

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 29th June 2015.

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

Apologies: Cllrs J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman), J Tebb, P Kennea & S Webb

In attendance: District Councillor A Burch, Sam Smith (Clerk) & 5 members of the community.

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

2. District Councillor's Report: Cllr Godden congratulated Audrey Burch on her recent re election and on her subsequent appointment as Vice Chairman at North Dorset District Council. District Cllr Burch reported that the North Dorset Local Plan was progressing well and the recent modifications made will soon be put out to consultation. W Stickland will keep its settlement boundaries this means it will be classed as a major village. It was previously thought that the Local Plan would prohibit the building of new houses in Stickland but this does now not appear to be the case. The allocation of possible traveller sites has been put on hold until 2016.

3. PC Officer's Report: Cllr Manners reported a very quiet month with nothing to report.

4. Minutes: The minutes of the meetings held on the 18th May were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman.

5. Clerk's update/actions: The actions arising from the Parish Council meeting held on the 18th May 2015 were reviewed and updates given. The Clerk informed the PC that she would be unable to attend the October meeting and it was **agreed** that the Milton Abbas Clerk will provide cover for the meeting. The Clerk has received a quote for cutting/trimming the trees next to Kersin and this will be circulated to all Cllrs for discussion at the next meeting. Trimming the hedges at Downfield was also discussed but work will not take place until the Autumn. Cllrs signed the bank letter to HSBC to enable the Clerk to transfer £1,000 from the PC main account into the Play Park savings account.

6. Declarations of Interest: None

7. Planning applications:

0807/HOUSE Spinners, West Street DT11 0NT - erect conservatory (remove existing)

Agreed with no objections

0792/HOUSE 37 North Street DT11 0HN - erect 2 storey rear extension

Agreed with no objections

0767/HOUSE & 0673/LCB Bourneside House, West Street DT11 0NT - raise height of chimney, internal flue, remove & replace 13 windows

Agreed with no objections

0742/HOUSE 24 Downfield, DT11 0NE - single storey extension, loft conversion with dormer windows

Agreed with no objections

Review of the planning application of The Old Farmhouse, Chalky Lane -

It has been brought to the Parish Council's attention that a boundary dispute is taking place between the property owners at The Old Farmhouse and Sycamore Farm and the two parties both attended the meeting. Both spoke and addressed the PC with their concerns. Cllr Godden stated that while the PC is sympathetic we are limited in our powers and this is a civil/personal matter that needs to be rectified by the two parties themselves. The Clerk **agreed** to write to NDDC and state that the PC are aware of a boundary issue and a solution should be sought, ideally before planning permission is granted.

8. Planning applications - decision notices:

0136/OUT Land south of The Old Malt House, Clenston Road - **granted by NDDC**
0622/HOUSE 4 Quarlestone Hamlets, Clenston Road - **granted by NDDC**

9. Matters Arising:

9.1 Solar Fund agreement & Banking: Cllr Godden had attended a meeting earlier in the day with County Hall and their solicitors, this was a solar fund community benefit information sharing activity. Other Parishes in Dorset attended. An agreement was finally made on the banking arrangements for the solar benefit money. It was **agreed** that the money will be moved into another account but linked to the Parish Councils main bank account. It was suggested that this account would need its own cheque book for payments to be made. The Clerk explained that this is not possible on the HSBC account that we currently have. To set up another account the Clerk will need to request a meeting with a Business Manager at the Dorchester branch. Cllr Godden **agreed** to attend this meeting with the Clerk to try and bring the banking situation to a conclusion. A legal agreement is still not in place for the Solar Fund money but plans are going ahead for 5 years worth of payments to be placed in an Escrow account, held at the solicitors to protect our interests. A Memorandum of Understanding will be provided by BSR. British Solar Renewables are planning to open another Solar Park at Down House (adjacent to Canada Farm) and they are hoping to make a presentation to residents at some point in the near future at the Pamela Hambro Hall.

9.2 Sports Club update: A notice has gone in the July Valley News to inform residents that there will be an Extra-Ordinary Parish Council meeting on the 10th July 7.30pm at the W Stickland Sports Club. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the future of the site and the building. The meeting will also be attended by W Houghton PC and W Clenston Parish meeting as the land is owned by all 3 parishes. An agenda for the meeting was **agreed** and a poster will be made up for Cllrs to circulate. Scott Bagwell at Hedge End Farm has kindly cut the grass and Cllr Godden agreed to write to Scott and thank him. Ways to make the site traveller proof were also discussed.

