

## Winterborne Stickland Parish Council

**Chairman:** David Godden

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

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### MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 25th April 2016.

**Present:** Councillors D Godden (Chairman), Cllrs J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman) V Manners, P Kennea S Phillips & J Tebb **Apologies:** Cllrs S Webb & K Hickson & District Cllr A Burch  
**In attendance:** Sam Smith (Clerk) & 3 members of the community.

**1. Welcome & Apologies:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. After many years of service on the Parish Council Cllr Sid Webb has informed Cllr Godden of his decision to resign as a Councillor. The Clerk will inform NDDC and at the next Parish Council meeting in May the decision on whether to co opt another member onto the PC will be discussed.

**2. District Councillor's Report:** District Cllr Audrey Burch did not attend the meeting.

**3. PC Officer's Report:** Cllr Manners stated that there had been no recent criminal activity in the area to report. PC Mullins had recently met with Cllr Godden and informed him that although the Police do not routinely attend PC meetings, if we requested attendance for a specific agenda item, an officer would attend.

**4. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 21st March 2016 were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman.

**5. Clerk's update/actions:** Cllr Kennea updated the Parish Council on the play park repairs. The timber boards still need to be replaced on the slide platform, the problem being that a whole section needs to be purchased and only from a play equipment supplier. Cllr Kennea is meeting with another workman next week to discuss the issue further. A specific part may need to be purchased for the slide or it may need to be condemned. The Clerk still needs to send a thank you letter to Wessex Water thanking them for their efficiency during the recent West Street road closure. The Clerk **agreed** to contact Tesco Blandfords Community Champion to kindly request a donation towards the funding of the Queen's Birthday Party on the 11th June.

**6. Declarations of Interest:** Sports Club - Cllrs Kennea, Phillips & Manners

**7. Planning applications received for review: 2/2016/0470 CATREE Vine Cottage** - this tree application was discussed but the application has since been withdrawn by the applicant.

**8. Planning applications - decision notices: 2/2016/0005/HOUSE Dunbury Lodge, Dunbury Lane** - since the original application the proposed plans have been altered and reduced in size - **Approved by NDDC.**

### **9. Matters Arising:**

**9.1 Unauthorised works in the village and proposed changes to the planning consultation process** - A number of residents have contacted the PC regarding the new entrance/driveway at Vine Cottage, West Street. The Clerk has contacted NDDC Planning Dept and planning permission is not required. Highways have been notified and will be in contact with the property owner shortly to insure that the driveway is constructed correctly.

## 84 / Minutes 2016

Some unofficial planting has taken place alongside the stream (West Street) opposite the Pam Hambro Hall. This is Council land but the planting has been undertaken by a member of the public. Cllr Sutcliffe **agreed** to have a chat with the person responsible and to try and avoid DCC Highways being contacted re the issue. The tri-council partnership (North Dorset District Council, West Dorset District Council & Weymouth & Portland Borough Council) are carrying out some changes to the way consultation with town and parish councils is carried out. Part of this affects how the local authorities communicate with town and parish councils around planning applications. Most of the changes already apply to W Stickland PC but it looks like the PC will need to change its registered email address to a .gov one. The Clerk **agreed** to look in to this matter.

**9.2 Governance & Accountability for Smaller Authorities England 2016 - All Councillors** agreed to adopt this newly updated and reissued document as the Parish Councils guide to proper practices.

**9.3 Rural bus service review** - Due to a recent review of rural bus services by DCC a number of 1 and 2 day a week services are being withdrawn from April 2016. In 2017/18 a further £1m of transport cuts are planned and single day routes are vulnerable to being cut. A meeting is being held in July hosted by the Milton Abbas PC Transport Officer to enable villagers to discuss and think about alternative options to our minimal bus service. W Stickland residents are invited to this meeting. Cllr Sutcliffe **agreed** to try and attend this meeting as our representative.

**9.4 Mobile library service consultation** - from May 2016 the mobile library service is being reduced but this does not affect W Stickland at present. A consultation is currently taking place until the 14th May 2016 with the proposal being to completely withdraw the mobile library service from Dorset. The survey is available online at [www.dorsetforyou.com/mobile-library-consultation](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/mobile-library-consultation). W Stickland has 22 users of the library service and so residents are encouraged to have their say. The Clerk **agreed** to write a letter to our MP to state the Parish Councils concerns with regards to the cut backs currently taking place, which mostly seem to be targeting rural communities.

