

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2014**  
**In Stour Provost Village Hall**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs R Cowan (Chairman), Mrs D Chard, J Claughton, Mrs B Edwards, Mrs V Jones, Mrs E Newton, J Parker, M Ratcliffe, M Rymill, Mrs M Rymill, Mrs P Sealy, Lady A Stagg and Mrs C Wilkins.  
Also present the Clerk, Mrs M Cox, DCCllr A Cattaway, Mr Martin Hibbert (Footpath Liaison Officer), PCSO Nicky Fear, PCSO Rich Mullins and approximately 20 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed PCSO Nicky Fear, PCSO Rich Mullins and those present.

**Reports, Pre-business matters and Public participation**

**Public Discussion**

The Chairman welcomed PCSO Nicky Fear and PCSO Rich Mullins. PCSO Mullins introduced himself. He has been covering the Gillingham Area since April/May following the departure of PC Maureen Hayward. He said that there have been 6 reported incidents in the Stours since July. North Dorset as a whole has been quite quiet. Details are available on the website [www.dorset.police.uk](http://www.dorset.police.uk) and Facebook. He also spoke about shed thefts and farm thefts. There is a totally free service "Dorset Alert", this enables residents to engage with Dorset Police, [www.dorsetalert.co.uk](http://www.dorsetalert.co.uk). (Leaflets were handed out). Members present were encouraged to sign up for this free service. It is a national service and replaces Ringmaster".

Members of the public asked about the Travellers who had recently arrived at the lay-by, B3092, Todber from Five Bridges. Paula Clover, Gypsy Traveller and Liaison Officer, DCC is well aware they are there. The Police cannot move them on, however they do monitor their comings and goings. The Police are grateful for any information, anything unusual with proof (telephone 101). Concerns were raised that their vehicles appeared not to be roadworthy and were untaxed. If they are not taxed it will be flagged up. Motorhomes cannot be taken away as it is classed as their home. There is a process to follow and it does take a long time. PCSO Mullins will check legality of vehicles and e-mail traffic department. PCSOs are not qualified to discuss Gypsies and Travellers in this context.

Cllr Cattaway said that this has been a continuing issue. Gypsies and Travellers can only be moved at short notice if there is space at existing sites. Dorset is short of authorised pitches. There are 10 authorised pitches on the A30, east of Shaftesbury, which are full. There is a major consultation by the DCC and NDDC countywide for new authorised sites. He reiterated that the Travellers at unauthorised sites can only be evicted by a court order, which is a long process. They will only move on to another unauthorised site. He reinforced that any evidence of anything positively illegal to be reported the police and they can take some action. (Telephone 101). Sanitation is a matter for NDDC, environmental inspectors. Dave Ayre, Head of Countryside and Business Development and Interim Head of Dorset Property, DCC has visited the travellers twice. He and Paula Clover worked closely together. With effect from October Peter Moore will be Mr Ayre's replacement. Dorset County Council are doing their best and are in direct contact with the appropriate people but it is a long process.

It was agreed to invite Mr Peter Moore and Ms Paula Clover to our next meeting.

PCSO Nicky Fear explained to the meeting about Community Speed watch. Volunteers are selected and CRB checked and training is given. There are usually 4 in a team who monitor speed. She showed the speed measuring device. The object of the Community Speed Watch is all about educating drivers. It must be carried out in a safe legal place within a speed limit, e.g. 30mph. Gillingham & Shaftesbury Homewatch have their own equipment. If you are a member the equipment can be borrowed. Membership is a £2 donation per annum. It was suggested that the equipment be borrowed before committing to purchasing a gun at £300.

PCSOs Fear and Mullins answered questions from the floor.

Both were thanked for the useful information and for attending our meeting.

**Footpath and Tree Liaison Officer's report**

Mr Hibbert said that it has been a good summer. Has had volunteers help with the clearing up and they are sort of on top of it. There is still a problem with a path at Lyde Hill Farm. Mr Colin Trim has agreed in principle to opening up the last footpath, north-south route. There is no time scale. Wadmill Farm has barbed wire obstructing footpaths; this is being dealt with.

