

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018  
In East Stour Village Hall**

**PRESENT**: Cllrs P Gould (Chairman), Mrs R Blacklock, P Bowe, G Gilding, R Haddon, R King, Mrs V Jones, R McConnell, J Nalty, Mrs E Newton, Mrs E Scott, Mrs P Sealy, L Trowbridge, Mrs J Watkins, and Mrs C Wilkins. Also present the Clerk, Mrs M Cox, NDDCllr Jane Westbrook, and five members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed those present.

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

**DCC MEMBER'S REPORT** – Cllrs Carr-Jones and Cattaway sent their apologies.

**NDDC WARD MEMBER'S REPORT** – Cllr Jane Westbrook said that it has been busy with the change to Unitary and Dorset electoral boundary changes and that there is nothing further to add that is not on the agenda.

**Public Discussion** – Mr & Mrs Symons addressed the meeting about their planning application:-  
2/2018/1432/FUL, The Spinney, Common Lane, East Stour, demolish existing dwelling and erect replacement dwelling with detached garage/study. Form new vehicular and pedestrian accesses and 4 No. parking spaces. Mr Symons said that they have recently moved to the area & purchased the property at auction. The property is neglected, overgrown, there is subsidence, lack of heating, the rooms are damp and the garden is overrun. The neighbours have seen the plans that have been submitted and have given their approval. Cllr Mrs Blacklock agreed that the bungalow is derelict and asked why it is being replaced with a two storey house. Mr Symons said that the property will be smaller than the one next door and they had taken advice from a planning consultant. The oak tree is in the way and needs to be cut down. The site is covered in tree stumps. The room over the garage will be used as a study as the applicant works from home. It was agreed that the proposed plans are an improvement. Mr & Mrs Symons were advised as the property is in a conservation area, that they need to apply to have trees cut down. They were thanked for attending the meeting and that the parish council will make their response to the District Council.

**Rights of Way Officer's report** - Mr Hibbert sent his apologies. No report received.

**Tree Wardens' reports -**

East Stour – Mrs Bagnall sent her apologies. She reported that the Williams family are planning to plant their Lime tree on the playing field on the weekend of 24/25 Nov. The position has been agreed, not far from the existing Lime.  
Stour Provost, Stour Row and Todber– nothing to report.  
West Stour – Cllr Mrs Sealy said there has been an ash tree chopped down at The Lynch. Martin Hibbert will follow this up.

**Flood Wardens' report** – Cllr Mrs Wilkins said there is nothing to report.

**Transport** – Cllr Mrs Newton said that the Transport meeting was rescheduled and that she was unable to attend. When the minutes are received they will be circulated.

The Chairman welcomed and introduced Mrs Lilian Bennett and Mrs Judith Uden to the members present, as they are interested in becoming councillors for the East Stour ward.

**Business Agenda**

**2018/118 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Cllrs Mrs B Edwards and J Parker,

**2018/119 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.

Cllr Haddon declared DPI for the Primrose Farm planning applications and gave an explanation why they had been submitted: - 2/2018/1453/VARIA the removal of the footpath. At one end of East Stour Village there is a footpath and in the original application it was agreed to have a footpath from Primrose Farm, however it would lead to nowhere as there are insufficient verges to allow safe access from the property to the Village where the pavement is (a detailed explanation can be found in the planning application), hence the change in the applications as there is no need for the path. 2/2018/1397/FUL. It just makes sense as the footprint suited a two bed bungalow rather than two smaller one beds. Our estate agents thought that there was a greater need for two beds than one beds, also it also allows for better vehicle access for one property than two. Cllr Haddon took no part in the decision of these planning applications.

#### **2018/120 TO CONSIDER GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS**

None received.

#### **2018/121 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018.**

The minutes were agreed and adopted as a correct record proposed by Cllr Mrs Blacklock and seconded by Cllr Mrs Watkins.