**9.5 Website - approve payments from Transparency Fund monies received** - £753.70 has been received by the Parish Council from the Transparency Fund for Smaller Authorities via DAPTC. Once the cost of the website hosting and domain name has been deducted from this amount, along with some extra hours claimed by the clerk (website work) the balance will be paid to Alex Ross who set up the Parish Council website and has very kindly agreed to maintain it for us. The new website address is [winterbornestickland.org.uk](http://winterbornestickland.org.uk) this is a work in progress but will eventually contain minutes & agendas, parish council news and the PC financial accounts.

**9.6 Sports club** - A member of the Queen's Birthday Party organising committee attended the meeting and gave us a short presentation on the plan for the day (Sat 11th June). The event will start at 3pm with a craft tent, children's activities and games. There will be a BBQ from 5-8pm followed by some live music. The football will also be shown in the bar. The W Stickland Parish Council agreed to donate **£100** to the Sports Club to help fund the event. Cllr Godden reported that PC Mullins had visited him at home to investigate a report of an issue with regards to a bikers event (not the regular annual bikers event) booked at the Sports Club but the booking not being honoured. Whilst the new Sports Club had been approached regarding a possible booking this was not followed up by the organiser. Whilst there are some heated views on Facebook this appears to be a civil matter and should not require further Police involvement. An update on the Sports Club lease was given - it was **agreed** that initially a rental agreement could be put in place to cover 12 months hire rather than going to the full cost of a 25yr lease which will also take time to resolve. Cllr Godden **agreed** to contact Mike Ford (sports club) to see if they could get together before the next meeting and put a basic hire agreement together.

## 85 / Minutes 2016

**9.7 River management** - Tim Martin has again **agreed** to take the occasional weed waste that is removed from the river. An inspection has taken place of the river on Water Lane and a maintenance plan put together for 2016 to include the Village Green & the Clenston Road areas. The verge is eroding badly along most of Water Lane, Cllr Gooden has emailed Highways to ask when the promise of verge repairs would be taking place. Maintenance work on the stream is planned to start in April, as before the approach will be little and often. A report from the Stickland River Management group was presented to the Parish Council for information. An email had been received from Dr Dawson re stream maintenance and Cllr Gooden **agreed** to draft a reply letter. An update on river management will appear in the May Valley News.

**9.8 Solar Fund** - Cllr Gooden has contacted BSR regarding the setting up of a secure deposit account to hold future payments for the Solar Fund. Indication was given that a lump sum of money (to cover future payments for approx 5 years) would be directly deposited into the Parish Council bank account but yet this has not yet happened. Cllr Gooden **agreed** to chase this up.

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

- Clerk **£292.74** (salary April 2016, office expenses & website extra hrs)  
It was **agreed** by all Councillors that the Clerk should receive her annual pay rise as stated in her employment contract.
- C Lovell **£85.50** (grass cutting for April 2016)
- A Ross **£587.44** website
- WSSCC **£100.00** donation for 11/06/2016 event

**£753.70** received from DAPTC (website funding)

**11. Correspondence: received as follows-** All correspondence was emailed to Cllrs in advance of the meeting. The annual MacMillan Dorset Bike Ride will pass through W Stickland on Sunday 3rd July 2016. Wessex Water will again close West Street for water main repairs following the March works. This will start on the 27th June for 4 weeks, the road will be closed from Tanglewood to Torridan. Wessex Water have requested permission to use the Pamela Hambro Hall car park for a portaloos, mobile office & van parking etc. Wessex Water are meeting on Tuesday 26/4/2016 to discuss this issue with Graham Case. WSPC as the ultimate land owners give their permission for the car park to be used pending the agreement of the Pam Hambro Hall Committee.

**12. Democratic period:** The route of the school bus was mentioned with regards to the Wessex Water road closure, the Clerk **agreed** to highlight this issue to DCC Highways.

**13. Items for the next agenda: AGM & APM**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm

### Next meeting Date:

Monday 23rd May 2016 @ **7pm Venue:** Pamela Hambro Village Hall, W Stickland.  
AGM APM etc

Signed.....Presiding Chairman

Date.....