

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Thursday 10th March 2016
In East Stour Village Hall**

PRESENT: Cllrs R Cowan (Chairman), Mrs R Blacklock, P Bowe, P Brown, Mrs B Edwards, G Gilding, T Jones, Mrs V Jones, J Nalty, Mrs E Newton, J Parker, Mrs E Scott, Mrs P Sealy, Lady A Stagg and Mrs J Watkins. Also present the Clerk, Mrs M Cox, NDDCllr Jane Westbrook,

The Chairman welcomed those present.

Reports, Pre-business matters and Public participation

Crime Report

PCSO Vicky Levy said that there have been two reported crimes within the Stours area. Distraction thefts are occurring at the moment. People are being distracted at their cars and their homes. Supermarkets are being targeted with thieves watching people entering their PIN at card terminals. The thieves then distract the shopper(s) and steal handbags/wallets. We were told to be very vigilant and to be careful with bank cards. Vicky was thanked for attending the meeting and her report.

DCC MEMBER'S REPORT – DCCllr Andrew Cattaway sent his apologies, he has two previous engagements. He did say that he is dealing with the matters brought up at previous meetings.

NDDC WARD MEMBERS' REPORT – Cllr Dowden sent his apologies. Cllr Jane Westbrook said that in the Blackmore Vale Magazine it was reported that the Blackmore Vale Partnership is in serious crisis. The Practice Manager has said that they are doing everything they can and their best to resolve the situation. If there are any problems to let Jane know and she will pass them back. There is a meeting being held at Sturminster Newton Exchange on 31st March as local health and care organisations want your views about ideas for health and care in North Dorset.

Public Discussion – none.

Footpath and Tree Liaison Officer's report - Mr Hibbert sent his apologies. His report (attached) was read to the meeting and circulated to all councillors.

Flood Warden's report – Nothing to report.

Transport – The Shaftesbury & Gillingham Transport Forum minutes dated 16.2.16 were previously circulated. Cllr Mrs Newton said that Erica Pretty, Community Development Worker - Volunteer Driver & Car Schemes Early Help - Dorset POPP had offered to attend our meeting on 8th September to talk about alternative transport following the reduction in bus services to the area. It was agreed to leave the offer for the time being but to thank Erica.

Business Agenda

2016/29 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs Mrs T Bagnall, P Gould, Miss H O'Sullivan, G Herring and Mrs C Wilkins.

2016/30 DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Members were 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.

No member declared any DPI

2016/31 TO CONSIDER GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS - None received

2016/32 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14th January 2016.

The minutes were **agreed and adopted** as a correct record of the meeting and duly signed. Proposed by Cllr P Brown, seconded by Cllr T Jones.

2016/33 MATTERS ARISING

- Playing field inspections – all now with the Play inspection Company.
- Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth 14th March 2016. Cllr Gilding said that the flag pole has been erected. At Stower Provost Community School at 10.00 am Peter Wilson MBE, gold medallist 2012 Olympic Games will be raising the Commonwealth flag with a pupil, a winner in their school's competition. It was acknowledged that this event is a good thing for the school. The Chairman thanked Cllrs Gilding and Nalty for organising this. Cllr Gilding thanked West Stour Village Hall Committee for the donation of the Union Flag to the school.

2016/34 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- Todber (B3092) – The edge white lining job has been deferred until the gritting season has finished. Two weeks ago there was a serious accident at the bend by Todber Quarry. Sgt Haywood, Gillingham Police is taking this very seriously and has visited the site. He has been in contact with Highways, DCC and there are talks about improving the junction signage, the safety barrier and he is pressing for the extension of the 40mph speed limit. There has been a suggestion of redesigning the Red Lane junction. The Police have carried out speed checks at the junction and some motorists were in excess of 60mph. A number of vehicle drivers were stopped, drivers were either issued with a speeding ticket or warned. The Police are coming back to do more speed checks. Todber Parish has been encouraged to set up a Community Speedwatch scheme. Volunteers have come forward and will be in contact with PCSO Vicky Levy. There is the possibility of the using a 'SID'. Cllr Bowe is organising the proposal of gateway signage to Todber Village and the Todber Quarry proprietor might pay for this.
- Head Lane, East Stour – The white edge lining has been painted. A TRO is needed for a 20mph, which means the collection of data. Cllr Gilding said the next step is to circulate a questionnaire to East Stour residents to prove that a 20mph is wanted, which will be followed up by East Stour Councillors.
- East Stour Crossroads – Still waiting for improved signage at the bottom of the hill, southern side. The recent DCC Capital 2016/17 programme stated that there would be junction improvements, however on further investigations this is a mistake by Highways. Highways say there is not enough room for a mini roundabout and the traffic is not heavy enough to warrant traffic lights. Most accidents occur because of driver error. It was agreed that East Stour monitors this and if necessary go back and badger DCC highways.
- SID, East Stour and Todber – at the last meeting it was agreed that parishes identify possible sites for a 'SID'. East Stour - Hunger Hill and Back Street. Rob Camp, Senior Supervisor Technician (Safety), Transport Planning is satisfied there is a need and has identified a suitable site. The Safer Dorset fund has turned down East Stour's application to fund a 'SID' as the number of 'SIDS' have been reduced and more people are asking for funding. West Stour cannot site a 'SID' along the A30 as the sight line is insufficient. Red Lane, Todber has been identified as a suitable site. The cost of a 'SID' is £2300 + vat, the pole is approximately £200 + vat. Last meeting it was agreed in principle to purchase a 'SID' and as it has been established that there are three possible sites it was agreed that the Stours Parish Council purchases a 'SID' and pole, costing £2800 + vat, proposed by Cllr Mrs Edwards, and seconded by Cllr Mrs Watkins. Cllr Gilding will contact Rob Camp before an order is placed as the exact Todber site needs to be confirmed. Volunteers will be need to be trained to put a 'SID' up for insurance, health and safety reasons.
- Hunger Hill East Stour – The extension of the 30mph speed limit sign northwards this requires a TRO, which would cost a lot of money and time. It is hoped that the 'SID' should help reduce traffic speed.
- Fifehead Magdalen Crossroads – The vehicle activated sign should be installed the end of this fiscal year or early next fiscal year. Some hedge cutting back will happen to improve the line of sight.

