

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th September 2017
In Stour Row Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllrs Mrs B Edwards (Chairman), P Bowe, P Brown, G Gilding, P Gould, T Jones, Mrs V Jones, R King, J Nalty, Mrs E Newton, J Parker, Mrs E Scott, Lady Stagg, Mrs J Watkins and Mrs C Wilkins.
Also present the Clerk, Mrs M Cox, DCCllr Graham Carr-Jones, NDDCllrs Jane Westbrook and Charles Dowden, Paul Derrien, Dorset County Council Partnership, Martin Hibbert (RoWLO) and 3 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed Paul Derrien and those present.

Reports, Pre-business matters and Public participation

Paul Derrien, Housing Enabling Team Leader, Dorset County Council Partnership, introduce himself to the meeting. He then gave a very brief introduction on how the Community Land Trust Programme worked. Paul was thanked for his presentation.

DCC MEMBER'S REPORT – Graham's report was previously circulated. The main points are:- The latest budget monitoring position, an update on LCR, 'Prepare to Live Better' campaign, Moving forwards with fairer charging for adult social care, Arts Development Company adds value to grant funding, An update from Trading Standards Enforcement and prevention in the care trade and Smallholder Livestock Event – an alternative enforcement strategy. Also he said that he had a drive around with Roger Bell, DCC Highways to look at highway issues. Graham reminded members present to report any highway issues on the dorsetforyou website. Graham said that he has not heard any further regarding the NGL update. Graham was thanked for his report.

NDDC WARD MEMBER'S REPORT – Cllr Jane Westbrook said that she had a letter from Simon Hoare MP announcing that it has been agreed to retain the beds in Shaftesbury Westminster Memorial Hospital. There will be more information following the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group (DCCG) meeting at Dorchester on 20th September. Any issues with Superfast Broadband, please let Jane know. Cllr Charles Dowden said that there will now be a planning training event one evening in October. Anybody interested to let the Clerk know. Jane and Charles were thanked for their reports.

Public Discussion - none.

Rights of Way Liaison Officer's report - Martin Hibbert said that the insurance cover under the Rights of Way Volunteer support scheme is covered under Public Liability, providing the work is directed by DCC. Footpath West Stour to Stour Provost across the river, the woodwork for the gate has been replaced. The Village walks are going well. The next one is from Buckhorn Weston on Saturday 16th September. In October there will be a walk in East Stour. For further information look at "Nextdoor". The White Hart Link, Stalbridge to Gillingham route has formally been launched. Gillingham Walking Festival 2nd to 10th September 2017. Martin was thanked for his report. Cllr Mrs Jones reported a problem with access to the footpath from the footbridge near Sweets Farm. Martin will follow this up.

Tree Wardens' reports – East Stour, Cllr Mrs Bagnall reported that the trimming of the trees at the playing field has not been carried out by David Braybon, she will contact Mr Braybon. Other parishes, there was nothing to report.

Flood Wardens' report – Cllr Mrs Wilkins said that there have been no reports of flooding.

Transport – Cllr Mrs Newton said that the next meeting is 10th October 2017.

Business Agenda

2017/97 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllrs Mrs R Blacklock, R Cowan and Mrs P Sealy.

2017/98 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

2017/99 TO CONSIDER GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS – none received

2017/100 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13th July 2017.

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

2017/101 MATTERS ARISING The Clerk reminded members present about Tree Charter.

2017/102 CASUAL VACANCY FOR EAST STOUR WARD

This can now be filled by co-option.

2017/103 RESIGNATION FROM MRS TERRY BAGNALL

Mrs Bagnall has resigned from the Parish Council, but she has agreed to continue as Tree Warden for East Stour. Clerk to inform NDDC of her resignation.

2017/104 HIGHWAY MATTERS

- Manor Farm Gate, West Stour, it was agreed that we ask Highways that a 'No through road' sign be erected to the entrance of Manor Farm Gate.
- Todber (B3092) –the white edge lining to has finally been completed.
- Fifehead Magdalen Crossroads -the works for the visibility improvement have been completed. It was agreed to write and thank Cllr R Gosney for all his help in this matter. Cllr Jane Westbrook was also thanked in person. Cllr Gould asked how much the project cost. Clerk to enquire from Highways, DCC.
- Car Parking in East Stour with special regard to access to public footpaths. Cllr Brown said that some cars are being parked and obstructing a public footpath. A photo was circulated and Cllr Brown spoke to the house owner saying that the footpath, a public right of way is being obstructed. It is the guests that are parking on the footpath and it is not understood why, as the property does have a long drive. Cllr Brown asked if obstructing the footpath is acceptable and is there not a specified width of 1.5 metres that should be kept clear? Martin Hibbert said that he has raised this problem formally with Graham Stanley, DCC and will ask DCC formally to write to the landowner.
- SIDs – East Stour, Cllr Gilding will be meeting with Rob Camp and Joe Allen regarding the deployment of the SID at East Stour Crossroads. The SID and 'Playground' sign near the playing field will be switched around. There will be 4 SID sites in East Stour, the Crossroads, Hunger Hill and Back Street x2. Todber and West Stour each have a pole and they will share the new SID, when purchased. Cllr King will be responsible for the deployment of the Todber SID and Cllr Mrs Sealy was nominated by her fellow Councillors for the West Stour one, having been involved with the instigation of it.
- Community Speedwatch. East Stour, nothing to report. Todber, the team try to go out weekly. It is having a desired effect. There is now a new co-ordinator and the reporting system to the Police has altered. West Stour, being a member short, the team are struggling to get out as often as they would like. Michèle Holden is doing a sterling job with the data. It is effective when the team is out.

