

Winterborne Stickland Parish Council

Chairman: David Godden

Clerk: Mrs Sam Smith: Hill Cottage, Milton Abbas, Blandford Forum, DT11 0AZ

Email: wsticklandpc@gmail.com

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 26th October 2015.

Present: Councillors D Godden (Chairman), V Manners, S Phillips, P Kennea, & K Hickson

Apologies: Cllrs J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman), J Tebb, S Webb, District Cllr A Burch & Sam Smith (Clerk) **In attendance:** Liz Sellen (stand in Clerk) & 2 members of the community.

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

2. District Councillor's Report: None

3. PC Officer's Report: Cllr Manners reported a break-in at Hedge End Farm (slug pellets, weed killer & tools stolen) at some time between 18-19th September, and an attempt to set fire to a "For Sale" sign at Wyvern Cottage.

4. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on the 28th September 2015 were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman.

5. Clerk's update/actions: The actions arising from the Parish Council meeting held on the 28th September 2015 were reviewed and updates given. Mike Peat has been instructed to remove the dead cherry tree at the village green he has also been asked to clear the crab apples from Stickleberries playground and trim the berry bushes – it was reported that the tree had been taken down. Two new village benches are still waiting to be constructed. Cllr Kennea advised that this was being held up due to an ongoing repair to his van. Cllr Godden had attempted to deliver wine & chocolates for Tim Martin with a thank you letter; these had been left in the porch as no one was in.

6. Declarations of Interest: Cllrs Phillips & Kennea (Sports Club) Cllrs Phillips & Sutcliffe (Solar Fund)

7. Planning applications received for review: Tree works - **1 West Street DT11 0NT** - fell conifers and pollard Silver Birch. It was unanimously **agreed** that there are no objections to the proposed works. **The Old Rectory North St DT11 0NL** – Yew – section fell to ground level. It was unanimously **agreed** that there are no objections to the proposed works.

8. Planning applications - decision notices: **2/2015/0903/FUL Land North of Quarleston Farm**, form bridge access & gateway **granted** by NDDC. Cllr Godden reported that Cllr Sutcliffe had attended the Development Management Committee meeting at NDDC on 13th Oct 2015. The application was subsequently approved by NDDC largely due to the fact that the Highways and Environment representatives had not anticipated any problems with the application.

9. Matters Arising:

9.1 Sports Club update: There has been no contact from Geoff Brown (previous Sports Club Treasurer) and the large electric bill is still outstanding. The Clerk had sought advice from SSE relating to the outstanding debt and confirmed that the new club can get connected with a new account and will not inherit the old debt. Mike Ford reported that weekly meetings were ensuring slow, steady progress. Committee members to include the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer (Nick Hendy), and Compliance Officer (Mike Ford) had been appointed and the constitution had been signed. Nick Hendy anticipated that the bank account should be open within a week. Cllr Godden had arranged with Nick Hendy for certain expenses relating to the alterations and security to be settled by the PC following advice from the External Auditor (BDO LLP) which confirmed that the PC can recover the VAT for the benefit of the Solar

72 / Minutes

Fund. Cllr Kennea requested a letter from the Clerk to provide consent to use the sports field for camping pitches. Mike Ford has arranged to make a presentation to Winterborne Houghton PC, who have requested confirmation of Winterborne Stickland PC support. Cllr Godden confirmed that it would be appropriate to work towards securing a lease in due time.

9.2 Solar Fund update: Cllr Godden reported that the Deed of Arrangement had still not been signed, although changes have now been agreed with the Solicitor. To compensate for the ongoing delays, the payment date has been moved forward from January/April 2016 to November 2015. It has also been agreed that the money can be paid into a deposit account instead of an escrow account. BSR said no to paying for solar panels on Pam Ham Hall but as the 2nd annual payment is to be paid early the Sports Club and Solar Panels at Pam Ham Hall can both be funded. A meeting was held in The Crown on Thursday 8th Oct 2015 - Cllr Godden, PC Clerk, Solar Fund Committee & Sports Club representative attended. The agenda was to agree a process for transferring funds from the PC bank account to beneficiaries. The Solar Fund cheque book was given to Solar Fund Treasurer Adrian Henson. All cheques to be signed by 2 signatures. 1. Cllr Phillips or Cllr Sutcliffe 2. The PC Clerk (Sam Smith) inc check invoices before signing. SF Treasurer to keep a copy of all accounts. All financial paperwork to be forwarded to The Clerk in April each year for the PC Audit to take place. The PC will claim VAT on sports Club expenses but not solar fund benefit pay-outs in general.

9.3 PC website: Cllr Godden advised that following a response to the advertisement in the Valley News, Alex Ross has kindly stepped forward to assist with the PC website. He recommended not using free host facilities due to hidden on-costs. Development of the website is in progress. The new address will be www.winterbornestickland.org.uk. Hopefully the PC will be able to claim the set up costs back from a DAPTC grant. The Pc has paid for a domain name for 5 years and hosting for 1 year (will need to be renewed next year) Cllr Godden advised that Mark Steele had agreed to assist with the website if no one else stepped forward, so he would contact Mark to thank him and inform him that his assistance was no longer required.

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

- Clerk £217.27(salary Oct 2015 & office expenses)
- C Lovell £85.50(grass cutting for Oct 2015)
- Alexander Ross £95.70 (website - domain name & hosting)

11. Correspondence: Received as follows: All correspondence emailed to Cllrs in advance. Winterborne Division meeting 27th Oct 2015 7pm @ Milton Abbas. DAPTC AGM 7th November 2015 – Cllr Godden agreed to attend. The Clerk read five motions from the AGM agenda and the Councillors expressed their support of motions 1, 2 and 4.

12. Democratic period: Mike Ford enquired regarding River Management. Cllr Godden reported that during the previous weekend, the winter clearance of weed had been carried out with good support. The Chairman thanked all the volunteers that had given their time to help with the clearance. Will Bown had been a great asset and it was hoped that he will stay on to advise the team. The plan is to recommence in April with frequent low level maintenance to aid the flow.

13. Items for the next agenda: None, The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05 pm.

Next meeting Date: Monday 30th November 2015 @ 7.30pm **Venue:** Pamela Hambro Village Hall, W Stickland.

Signed.....Presiding Chairman.

Date.....