2016/35 PLANNING MATTERS

Cllr Jane Westbrook said that she has attended a Local Plan training meeting. The 'Plan' has been reviewed and will be gone through again. The question arose that as East Stour is one of the identified 18 villages in the 'Plan' whether it has delivered a Neighbourhood Plan. Would East Stour be disadvantaged by not having a plan? It was thought not as they will be consulted on where new housing would go. This is a pre-warning and for East Stour to think on it. Jane was thanked for her report.

- See attached for list of planning applications and decisions received since last meeting.
- It is thought that Henstridge Airfield has got all of their application for flying aerobatics.

2016/36 CORRESPONDENCE

Information Commissioner's Office **Data protection registration - confirmation of renewal** our register entry has been renewed and the new expiry date is 23/02/2017. Registration reference: **Z7472996**.

2016/37 DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

- Dorset Highways Capital Programme 2016- 17 (previously circulated).
- Mobile Library schedules and routes effective from 9th May 2016, circulated.

2016/38 NORTH DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

- The North Dorset Local Plan part 1 was adopted on 15th January 2016.
- Notice of Intention – Resolution relating to original street naming enactment. The Council is formally required to give notice of a proposed intention to resolve to adopt what the Local Government Act 1972 calls *the original street naming enactment* across the whole of its district. The provisions relate to requirements that secure arrangements for names of streets to be placed in appropriate places. It also includes a provision to enable the Council to prosecute persons who deface or pull down any street sign. A notice by NDDC has been placed in a locally circulating newspaper.

2016/39 GILLINGHAM SOUTHERN EXTENSION

The Working Group's report is attached and was circulated.

The Master Plan Framework is a massive document and a recent addition is the impact on the B3092 and Sturminster Newton. The North Dorset Planning Policy panel are trying hard to work with the community. There are concerns of the timings of infrastructure that houses will be built before the link roads and some developers make promises which they do not fulfil. Any thoughts on these issues to let Jane know. Gillingham Town Council is also monitoring the local infrastructure.

Jane and the Gillingham Southern Extension Working Group were thanked.

2016/40 TRANSPARENCY CODE TO ADOPT BEST PRACTICE

Cllr Parker said that this financial year we are not strictly bound by it as we are outside the criteria (our turnover is in excess of £25,000). There are 7 pieces of information that have to be published on the website and Cllr Parker has the template. It was agreed to adopt this from the start of the next financial year then we are prepared should we drop below the £25,000 turnover criteria.

2016/41 NEW WAR MEMORIAL IN EAST STOUR

Cllr Gilding said nothing new to report.

2016/42 EAST STOUR PLAYING FIELD PROPOSED PATH

Cllr Gilding said that following unsuccessful grant bids pledges are now being asked for. Stower Provost Pre-school has pledged £1000. A letter goes off, one at a time and one has just been sent to the Udder Farm Shop. It is hoped that enough pledges will be received. Suggestions of DCA, Cllr Cattaway's Discretionary County Council Fund and Hall & Woodhouse Community Chest be approached.

