure to disclose a member's pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest (including spouses, partners or somebody you are living with) is a criminal offence. This will mean that the Stours will be unable to adopt the new code by 1st July 2012.

2012/61 PUBLIC SECTOR MAPPING

To assist in identifying rights of way within the parish boundaries it was agreed that the Stours Parish Council join the Public Sector Mapping Agreement (PSMA).

2012/62 WITCH LANE, EAST STOUR

Letter received from Mrs J Gould regarding the "Slow" sign painted on road to be moved a few metres beyond their house. For Highways to move the painted sign the parish council needs to agree to this request. It was decided that as DC Highways had put the sign in place which met with the original priority of providing a warning to road users of the playing field entrance, it would not be right to ask them to paint it over and re-paint it further back, especially given the current financial constraints under which they are operating. Clerk to write to Mrs Gould advising her of the council's decision.

2012/63 EAST STOUR PARISH PLAN

The questionnaires were hand delivered and the majority of householders responded. David Little is analysing the results using 'Survey Monkey' which cost £150 for 6 months. It is proving to be a mammoth task. Another Open Day is planned for later in the year. A huge thanks was given to all the volunteers.

2012/64 REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

Deferred to the next meeting.

2012/65 STOUR PROVOST PAVILION – WATER SUPPLY/PRESSURE PROBLEMS

Deferred to the next meeting.

2012/66 FINANCE – ACCOUNTS

Accounts for the period 1st March 2012 – 30th April 2012

Payments

1379	S J Stokes hedge cutting	170.00
1380	P S Cox erection of notice board	60.00
1381	NDCAB grant	500.00
1382	Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance – grant	300.00
1383	Toby's Young People Project – grant	200.00
1384	TalkTalk broadband	18.91
1385	Mrs M Cox sal & exp Feb	385.62
1386	HMRC 3 mths tax	272.80
SO	Safe Custody Fee	7.50
1401	Plumber Manor (dup chq water heater)	51.58
1402	Nugent Plumbing pavilion	474.00
1403	SD Playgrounds inspection fee	50.40
1404	TalkTalk broadband	19.09
1405	St Andrew's Church Todber grant	150.00
1406	Mrs M Cox sal & exp March	378.63
1407	Jason Eyres Todber Millennium Green	34.46
Total		3072.99

Receipts

Scottish Widows interest	47.16
Southern & Scottish Electricity	28.40
Stour Provost FC	75.00
NSB Int	9.64
NDDC Precept (first half)	12625.00
Total	12785.20

Balance of Accounts as at 30th April 2012 – NSB £4828.87. Scottish Widows - £12778.21. Lloyds TSB plc – £15572.05. (Included in these balances is the £1,370 which has been ring fenced for Clerk's pension (min ref 2010/94).

Copy of account reconciliation and comparison of expenditure to budget to 30.04.12 were handed out.

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

2012/67 FINANCE – PAYMENTS

Local Delivery Project First Instalment

a) To pay The Gillingham Community and Leisure Trust Limited £4537.00 towards the revenue support grant

b) To pay Gillingham Town Council £426.72 and Shaftesbury Town Council £241.92.

Proposed by Cllr Mrs Newton, seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilkins and agreed by all.

- It was agreed to renew the annual insurance payment to Came Company (Aviva) of £1425 for 16 months (Long Term Agreement expires 30.9.15).
- Southern Electric £3.79 (Pavilion).
- Western Counties cleaning £90 (cleaning of pavilion windows and bus shelters).

The above items were **agreed en-bloc** to be paid. Proposed by Cllr Miss O'Sullivan seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilkins and agreed by all.

- (Cllr Parker left the room whilst this item was discussed) Cllr Miss O'Sullivan proposed that we pay the Annual Subscription payment to DAPTC - £426.87. Seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilkins and agreed by all.

2012/69 AUDIT FOR THE YEAR END 31ST MARCH 2012

Section 1 – The Council approved the accounts for the financial year 2011/2012.

Section 2 – The Chairman read out the Statement of Assurance to the members present, duly completed and approved by the Council. Mr M Robinson (Internal Auditor) did comment that whether £20,000+ as a carry forward figure is a bit on the high side. The Chairman said that this figure is acceptable as we are allowed 3/6 month working capital.

Proposed by Cllr Miss O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr Mrs Rymill and agreed by all.

2012/70 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

a). Chairman's

The Chairman said that there are no further items of interest as all has been delivered earlier in the meeting.

b). Clerk's

- Community.com issues 121 & 122. Local Councils update 149/150. The Clerk Journal. Clerk & Councils Direct and LCR.
- DAPTC – Chief Executive's Circulars – previously circulated.

c). Playing fields

East Stour - Report received from SAS Playgrounds Ltd for the inspection carried out at East Stour dated 10/4/2012. There are no major issues.

Stour Provost – The low water pressure in the pavilion is still a problem. Deferred until the next meeting.

d). Crime – There has not been a North Dorset crime prevention meeting.

PC Maureen Hayward's report was read to the meeting. There have been thefts of lead and copper pipe work and also thefts from vehicles and garages.

e) DAPTC – The Northern Area meeting was held on 19th April in Stalbridge. Minutes are available on the DAPTC website. Cllr Mrs Chard said that it was an interesting meeting and one key point was broadband which will be delivered to 95% of all of Dorset. Dorset Councils will spend £10 million, the Government will match fund the £10million. There are 2 providers putting in the infrastructure (optic fibre cables). This will be known as 'Fibre to Cabinet'. The project should be completed by 2014. Also Stephen Hill, General Manager, NDDC produced an interesting briefing. (Clerk to circulate copy of the briefing to members).

The next Northern Area meeting is on Wednesday 18th July in Gillingham Town Council offices.

f) CPRE Dorset Review. Cllr Mrs Panton said she attended the AGM on 3rd April. There was an interesting talk given about renewable energy.

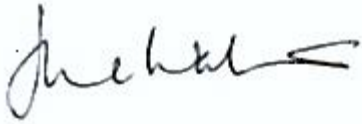
2012/71 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- A Policy & Resources meeting to be held before the meeting.
- Gypsy and Traveller Sites update.
- Clerk's pension arrangements.
- Resolution to accept Agendas by e-mail.
- Wayleave claims for power poles inside properties.
- Also the items deferred to next meeting.

2012/13 DATE OF FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ALL THURSDAYS AT 7.30pm

12 July 2012 at West Stour, 13 September 2012 at Stour Provost, 8 November 2012 at East Stour,
10 January 2013 at Stour Row, 14 March 2013 at West Stour, 9 May 2013 at Stour Provost,
11 July 2013 at East Stour, 12 September 2013 at Stour Row, 14 November 2013 at West Stour.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40pm and thanked everyone for attending.



.....Chairman

12 July 2012
Date