

Winterborne Stickland Parish Council

Chairman: David Godden

Clerk: Mrs Sam Smith: Hill Cottage, Milton Abbas, Blandford Forum, DT11 OAZ

Email: wsticklandpc@gmail.com **Website:** www.dorsetforyou.com/398616

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 18th May 2015.

Present: Councillors D Godden (Chairman), J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman), V Manners, S Phillips, S Webb, J Tebb & K Hickson **Apologies:** District Councillor A Burch

In attendance: Sam Smith (Clerk) & 2 members of the community.

- 1. Welcome & Apologies:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2. District Councillor's Report:** District Cllr Burch did not attend the meeting or send a report.
- 3. PC Officer's Report:** Cllr Manners reported that various small crimes had taken place and been reported recently, but these were not local to W Stickland.
- 4. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 20th April were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman.
- 5. Clerk's update/actions:** The actions arising from the Parish Council meeting held on the 20th April 2015 were reviewed and updates given. The Clerk has chased DWP to request that the PC pay the money owed for last year's weed collection, but has received no response.
- 6. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 7. Planning applications: 2/2015/0622/HOUSE 4 Quarleston Hamlets, Clenston Road - erect car port** - the PC had no objections to this planning application.

2/2015/0657/FUL Land opposite The Old Farmhouse, Chalky Path - erect 2 dwellings, vehicle access and car parking - a lengthy discussion took place. Cllr Godden & Cllr Sutcliffe had visited the site. It was felt that although one of the proposed buildings is of a modern design construction, consideration had been taken into how it would complement the current surroundings and how it would be screened from the road. It was proposed by Cllr Sutcliffe and seconded by Cllr Phillips and all Cllrs **agreed** that they had no objections to the application. Cllr Sutcliffe **agreed** to write up some notes and forward these to the Clerk to include in our planning comments to NDDC.

8. Planning applications - decision notices: 2/2015/0397/FUL TV relay station, Stickland Hill Farm - 6 new antennas - granted by NDDC

9. Matters Arising:

9.1 Co option of an 8th Councillor: After a discussion between Cllrs it was agreed to co opt Paul Kennea on to the W Stickland Parish Council. Cllr Kennea completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Disclosable Pecuniary Interest form and returned them to the Clerk. Responsibility for checking the bike track was assigned to Cllr Kennea and the bike park book was handed to him for recording his findings.

9.2 Sports Club update: A letter has been received from W Houghton PC stating their concerns re the future and current management of the Sport Club site. Cllr Gooden has sent a reply. An email has been received from Geoff Brown, the Sport Club Treasurer. A final Sports Club Committee meeting is planned for the 10th June at the Sports Club but it is

looking very likely that the Sports Club cannot carry on operating. A meeting will need to be arranged along with W Houghton & W Clenston to discuss the future and how to secure and insure the site for the foreseeable future. The Clerk to organise the meeting and inform all.

9.3 Trees at Play Park/Kersin: The Clerk has received a £5 peppercorn rent payment from Mr Smith at Kersin. Mr Smith had mentioned to the Clerk some concerns regarding overgrown trees and bushes surrounding his property. Cllr Phillips **agreed** to look at the trees and get in contact with Charles Lovell and obtain a quote for any work that needs to be done.

9.4 Solar Park & Community Benefit fund: It was agreed that a change could be made to the Solar Fund Constitution to allow for printing and advertising costs to be taken from the benefit fund (max £200 per year). The Open Day took place at the Solar Farm on the weekend of the 16th May and approx 15 people attended. The first payment of the Solar benefit (£8,700) is at present in the PC bank account. Transferring this money into a separate Solar Fund bank account was discussed and Cllrs wanted to look into this option in further detail before making a decision. A Solar Fund Committee meeting is planned for 1st of June and consideration of a separate account for the money is on their agenda. A legal agreement with British Solar Renewables is still not in place, but discussions are moving forward. BSR have agreed to deposit 5yrs worth of benefit in to an escrow account under the management of a solicitor. The solicitor will then authorise a payment each year to the PC/ Solar Fund Committee.

9.5 River Management & Flood Plan: A meeting is planned shortly to discuss the next stream weed clearance day. It is thought that this will take place after the bird nesting season. The River Management and Flood Plan needs further work to enable completion.

9.6 Fingerpost project: Cllr Phillips has started looking at the cost implications of refurbishing the village fingerposts. Sand blasting the letters alone (W Stickland) would cost approx £40-£60.00. It was suggested that some of the fingerposts might benefit from just a very good clean with soap and water. Progress will be reported back at the next PC meeting.

10. Financial Report: Cheques for payment were **agreed** as follows:

- Clerk £305.47 (salary May 2015 & office expenses)
- C Lovell £148.00 (grass cutting May 2015, £85.50 1 cut of the orchard £62.50)
- Came & Company PC insurance £771.94

£5.00 received in peppercorn rent from Kersin and paid into the PC bank account. The first instalment of the precept **£3,892.54** has been credited to the PC bank account.

The following documents were signed by the Chairman

- Asset register as at 31st March 2015
- Statement of income & expenditure for the year end 31st March 2015
- Accounting Statements 2014/15
- Annual Governance statement 2014/15
- Risk assessment 2014/15

The audit paperwork has been signed off by the internal auditor. It was **agreed** that a small gift would be purchased to thank John Jeffery for auditing our accounts.

11. Correspondence: Received as follows:

- DAPTC Local Audit & Accountability Act & Transparency Code - the Clerk will investigate if the PC can publish the information required to comply with the new act on the 'Dorset for you' website.
- Hawkins & Skinner Charity - A letter of resignation has been received from Zoe Sprackling a trustee of the charity. This will take effect from 1st July 2015. A new trustee will need to be sought by the PC.
- An email has been received re the condition of the roads in W Stickland - It was felt by Cllrs that the PC could not keep contacting Highways on this issue as a previous response has already been received. It was felt that if residents feel strongly about this issue they should contact Highways at DDC themselves to re-inforce our concerns..
- A letter has been received from The Old Rectory - the problem hedge is in the process of being trimmed.
- An email from DAPTC with new councillor training dates.
- A letter from Wessex Water- informing the PC of some work due to take place at Downfield in May 2015.
- Macmillan Dorset Bike Ride - this will pass through the village on Sunday 5th July.

12. Democratic period: A resident mentioned that a trailer carrying hay had lost its load recently at the Triangle in W Stickland, luckily nobody was hurt.

13. Items for the next agenda:

- Fingerposts
- Sports Club
- Trees at Kersin

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm

Next meeting Date:

Monday 29th June 2015 @ 7.30pm **Venue:** Pamela Hambro Village Hall, W Stickland.

Signed.....Presiding Chairman.

Date.....