#### **2018/122 MATTERS ARISING**

Defibrillator, West Stour the grant received from West Stour Village Hall Committee was £1795 and not £1500 because there are other pieces of the equipment to go with the defibrillator.

Bank mandate signatories have been updated, Cllr P Bowe added and Ryder Cowan has been removed.

#### **2018/123 CASUAL VACANCIES THREE FOR EAST STOUR WARD AND ONE FOR TODBER WARD**

Richard McConnell was co-opted for East Stour ward, proposed by Cllr Mrs Watkins, seconded by Cllr Haddon and agreed by all. Cllr McConnell duly signed 'Declaration Acceptance of Office'.

Also an interest has been shown for the 2 vacancies for the East Stour ward by Mrs Lilian Bennett and Mrs Judith Uden

#### **2018/124 HIGHWAY MATTERS**

- East Stour Crossroads – nothing further to report.
- SIDs, East Stour Cllr Gilding said that the parish has elected to purchase a VarioSID using their precept monies in addition to the existing one in East Stour. Should the parish council agree (agenda item 17) to purchase another VarioSID during the financial year 2019/20 then the existing SID could be used in Todber as they have shown an interest. This would mean that East Stour would have 2 VarioSIDs and West Stour and Todber would have the 2 old SIDs between them. Cllr Mrs Sealy did say that a site has been identified for the west side of West Stour, meaning that they will have 2 poles along the A30. Cllr King said that there is insufficient traffic movement along Church Lane, Todber to warrant a SID. (Marnhull Parish Council has declined purchasing/sharing the cost of a SID and will go down the route of CSW). It will mean that West Stour and Todber will have 2 SIDs to share on a rotation basis between 3 poles. It was recommended to reduce the deployment time of the SID from 6 weeks to 4 weeks.
- Community Speedwatch, East Stour – still needing a co-ordinator. This will be discussed at their parish meeting. Todber – Cllr King gave some statistics of some of the speeds drivers drive at, the highest recorded speed was 67mph along Red Lane. He did say that the data is available. West Stour – no report received.
- The Brown's Lane fingerpost has been refurbished and a very good job was done by Normtech. (Dorset CPRE kindly donated £100 to the cost of its refurbishment).

#### **2018/125 PLANNING MATTERS**

- See attached for list of planning applications and decisions received since last meeting.
- Cllr Haddon said that he attend the Planning Committee meeting in respect of application 2/2018/0438/FUL, Little Meadow, erect agricultural building, erect poly tunnel (retrospective) and gave a brief resume of the meeting. The decision made by the Committee was that permission was given for the building of barn but for storage purposes only and on condition that it not be used for housing livestock at any time. The actual barn was not deemed to be too big or obtrusive and was in line with the requirement of a small holding of this size. The poly tunnel was also permitted.
- The Chairman said that a site meeting was held with Mr Lee, the applicant, West Stour councillors and some local residents from Stour Hill Park, Stour Hill Farm and Trap House Cottage in respect of p/a 2/2018/1200/FUL, Land at Pt OS 28, Stour Hill Park, West Stour. A number of issues were raised with the applicant: - Foul water disposal, rain water run-off, access to water and foul water waste pipes (running across the land). There isn't any provision for sewage treatment. Access to the site appears to be via the A30 only. The application has said that there are no

trees or hedges on the site, which is incorrect (it is understood that the Scots Pine is subject to a tree preservation order). West Stour Parish has drafted a response for Development Control. A copy to go to Cllr Jane Westbrook. It will be requested that this application goes to Committee and it was advised that a West Stour Parish councillor attends the meeting.

#### **2018/126 CORRESPONDENCE**

- Letter from John Gould, saying that he is no longer able to continue working on the Wild Flower Meadow. This will be on East Stour Parish meeting's agenda to follow up. It was agreed that John has done a very good job of the Meadow and it is a pleasure to look at when in flower.
- Royal Mail is raising awareness of scam mail – posters displayed. Any concerns that someone is in receipt of scam mail contact Royal Mail.

