

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 20th April 2015.

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

In attendance: District Councillor A Burch, Sam Smith (Clerk) & 3 members of the community.

1. Welcome & Apologies: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. District Councillor's Report: District Cllr Burch attended the meeting but did not have anything to report.

3. PC Officer's Report: The April copy of the SNT Blandford newsletter had not been received but Cllr Manners reported that some cars had been stolen in the wider surrounding areas, mainly where the keys had been left in the ignition. Recently the Police carried out a large drugs raid in Blandford which resulted in a number of people being detained.

4. Minutes: The minutes of the meetings held on the 23rd March & the 31st March 2015 were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

5. Clerk's update/actions: The actions arising from the Parish Council meeting held on the 23rd March 2015 were reviewed and updates given. The broken bench at the village green has now been fixed.

6. Declarations of Interest: None

7. Planning applications: None

8. Planning applications - decision notices: Conservatory at Spinners, West Street Winterborne Stickland - a retrospective planning application - appeal. Result - the appeal has been dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate.

9. Matters Arising:

9.1 Local elections - appointment of new Councillors: The W Stickland Parish Council has a maximum capacity of 9 Councillors. Only 7 candidates put their names forward for the May election and so therefore all 7 Councillors will be re elected at the May meeting on the 18th. The Clerk has received a 'Notice of Uncontested Election' for the 7 Cllrs who will be re elected. Paul Kennea has come forward and expressed a wish to join the Council and it was **agreed** that this would be discussed at the next meeting in May. Cllr Cowan has stepped down from the PC and Cllr Godden thanked him for his hard work and contribution to the Parish Council over the past year. Anyone interested in becoming a Councillor for W Stickland should contact the Clerk. The next WSPC will be on Monday 18th May and will include our AGM and Annual Parish Meeting. This meeting will start at 7pm.

9.2 Sports Club update: A representative from the Sport Club did not attend the meeting. We are still waiting to see sight of the fire insurance document from the Sports Club Committee. The Blandford Community Youth Bus is due to visit the Sports Club on the 21st April & the 5th May in the early evening.

9.3 Possible uses for the land at Downfield: An email has been received from a resident asking about the possibility of keeping a horse on the land. The land registry document states that the land must be used as a 'public open space' It has been suggested that the Milton Abbey School might take on a Project with a view to developing the land as a wildlife

site. Cllrs **agreed** to look into this option first and Cllr Godden **agreed** to explore this further.

9.4 Canada Farm solar fund & park: A legal agreement has still not been forthcoming from British Solar Renewals (BSR) to cover the annual village payments to the solar fund. The interest in the land that the solar park sits on has been sold on to a pension fund. BSR had suggested they could put our legal agreement in place on another of their solar parks but this has not materialised. BSR have offered in the meantime to deposit 5yrs of solar fund money upfront into a bank account under a solicitors management. This money would then be handed out to the Solar Fund Committee annually should the company go into administration. Cllrs expressed a disappointment in the situation and 5 yrs was thought to be not enough to cover our interests. Cllr Godden **agreed** to ask BSR to increase this to 10 yrs. BSR are going to host an Open Day at the Canada Farm Solar Park on Saturday May 16th and will be pleased to welcome anybody who would like to visit the site. There will be conducted tours by staff from BSR who will explain the need for renewable energy and show how the Solar Park generates power for the National Grid. The conducted tours will take place at 10 a.m, 12 and 2 p.m. and are expected to last about an hour. BSR would like interested parties to book a time slot by talking to Marcus or Amira on 01458 224900 or by e-mail to Marcus.Dixon@britishrenewables.com as this will ensure that staff are available at the appropriate time. For those who are only interested in a quick view of the Solar Array then no arrangements need to be made and you only need to turn up between 10 a.m and 3 p.m. but, of course, there will be no explanation of the working arrangements. Children will be most welcome but as this is a live electrical power plant installation then they will need parental supervision. There are no toilets or other facilities on site and you will need to wear appropriate footwear and clothing suitable for the weather and terrain ensuing that you have water, sunscreen, sunglasses and hats if it is a hot day!

The Solar Fund Committee has had its second meeting and 2 applications have been received so far asking for funding. The email address for any further requests is sticklandsolarfund@yahoo.com. Christine Holbrook is the Chairman of the Solar Fund Committee.

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

- Clerk £219.91 (salary April 2015 & office expenses)
- C Lovell £85.50 (grass cutting contract April 2015)
- P Kennea £48.00 (repair of bench @ village green)
- D Godden £30.00 (flowers for Post Office)

The Clerk presented the 2015/2016 WS Parish Council Budget for the Chairman to sign. The WSPC Risk assessment document was also signed by the Chairman.

All Cllrs **agreed** that as stated in the 2015/16 budget £1,000 should be transfer from the PC main bank account into play park account.

11. Correspondence: Received as follows:

- Annual Great Dorset Beach clean up poster (26th April 2015) - received
- Email reminder of the Winterborne Divisional meeting on the 22/4/2015 in Milton Abbas. Councillor Godden will attend.
- Notice of 'Poll & Statement of persons nominated' for District Cllr for Bulbarrow received.
- An email re the parking of cars in Blandford on the road near Bryanston School roundabout. Bollards have been placed to stop residents parking at the bottom of Bryanston Hill and therefore the traffic congestion has been moved further along the

road. The Clerk **agreed** to write a letter to NDDC stating our concerns.

12. Democratic period:

The Clerk **agreed** to chase Dorset Waste Partnership for their invoice for the weed collection that took place last year after the stream clearance.

13. Items for the next agenda:

- Sports Club
- Change to the Solar Constitution - to allow printing/advertising expenses to be claimed
- Stream management/weed clearance
- Audit update - documents to sign

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm

Next meeting Date: AGM & Annual Parish Meeting, Monday 18th May 2015 @ 7pm
Venue: Pamela Hambro Village Hall, Winterborne Stickland

Signed.....Presiding Chairman.

Date.....