**Flood Wardens' report** – Cllr Mrs Wilkins said that there are no problems as it has been dry.

**Transport** – Cllr Mrs Newton said there is nothing to report.

**DCC MEMBER'S REPORT** – Cllr Cattaway said there is a press announcement about the Assistant Chief Executive at County Hall. Five directors are being reduced to four. There is a lot of reorganising going on within County.

**NDDC WARD MEMBER'S REPORT.**

No report received from Cllr Mrs Handford.

**Business Agenda**

**2014/101 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Cllrs P Gould, G Herring, T Jones, D Little Miss H O'Sullivan, Mrs E Scott and Mrs J Watkins.

**2014/102 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

**2014/103 TO CONSIDER GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS**

None received.

**2014/104 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> JULY 2014.**

The minutes were **agreed and adopted** as a correct record of the meeting and duly signed. Proposed by Cllr Parker seconded by Cllr Claughton.

**2014/105 MATTERS ARISING**

All to be dealt with the agenda items.

**2014/106 APPOINTMENT TO EAST STOUR PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE**

Mr Guy Gilding has agreed to join the committee and is replacing Mrs Liz Robertson. Mr Gilding was welcomed.

**2014/107 PLANNING MATTERS**

- Proposed "Affordable Housing" Development at Blue Barn, Butts Lane, Stour Provost. The Chairman reported that an initial consultation was held on 12<sup>th</sup> August. Present were the Chairman, Cllrs Mrs Watkins and Mrs Wilkins (for The Stours Parish Council) and Mr R Fisher, ADA Design and Mr M Wallis (for the developer). There is a proposal for 9 units (3 market units and 6 affordable units, 50/50 shared equity). The Parish Council has great concerns with the extra vehicles going along Butts Lane and it is an awkward junction to the B3092. Also sustainability issues. Fifehead Magdalen Parish has been contacted as the site is visible from Fifehead Magdalen. The development would be on agricultural land and is outside the village curtilage. Cllr Mrs Wilkins has sought the views of the Stour Provost residents who generally agree that housing would be an improvement to what is there now and a chicken farm, but would prefer fewer units. Their main concern is the amount of increased traffic. It was agreed to send representatives to another site meeting with the agent and development officer from the planning authority.
- Appeal by Coking Farm Limited ref APP/N1215/A/14/2222218, Coking Farm, West Stour, change use of land from agricultural to agricultural and tent site.
- Appeal by Coking Farm Limited ref APP/N1215/A/14/2222226, Coking Farm, West Stour, form 5 bay caravan park and provide storage for contractors.
- "Ersanmine", Stour Provost - the containers have been removed.
- See attached for list of planning applications and decisions received since last meeting.

**2014/108 CORRESPONDENCE**

- Gillingham Walking Festival 13<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2014 (previously circulated 19 August).
- North Dorset Citizens Advice Bureau are looking to recruit new volunteers.
- NALC Policy Consultation, where they are asking for our view on proposed practical improvements to recent planning reforms. (Previously circulated). Responses by 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

**2014/109 DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

- Traffic Management's suggested placing of "Speed Tubes" along Red Lane following the unsupported request for a 30mph speed limit along the B3092 has not happened. Clerk to ask Sue Sadler when they will be put down. Also it was agreed following a telephone call from Mrs Louise Trowbridge of Provost Farm (opposite Butts Lane) saying that

vehicle drivers appear to be speeding along the B3092 when she is waiting with her sons to catch the bus to school, to ask Sue Sadler whether "Speed Tubes" could be placed here as well as vehicles drivers come over a rise in the road and tend to speed.

- Definitive Map and Statement Modification Order 2014 – Part of footpath 6, East Stour.
- Dorset Local Access Forum recruiting new members closing date 12<sup>th</sup> September 2014 (previously circulated 18<sup>th</sup> August).
- Recruiting Flood Wardens.