#### **2018/127 DORSET COUNCILS PARTNERSHIP MATTERS**

Regular updates and monthly reports received from Cllr Graham Carr-Jones.  
Shaping Dorset Council Town & Parish Council briefing 22.10.18 (circulated).  
Electoral Review of Dorset: final recommendations (circulated by e-mail 23/10/18).

Cllr Jane Westbrook said that there is very little going on as everything is being focussed on the reorganisation of the new partnership, which will come into effect 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019. Debbie Ward is no longer the Chief Executive for DCC. Matt Prosser is the new partnership's Chief Executive. There will be some natural wastage and some new vacancies arising for the partnership. The Stours Parish Council will be split into two electoral boundaries.

#### **2018/128 TRAVELLERS AND GYPSIES**

Cllr Jane Westbrook said that Paula Clover (Gypsy & Traveller Liaison Officer) is trying to work hard with the council to help resolve the issue with the Travellers. Highways have said that they do not own the rear piece of the lay-by at Five Bridges (even though it was the route of the old A30). Jane has a map showing that highways do own all of the area. Jane and Cllr Parker have met with Alison Creighton from Wessex Water. Wessex Water are happy to pay for a barrier. The Highways officer is off sick at present so there is a halt in proceedings until ownership of the land has been resolved. They are trying to seek assistance from Simon Hoare MP to persuade DCC or LPA to find a site for the Travellers and accept it as their statutory duty.

#### **2018/129 GILLINGHAM SOUTHERN EXTENSION**

The Taylor Wimpey site at Lodden Lakes has received planning permission for 90 homes, 18 of which will be affordable. It is anticipated that the work will commence in the New Year. The LEP has granted £3½m to improve the roads through Gillingham and there is a further £4m which has been applied for but not received for the Housing Infrastructure Fund. Further housing development sites will now be brought forward in order to develop the GSE plan in full.

#### **2018/130 EAST STOUR WAR MEMORIAL**

Cllr Gilding said that finally after four years of trying the war memorial in the form of a human sundial which has been constructed solely from private donations will be dedicated on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 11am, all are welcome. The service will be led by Rev Tim Heaton, also in attendance will be Su Hunt, Mayor of Gillingham, Gillingham and Shaftesbury RBL, Devon and Dorset Association, Royal Navy, Army Cadets. Children from Stover Provost Community School will also be in attendance reading out the names of those that served and the fallen. It is something that the Village needed to remember those who served and died in the First World War. There is a plaque inside the entrance to the Village Hall with the names (this used to be in the snooker hall across the road). Guy was thanked for all his dedication and hard work on this worthwhile project.

#### **2018/131 STOUR ROW CHURCH**

There will be a planning application to turn the closed church into a residential property (not yet received). There was a drop in session held in the hall to which a fair few people attended to answer any questions. There will be works done on the south side of the church, however the outside of the building cannot be changed. It will be good to see the church be turned into a property. Planning permission has to be granted before the Church Commissioners can sell the church.

#### **2018/132 DAPTC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018**

Cllr Parker, DAPTC Chairman will attend this meeting

### **2018/133 FINANCE – ACCOUNTS for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018**

Balances of Accounts from statements as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 – NSB £5,018.29. Scottish Widows Bank – £22,738.33  
Lloyds plc – £19,211.11

Included in these balances is £6,165.00 which has been ring fenced for Clerk's gratuity (min ref 2010/94, 2015/022 & 67, 2016/165, 2017/114 & 2018/113).

Copy of Income & Expenses 1.9.18 to 31.10.18 and budget 2018/19 (2 monthly and to date) summary distributed.

It was **resolved** to adopt the accounts. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Watkins, seconded by Cllr Nalty.

It was **resolved** that the Clerk's gratuity of £6,165.00 be transferred to the Council's NSI account from Scottish Widows Bank. Proposed by Cllr Haddon, seconded by Cllr Mrs Watkins.