9.3 PC website & PC laptop IT support: Due to the new transparency rules that come into effect soon, all small Parish Councils must have a public website with certain information posted for the public to see. As there is currently no village website the Clerk has approached the Pamela Hambro Hall to see if it is possible for the PC to take a page on their website. Initial enquiries are looking promising and all Cllrs **agreed** that the Clerk could take this idea further. It was also **agreed** that Offline IT Solutions would be used for IT support in future should the Clerk have any problems with the PC laptop.

9.4 River management update: Dorset Wildlife Trust have visited the village and met with Cllr Godden and Richard Marchant. Maintenance of the river was discussed and the message seems to be 'little & often' rather than one great big clean up of the stream. The residents of Bournside House have been undertaking weed clearance at the top end of the village with excellent results. Cllr Phillips agreed to get together with Cllr Sutcliffe and to start thinking about some stream clearing by starting at the Village Green. Approx 6 volunteers would be needed for this task. DWP would again be asked to take away the weed/waste. It was suggested that Tim Martin at Glebe Farm be contacted as in the past he has taken small amounts of weed etc from the stream and used it on his fields. Cllr Godden **agreed** to contact Mr Martin.

9.5 Hedge at the Old Vicarage: Further complaints have been received regarding the overgrown hedge which is impeding traffic visibility at the junction of Chalky Lane. Cllr Godden has written to Highways to review and request that they contact the property owner and request that the hedge is further trimmed back.

9.6 Speed of traffic - Fairmile Road - a resident has brought to the Parish Councils attention his concerns regarding the speed of the traffic along this road. Most of the traffic is travelling at well over 30 miles per hour and well within the 30 mile per hour zone. Cllr Godden had met with PC Luke Goddard (Police) and asked for his advice. A sign which flashes the traffic speed was recommended. This also logs the drivers details and a letter is then sent from the Police to the driver reminding them of the speed limit. The Clerk **agreed** to contact PC Goddard and organise this. It was also suggested that the speed aware sign should be facing the other way pointing towards Blandford and not Turnworth as usual, the Clerk

agreed to mention this to PC Goddard also.

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

- Clerk £348.63 (salary June 2015 & office expenses)
- C Lovell £148.00 (grass cutting for June 2015 plus 1 x cut of the orchard)
- DAPTC Annual subs £186.47
- Offline IT Solutions £50.00 (PC laptop fix)
- DAPTC new Councillor training £30.00

The Clerk stated that the audit paperwork had been returned from BDO for amendment. The Solar Fund money needs to be declared as it is in the Parish Councils bank account, even if this is a temporary measure. The PC will need to pay a £30.00 admin charge at a later date for this amendment.

11. Correspondence: Received as follows: A resident has stated that he would like to plant some Oak trees in W Stickland. Maintenance etc was discussed but a suitable suggested site was not forthcoming and will be reviewed further. Owl boxes had also been offered to the PC and this may be taken up if the site at Downfield becomes a wildlife project in the future. An email has been received from Zoe Sprackling re the Hawkins/Skinner charity - a notice will go in the next Valley News asking residents of W Stickland (over 65yrs old) to come forward to claim their annual payment. The annual distribution for the above charities is now due to take place during the month of July 2015. There is also a Hawkins/Skinner Trustee vacancy should anybody be interested in volunteering. The next Winterborne Division meeting will be held on Wed 1st July 2015 in the Milton Abbas Reading Rooms at 7pm.

12. Democratic period:

It was mentioned that the war memorial bench was looking a bit tired and may need replacing. The Clerk **agreed** to check that it was in fact Parish Council property before further action is taken. A resident raised the issue of overgrown hedges along North Street especially alongside the Spectrum Housing (Church Hill Court). The Clerk **agreed** to put an article in the Valley News and write to Spectrum Housing asking for the hedges to be trimmed.

13. Items for the next agenda:

- Fingerposts
- War memorial bench
- Kersin - Trees etc

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm

Next meeting Date:

Monday 27th July 2015 @ 7.30pm **Venue:** Pamela Hambro Village Hall, W Stickland.

Signed.....Presiding Chairman.

Date.....