2017/105 PLANNING MATTERS

- Appeal Ref: APP/N1215/W/17/3170060 Hillcrest, Back Street, East Stour, The application ref 2/2016/1755/HOUSE, dated the 27th November 2016, was refused by notice dated 30th January 2017. The development proposed is the erection of two carports.
Decision, the appeal is dismissed. The main issue is the effect of the development on the character and appearance of the area.

- See attached for list of planning applications and decisions received since last meeting.
Cllr Dowden said that he is moving from Marnhull and this is his last parish council meeting that he will attend. However he will still be on NDDC Planning Committee.

2017/106 CORRESPONDENCE

North Dorset Citizens Advice will now be known as Citizens Advice, Dorchester, Sherborne & District and North Dorset.

2017/107 DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

Public & Schools Transport Review – changes to Dorset Bus Services from 22 July 2017 (previously circulated).

Dorset Care Record – Better Informed Means Better Care (previously circulated).

Letter from Jane Williams, Environmental Protection (West) regarding Dog Related Public Spaces Protection Order (previously circulated).

2017/108 NORTH DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

Nothing further to report.

2017/109 NORTH DORSET FORGOTTEN

Responses received from Simon Hoare MP and Dorset Police (circulated). Simon said “That some good points made well and that he is trying to do something about that”. He has raised the police issue with PCC and the Chief Constable and they are trying to make the situation better. We need to see the Gillingham housing delivered. He is particularly involved with the beds at Westminster Memorial Hospital. He asked to be kept in the loop.

Dorset Police explained about the two custody suites based at Bournemouth and Weymouth. The provision of Voluntary Attendance. They are aware of the potential development and growth within North Dorset over the coming years and can reassure us that they monitor crime trends and demands for Policing Services.

2017/110 UNITED FRONT TO SPEED RESTRICTIONS IN OUR VILLAGES

Cllrs Cowan and Mrs Watkins attended a Group Parish Council Chairmen’s meeting on 29th August at Marnhull Village Hall. Cllr Cowan’s report previously circulated.

Cllr Mrs Watkins said that Marnhull parish would like the speed to be restricted to 25mph (historic reasons) along the High Street. To move the speed limit of 40mph to past Scotchey Lane from East Stour Crossroads. Hinton St Mary Village has a limit of 60mph, but the main road has 30mph which is a problem. Cllr Mrs Watkins agreed that a start had been made which involves County Councillor Graham Carr-Jones and Rolly Skeats, DCC Highways. The meeting acknowledged the Department for Transport Guidance for Highways 01/2013. There will be further meetings to discuss these issues and see what is deliverable. If West Stour and East Stour have any further comments to let Cllr Trevor Vaughan (Chairman) know.

2017/111 TRAVELLERS AND GYPSIES

The Travellers have returned to Five Bridges from St James Common. Paula Clover, Gypsy Traveller Liaison Officer has been to see them and Wessex Water is aware of their return.

It appears that the annexe at Winkfield, Stour Lane is being used for holiday lets and that there are 3 gypsy caravans supposedly being used for holiday lets on the land by the property. However the caravans are not being used for holiday lets. Cllr Dowden will gather the information and look into a possible enforcement action.

2017/112 GILLINGHAM SOUTHERN EXTENSION

Cllr Gilding reported on the pre-application exhibition hosted by Welbeck Land yesterday. There is not a lot of change in the houses to be built, there will be a subtle change in structure. There is a great urgency to get this started this year. Details of the Section 106 agreement should be known next year. Construction should start in 2018 and the first occupants should be in by 2020. It was agreed that we reissue our invite Cllr David Walsh to attend our next meeting. Cllr Gilding will contact him.

2017/113 LITTER BIN, WITCH LANE EAST STOUR

Mrs Bagnall sent in a report saying that DWP has been monitoring the contents of the bin since our last meeting. DWP, this week, have very kindly offered to **give** us a second hand litter bin which saves the council the purchase cost of approx. £300. However, we potentially may need to cover the installation costs, if DWP cannot do for us.

The ongoing costs for fortnightly emptying of the bin represents an annual charge of approx. £117 (currently £4.50 per empty) which the council must absorb and plan for. It was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Gilding that we accept the second hand litter bin and pay for the installation costs if need be and to pay for the emptying of the bin.

Agreed by all.

