

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 25th January 2016.

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

In attendance: District Cllr 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 Audrey Burch reported that the financial settlement from central government was announced just before Christmas and was for a 4yr period as opposed to the traditional annual settlement, so taking us up to 2020. The final settlement has not yet been received. Estimates for the medium term, 2016, showed a budget gap of £626,000 but an updated estimate showed £629,00. The revenue support grant (RSG) will be reducing and going down to zero by the end of the decade. This may even mean that by 2019, NDDC will be paying back to central government £54,091 called 'tariff adjustment'. Central government is not giving the District Council a choice as to the level of council tax. We have been notified that it will be raised for 2016/17.

3. PC Officer's Report: Cllr Manners reported a quiet couple of months in the surrounding villages but there had been a stabbing, which had resulted in a death, in East Street Blandford at the beginning of January.

4. Minutes: The minutes of the meetings held on the 30th November 2015 & 11th January 2016 were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman.

5. Clerk's update/actions: Cllr Kennea was absent from the meeting but the Clerk will contact him to follow up the equipment repairs needed at the play park. DCC have stated that they do not have a budget for new bus shelters therefore any shelters would have to be funded by the Parish Council. The Parish Council would also be responsible for any maintenance, repairs or replacements. All Cllrs agreed that they did not wish to pursue the bus shelter issue further. Funds could be obtained from elsewhere, the Solar Fund, Dunbury School etc. The Parish Council is only informed of dropped kerb applications when planning permission is involved. The 2 most recent new dropped kerbs in the village have not required planning permission from NDDC.

6. Declarations of Interest: Planning - Cllr Godden (neighbour to Dunbury Lodge). Cllr Godden did not take part in the planning discussion with regards to Dunbury Lodge.

7. Planning applications received for review:

2/2016/0005/HOUSE - Dunbury Lodge DT11 0NN The property owner attended the meeting and spoke of his proposed plans. Cllr Tebb left the meeting to visit the site during the meeting. On her return it was agreed that there were no objections to the proposed plans but Cllrs would like to comment that 'no additional windows are to be placed on the East or North elevation to protect the privacy at Frampton House'

8. Planning applications - decision notices: None

9. Matters Arising:

9.1 Budget/precept 2016/2017: The Clerk circulated the revised proposed budget figures and went through the individual items/amounts with Councillors. It was agreed by all that the Precept would need to be increased to cover all the expected PC expenditure for 2016/17.

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It was agreed that the figure would need to increase by £843.01 bringing the total precept request to £8628.09, the Clerk will submit this figure to NDDC.

9.2 The Great Stare @ Milton Abbey: Cllr Godden had attended a presentation at the Abbey on the 12th January 2016. The aim of the project is to repair & restore the Abbey Church, add visitor facilities (coffee area, shop etc) engage with the local community and encourage use of the facilities. The organisers of the project are looking for volunteers to help with the project - catering, cleaning, tour guide, website etc they are looking to the local community for help. A Capability Brown Festival is planned for Summer 2016.

9.3 Sports Club update: The open evening on the 23rd January was a great success and attended by many locals. Cllr Godden stated how impressed he was with the work completed so far and thanked everyone for their efforts. The sports club is recruiting new members and the membership fee is only £10 annually. Darts & skittles are in the process of being set up. Volunteers are still needed to help run the club, helping to organise events and man the bar etc. The electric has been reconnected and hopefully the previous outstanding bill will be cleared soon. Putting a lease in place will be discussed at the February 2016 PC meeting.

9.4 River management Clenston Road:

The problem hedge along Clenston Road has eventually been cut back. The stream still needs to be cleared and the Clerk agreed to contact the land owners to ask their permission for access on to their land so this could take place, now and in the future, when the Himalayan Balsam arrives.

9.5 Bus service in W Stickland: Proposals are being made by DCC to cut rural bus services that only operate once per week. This would affect Stickland as there is a once a week service in operation. Cllr Godden & Cllr Sutcliffe agreed to reply to the public consultation on rural bus services and express our concerns.

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

- Clerk **£453.40** (salary Dec 2015, Jan 2016 & office expenses)
 - C Lovell **£171.00** (grass cutting for Dec 2015 & Jan 2016)
 - E Sellen **£21.21** (Clerk cover for Oct 2015 meeting)
- Solar Fund cheques WSSC £1,430 & WSSC £3,869.68** (sports club funding)

£58.41 has been received from WHPC (contribution to the sports club insurance)

11. Correspondence: received as follows- All correspondence was emailed to Cllrs in advance of the meeting. A letter has been received from Blandford Town Council requesting a PC contribution to the up keep of the town's public toilets. The PC agreed to not offer a contribution. A Winterborne Division meeting will take place on 23rd February in Milton Abbas @ 7pm Cllr Godden or Cllr Sutcliffe agreed to attend. The PC agreed to nominate a resident to DAPTC to attend the Royal Garden Party, the Clerk will check first that the resident wishes to be nominated. DCC are planning road works at Okeford Fitzpaine from the 11th April 2016 for 4 weeks, the approaching road from Turnworth & Belchawell will be closed.

12. Democratic period: Nothing

13. Items for the next agenda: Sports Club lease

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm

Next meeting Date:

Monday 22nd February 2016 @ 7.30pm **Venue:** Pamela Hambro Village Hall, W Stickland.

Signed.....Presiding Chairman

Date.....