#### **2014/110 NORTH DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS**

- Review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations in North Dorset (circulated by e-mail 29<sup>th</sup> July). The Chairman said that there would be no impact on our area for polling places. Cllr Cattaway said that there would be some impact on our area for polling districts. The Stours Vale and Marnhull would be a two member ward.
- Probable mergers/changes to the executive structure between West Dorset District Council and North Dorset District Council. There are no concrete proposals at present.

#### **2014/111 HIGHWAY MATTERS**

- Stower Provost School, Stour Lane – the other sign has now been painted on the road. Cllr Cattaway said that the sign going east to west is under construction.
- East Stour Crossroads – Cllr Cattaway has looked at the road and signage and talked to the highway engineers. There appears to be no progress. Cllr Cattaway will chase. It was commented that the siting of the bollard restricts drivers' view.
- Cllr Rymill said the sign opposite The King's Arms has been reversed and the 30mph sign entering East Stour westbound is not visible. Cllr Cattaway reminded members present about the responsibility of land owners keeping their hedges trimmed so road signs can be seen. It was suggested that Cllr Little or Miss O'Sullivan have a word with Mr Down about keeping signs visible. The reversed sign would be reported by Clerk.

#### **2014/112 THE ADDITION TO E-MAIL ADDRESSES ON THE STOURS PAISH COUNCIL LIST**

This was discussed and it was agreed to use the Stours Parish council e-mail as point of contact and not to publicise Councillors' email.

#### **2014/113 SWINGS AT STOUR ROW**

The swings have been installed and are in good use. Cllr Cattaway needs the request for £670 from his fund to be submitted formally in writing, stating the amount required, installed by, inspected by and reason. Clerk to let Cllr Mrs Watkins know.

#### **2014/114 THE USE OF STOUR PROVOST PLAYING FIELD**

The Playing Field committee had a meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> August and it was resolved that there be no camping on the field.

#### **2014/115 COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH**

It was agreed that West Stour follow PCSO Fear's advice and join Shaftesbury and Gillingham Homewatch association, donation of £2 per year per member and to experiment with the device before purchasing the gun. East Stour hasn't sufficient interest at present but might be coaxed once they have had feedback from West Stour.

#### **2014/116 EAST STOUR VILLAGE ACTION PLAN**

Cllr Little's report previously circulated. The main points are Village Hall Renovation, Village History, Community Speed Watch, playing field, seats, A30 land near Oswald's Barn, Stours Villages market and oil buying scheme.

#### **2014/117 SITING OF THE PROPOSED WAR MEMORIAL, EAST STOUR**

Mr Gilding said that to commemorate the centenary of WW1 and to remember the men from East Stour who died in action, the Village Action Plan wish to site a new memorial plaque either on the recreational field to the left of the gate (preferred option) or near the beech hedge (map circulated). Cllr Jones and Mr Salisbury prefer the field. It would not be feasible on the hall car park. The design would be sympathetic to the environment, sturdy and vandal proof. Other suggestions were made at the meeting. The Chairman said that the parish council is supportive of its concept and said that it would be best that the decision of the siting should be agreed at East Stour Parish meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

#### **2014/118 GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS**

This was covered during public discussion time.

**2014/119 DO YOU WANT TO BE A HEALTHWATCH CHAMPION**

Healthwatch Dorset are recruiting volunteers (circulated 6<sup>th</sup> August) for more information contact [Chris.wakefield@healthwatchdorset.co.uk](mailto:Chris.wakefield@healthwatchdorset.co.uk) or telephone 0300 111 0102.

**2014/120 AUDIT YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2014**

BDO LLP, Auditors have completed and returned the audit. There were no matters which came to their attention which required the issuing of a separate additional issues arising report. The annual return and notice of conclusion of audit to be displayed in a conspicuous place for 14 days.