2016/43 UNLAWFUL ENCAMPMENT OF TRAVELLERS AT FIVE BRIDGES LAY-BY

Cllr Jane Westbrook said that the eviction notice is with DCC legal department. The eviction will happen, but it is a very slow process. Paula Clover and Jane did find a possible alternative site, unfortunately it was a non-starter. At West Stour Parish meeting, Cllr David Walsh, NDDC (Planning Policy) spoke about the need to find suitable land because of the lack of authorised sites. Reverend Martin Herbert (Hilfield Friary) also attended the meeting and he has been working with the travellers for the past six months. It is difficult to block off the Five Bridges area because of access is required by Wessex Water. It is acknowledged that some travellers do not obey rules and if any form of barrier were to be erected, it would likely be damaged in order to gain access. Sgt Haywood and Somerset police are alert to the suspected illegal activities being carried out. Five Bridges could be considered as a permanent site, which would be managed and it would mean there would be more control over the travellers. The site would be planned to allow access for Wessex Water. Jane will be visiting the Shaftesbury site, which has been in situ for three years.

It was suggested to invite Paula Clover to the next meeting so questions about legal sites could be answered.

Jane was thanked for her efforts and for attending the meeting.

It was noted that the chippings are being stolen from Todber B3092 layby.

2016/44 RISK ASSESSMENT

This was circulated and perused and it was agreed to make amendments to the level of risk for the grit bins/telephone kiosks and wooden fencing at East Stour to low/medium. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Newton, seconded by Cllr Gilding.

2016/45 SUPERFAST BROADBAND

The green cabinet is now live in Todber and the speed being received is in excess of expectation by a number of people using Superfast. The cabinet has been installed in Stour Provost and this will also serve Stower Provost Community School.

However some people have had a slower service to their broadband supply by the installation of Superfast.

2016/46 THE LAY OBSERVER SCHEME

Cllr Gilding went on patrol with the Police around Gillingham and Shaftesbury and had a fascinating time and is impressed with what the Police do. He gave a brief report of his night's experience. The scheme is open to anybody and Cllr Gilding recommended that people should apply to this brilliant scheme. Cllr Gilding was thanked for doing this and for his interesting feedback.

2016/47 COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

West Stour is still very active, however lately because of the weather it has been difficult to carry out the speed checks. Someone removed the warning notice on the western edge of the Village. East Stour is not underway yet. Stour Row still active. Todber has a team waiting to be trained.

2016/48 CLEAN FOR THE QUEEN

It was agreed not to do anything special as individuals in their respective parishes do pick up litter.

2016/49 TO CONSIDER PURCHASING WASTE BIN(S) FOR EAST STOUR

Mrs Julia Gould has been campaigning for a waste bin for dog mess in Witch Lane for over a year. Dorset Waste says that dog mess can now be placed in ordinary waste bins. This was a request in East Stour's Village Action Plan. East Stour Parish agreed in principle to purchase bin(s), however the problem is will DWP empty the bins. Mrs Gould has contacted Ian Brewer, North Dorset and has not had a response. Cllr Gilding has also contacted Mr Brewer and not had a reply. It was agreed that East Stour Councillors follow this up and come to the next meeting with a practicable proposal.

2016/50 ALL SAINTS STOUR ROW

It has gone very quiet and there is nothing further to report.

2016/51 STOUR ROW TELEPHONE KIOSK

The door is jammed shut. The woodwork is rotten and it needs painting. It was agreed that £100 be spent on repainting the kiosk. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Watkins, seconded by Cllr Mrs Jones.

2016/52 STOUR PROVOST CRICKET CLUB

Cllr Nalty said that the club is growing and they are acquiring more equipment (mowers/rollers) and in the past equipment has been stolen. It was agreed in principle to support the provision of secure storage facilities. Figures will be produced at the next meeting.

2016/53 DORSET BEST VILLAGE 2016 COMPETITION

Circulated for individual parishes to enter should they wish.

2016/54 DUNCLIFFE WOOD – ACCESS IN EMERGENCIES

Partly covered in Mr Hibbert's report. Cllr Mrs Watkins said that Mrs Morisetti has a key kept in a key safe.

2016/55 EXTERNAL AUDIT FOR SMALLER AUTHORITIES

With effect from 1 April 2017 there is a new external audit regime for smaller authorities. DAPTC has strongly advised that we continue with the arrangements as they are now. The only difference is that our external auditor will be appointed by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Limited (SAAA). It was agreed not to opt out of the SAAA scheme. Proposed by Cllr Parker, seconded by Cllr Mrs Watkins.

2016/56 FINANCE – ACCOUNTS for the period 1st January 2016 – 29th February 2016

Balances of Accounts from statements as at 29th February 2016 – NSB £4,964.92. Scottish Widows Bank – £24,654.42 Lloyds plc – £5,046.99.

Included in these balances is £4,110.00 which has been ring fenced for Clerk's gratuity (min ref 2010/94, 2015/022 & 67). Copy of Income & Expenses 1.1.16 to 29.2.16 and budget 2015/16 (2 monthly and year to date) summary distributed.