Mrs Bagnall suggested that this trial only goes to show that those dog walkers who use Witch Lane to walk their dogs, do carry poo bags and do pick up, as evidenced by the volume of waste in the bin. This is not an indication that those who did not pick-up before, do so now or will do so in the future. Having spoken to the landowners along Witch Lane, there has been no issue with dog waste/cattle and the sign placed on a gateway is merely a reminder.

2017/114 FINANCE

ACCOUNTS for the period 1st July 2017 – 31st August 2017

Balances of Accounts from statements as at 31st August 2017 – NSB £4,994.75. Scottish Widows Bank – £18,735.53. Lloyds plc – £5,719.89

Included in these balances is £4795.00 which has been ring fenced for Clerk's gratuity (min ref 2010/94, 2015/022 & 67 & 2016/165). Cllr Parker proposed that the next annual payment of £685 of the gratuity can now be added, seconded by Cllr Mrs Watkins and agreed by all.

Copy of Income and Expenses for the period 1st July 2017 – 31st August 2017 and budget (2 monthly and financial year to date) summary distributed.

It was resolved to adopt the accounts. Proposed by Cllr Nalty, seconded by Cllr Parker.

PAYMENTS

It was agreed to make the following payments:

- Mrs M Cox - £35.49 reimburse broadband
- To pay Gillingham Town Council £213 (second instalment, Local Delivery).
- Came & Company renewal of Local Council Insurance – approx. £1600.
- BDO audit fee - £240
- Stour Row Village Hall -£12 (hire)
- It was agreed in principle (depending on further investigation) that West Stour purchases a defibrillator.

It was resolved to authorise the above payments Proposed by Cllr Parker, seconded by Cllr Mrs Watkins.

2017/115 AUDIT YEAR END 31ST MARCH 2017

There were no matters which came to BDO's attention which required the issuing of a separate additional issues arising report. **The annual return and auditor's certificate was approved and accepted by the Council.** Proposed by Cllr Mrs Newton, seconded by Cllr Gilding. The annual return and notice of conclusion of audit to be displayed in a conspicuous place and also on the Parish Council's website.

BDO will no longer be doing the audit, information will follow regarding the new Auditors and procedures.

The meeting expressed their thanks to the internal auditor for her excellent work in this and past years. The meeting then resolved to purchase a gift up to the value of £150 for the internal auditor, as an expression of the council's appreciation.

2017/116 REVIEW OF BANK MANDATE SIGNATORIES

Lloyds Bank PLC - Cllrs R Cowan, Mrs B Edwards, J Parker and Mrs J Watkins dated 12.5.16 any two of the said names to sign.

Scottish Widows Bank PLC – Cllrs R Cowan, Mrs B Edwards, J Parker and Mrs J Watkins dated 12.5.16 any two of the said names to sign.

2017/117 DAPTC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 4TH NOVEMBER 2017

Cllr Parker said he will be attending the AGM on 4th November as the Northern Area Representative. Cllr Mrs Wilkins will attend on behalf of the Stours Parish Council.

The Council **resolved** to mandate its representative (Cllr Mrs Wilkins) to vote in accordance with the councils agreed view on any motions put before DAPTC AGM and to use their discretion in the event of any original motion being amended.

Proposed by Cllr Nalty. Seconded by Cllr Mrs Newton.

2017/118 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OF COUNCIL

a) Chairman's – The Chairman had nothing further to report.

b) Clerk's

Local Councils Update. Clerk & Councils Direct. All available at the meeting or from Clerk.

DAPTC – Chief Executive's Circulars – previously circulated.

- c) Playing Fields
 East Stour – nothing to report.
 Stour Provost and the pavilion – The pavilion has had further work done on it and all looks good.
 Stour Row – all fine.
- d) Crime
 No report received. It is hoped that Vick will be able to attend our next meeting. Vicky is invited to every meeting and unusually this time she has not sent a report, which she does if unable to attend a meeting.
 The Chairman said that for the third time East Stour Church vestry roof has been stolen and understands that the church authorities are coming round to the idea of replacing stolen lead with another material that isn't so valuable, but NDDC, Development Control has to agree. Should the Parish Council be consulted it was agreed that they will support the sensible suggestion that the replacement roof be made of another material.
- e) DAPTC
 The Northern Area minutes of the meeting held 19th July have been circulated. The next Northern Area meeting is on Thursday 19th October 2017 at Sturminster Newton Town Council offices. Cllrs Parker and Mrs Wilkins will attend.
- f) CPRE
 Cllr Lady Stagg said that there is nothing to report.
 Countryside Voice, Fieldwork & Dorset Review publications.

2017/119 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

To invite DCCllr David Walsh to give an update on the Gillingham Southern Extension.

2017/120 DATE OF FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ALL THURSDAYS AT 7.30pm

9th November 2017 at West Stour, 11th January 2018 at Stour Provost, 8th March 2018 at East Stour, 10th May 2018 at Stour Row, 12th July 2018 at West Stour, 13th September 2018 at Stour Provost, 8th November 2018 at East Stour.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm and thanked everyone for attending.

.....Chairman Date