**The return was approved and accepted by the Council proposed by Cllr Mrs Newton seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilkins.**

**2014/121 FINANCE – ACCOUNTS for the period 1 July 2014 – 31 August 2014**

Payments

DD	TalkTalk broadband	27.43
1634	HMRC (3 months tax)	275.60
Tf	Faster payment fee (paying HMRC electronically)	30.00
1635	West Stour Village Hall hire	10.00
1636	P Buttress grass maintenance	240.00
1637	Viking new toner	110.36
1638	Communicorp renewal sub	75.00
1639	Vision ICT website maintenance	150.00
1640	Phoenix services M Green grass cutting	90.00
1641	Garden machine Services (mower repairs)	78.60
1642	DCC (waste bags Stour Provost pavilion/field)	42.50
1643	Outdoor Play South West (swings Stour Row)	1200.00
DD	TalkTalk broadband	31.69
1644	SD Playground Services (inspection East Stour)	52.92
1645	Mrs M Cox sal & exp June	401.31
1646	Western Counties removal of graffiti SP bus shelter	60.00
1647	J Eyres Millennium Green maintenance	30.00
1648	P Buttress grass maintenance	340.00
1649	Mrs M Cox reimburse lamination of pavilion notices	8.00
1650	P Nugent plumbing 2 water leak pipe repairs	67.68
1651	Npower electricity pavilion	24.42
1652	BWBSL water pavilion	18.54
1653	Mrs M Cox sal & exp July	399.73
1654	P Buttress grass maintenance	240.00
1655	Mrs M Cox reimburse eye bolts ESPF	57.22
1656	Mrs M Cox reimburse shackles ESPF	46.77
Total		4107.77

Receipts

S/Widows interest	18.10
Stour Provost Church use of field	30.00
Mrs Linsley use of field	15.00
Jones/SP cricket	60.00
Total	123.10

Balances of Accounts as at 31 August 2014– NSB £4891.27. Scottish Widows Bank – £13534.53. Lloyds plc – £4877.39  
Included in these balances is £2740.00 which has been ring fenced for Clerk's pension (min ref 2010/94).

Copy of accounts balance and budget 2014/15 summary 1.7.14 to 31.8.14.

**It was resolved to adopt the accounts.** Proposed by Cllr Parker, seconded by Cllr Mrs Newton & agreed by all.

**2014/122 FINANCE – PAYMENTS**

It was agreed to make the following payments:

- £1395.31 to Broker Network (renewal of insurance) and to enter into a 3 year long term agreement. Proposed by Cllr Ratcliffe, seconded by Cllr Cloughton & agreed by all.
- £15 to Stour Provost Village Hall (hire for tonight’s meeting).
- £120 BDO LLP (audit fee)

**It was resolved to authorise the above payments** Proposed by Cllr Cloughton, seconded by Cllr Mrs Newton & agreed by all.

**2014/123 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OF COUNCIL**

- a) Chairman’s – The Chairman said that he had nothing else to report.
- b) Clerk’s  
Local Councils Update. Community.com. Clerk & Councils Direct. All available at the meeting or from Clerk.  
DAPTC – Chief Executive’s Circulars – previously circulated.
- c) Playing Fields –  
East Stour – Mr Gilding has replaced the shackles on the multi-play unit. The cable rider - the wooden ramp has been replaced. The football goal post are currently not used so they will be removed and stored. The holes will be filled in with plastic tubes so the posts can be replaced when required. Fast Feet bring their own smaller goals. Stour Provost - one bench has been refurbished by Cllr Ratcliffe. Football starts Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September. There are some issues asked by Shelagh Corfield when she is cleaning and the moving of cricketers’ and footballers’ property and the need for curtains in the pavilion. This to be discussed at the next Stour Provost parish meeting.
- d) Crime  
Covered during Public Discussion.
- e) DAPTC  
Next Northern Area meeting Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October at the pavilion, Okeford Fitzpaine. Cllrs Mrs Chard and J Parker will attend.
- f) CPRE  
Countryside Voice and Fieldwork publication.

**2014/124 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

- Training Courses.
- Gypsy and Travellers Issues, to invite Ms Paula Clover and Mr Peter Moore
- Ask PCSO Mullins if he can attend.

**2014/125 DATE OF FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ALL THURSDAYS AT 7.30pm**

13<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at East Stour, 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at Stour Row, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at West Stour, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at Stour Provost, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at East Stour, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at Stour Row, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at West Stour.

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There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.55pm and thanked everyone for attending.

.....Chairman                      Date .....