### **Payments**

It was **resolved** to make the following payments:

- Mrs M Cox - reimburse broadband - £18.49
- Karen James – Stour Row churchyard and village hall grass maintenance - £300
- David Braybon – tree works at Stour Provost playing field - £576
- Viking – stationery supplies - £51.87 & £145.51
- Clearstone solutions bus shelters cleaning - £48
- Mrs M Cox – reimburse Macrium software support - £12.24
- M Belcher – cleaning of pavilion - £50
  
- It was agreed in principle to pay David Braybon £1680+ vat for Stour Provost playing field tree/hedge maintenance. Cllr Mrs Watkins gave a brief background as to why the works need to be done. The trees between the playing field and the neighbouring residents are within a conservation area and there is a need to tidy up the trees. Some work has already been carried out the playing field side at a cost of £576. The quote is for lowering the hedge to a height of 4m, also to reduce the height of the Field Maple and Elm and the Ash trees might need topping. There will be an application to Planning as the trees are in a conservation area.
- It was agreed to the purchase of a VarioSID (approx. £2500) to be used at East Stour to replace their existing SID, which will be used between Todber and West Stour) after the start of the new financial year April 2019.

Proposed by Cllr Mrs Blacklock, seconded by Cllr Mrs Newton.

### **Internal Auditor's report**

Report received from Mrs Diana West (previously circulated). The Clerk said she has corrected the inconsistencies with the annotations of the minute references for payments and will investigate higher interest paying accounts. Cllr Mrs Blacklock congratulated the Clerk for her work with the accounts. Seconded by Cllr Mrs Watkins.

### **Budget and Precept for 2019/20**

Precept Derivation figures produced as at 31.10.18 and were perused. The Clerk will produce another set as at 31.12.18 in order that the precept can be agreed at the January meeting.

### **2018/134 REVIEW OF PARISH COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

These were circulated and were accepted without any amendments. Proposed by Cllr Nalty, seconded by Cllr Mrs Watkins.

### **2018/135 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OF COUNCIL**

- a) Chairman's – 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 – East Stour playing field were third in this year's Field of the Year Competition and received an award of £25. Cllr Mrs B Edwards attended the presentation at Woolavington Village Hall.  
Cllr Gilding said that Steve Wattridge will start the previously agreed works on the play equipment within the next few weeks.

Stour Provost and the pavilion. The cutting of the grass is much better now that Countrywide Grounds maintenance is used as they have better equipped machinery. Andrew Mills will be cutting the hedges as Steve Stokes is very ill. The Playing Field committee will look into grants/volunteer help in order to maintain the boundary hedge and also to apply for saplings, from the Woodland Trust.  
Stour Row – all fine.

- d) Crime  
PCSO Chris Mullens sent his apologies. He sent in a report of report crimes since the last meeting, vehicle broken into at Stour Row a handbag was taken. A field gate stolen from a field in East Stour. In East Stour a garage at a residential property was broken into, a number of mechanical tools and welding equipment taken. He gave the following advice with the dark evenings that residents check their security lighting is working and remove plants covering detectors. It is a prime time of year for outbuilding breaks; petrol powered garden tools being the favourite prize for thieves.  
The meeting also mentioned B.T. and Lloyds Bank scams. Anything suspicious to ring 101 & report it.
- e) DAPTC  
The next Northern Area meeting is Wednesday January 16<sup>th</sup> 2019 at the Pavilion, Okeford Fitzpaine
- f) CPRE  
Countryside Voice, Fieldwork & Dorset Review publications.

**2018/136 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**  
Stour Row Church. To set the 2019/20 precept.

**2018/1317 DATE OF FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ALL THURSDAYS AT 7.30pm**  
10<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at Stour Row, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at West Stour, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at Stour Provost, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at East Stour, 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at Stour Row, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at West Stour.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm and thanked everyone for attending.

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