

## Winterborne Stickland Parish Council

**Chairman:** David Godden

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

**Email:** wsticklandpc@gmail.com **Website:** winterbornestickland.org.uk

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

**Present:** Councillors D Godden (Chairman), J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman), J Tebb, V Manners & S Phillips **Apologies:** Cllr K Hickson & District Cllr A Burch **In attendance:** Sam Smith (Clerk) & 2 members of the community.

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

**2. District Councillor's Report:** District Cllr Audrey Burch did not attend the meeting or send a report in advance.

**3. PC Officer's Report:** The Clerk has received an email from Luke Goddard (Police) informing the PC that Homewatch Newsletters are no longer being produced and circulated. The local Police have decided to make better use of social networking media, but in what form, this has not yet been confirmed.

**4. Minutes:** The minutes of the meetings held on the 27th June 2016 were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman.

**5. Clerk's update/actions:** Maintenance repairs are still outstanding at the play park. The Clerk **agreed** to contact other local Parish Clerks (who manage a play park) and ask if they know of a handyman who maybe interested in completing some maintenance work on the Stickland play equipment. Some general maintenance, treating of wood, replacement step etc is needed otherwise the play equipment will quickly fall into an useable state and may need to closed down. The Clerk suggested that as Milton Abbas has a play park committee they may be interested in completing some work at the Stickland play park in return for a donation to the Milton Abbas play park fund. The Clerk will contact the MA Clerk. Cllr Godden has chased BSR re the outstanding solar benefit payment. BSR are requesting a 'deed of variation' is completed first. The Clerk will forward the proposed document to all Cllrs for them to approve before it is signed by The Chairman & the Clerk. A discussion was had regarding signing the PC up to telephone banking, it was **agreed** to not go ahead with it at this time unless certain precautions can be put in place to safe guard the Parish Councils money. The Clerk will talk to the bank about alternatives. Cllr Godden has met with Paul Starkey (DCC Highways) re the verge at Chalky Lane. Highways seemed of the opinion that the verge was the responsibility of the land owner and stated that they would send an email to Cllr Godden to confirm this fact (not received yet) The Sports Club rental agreement is still with Mike Ford - to be chased up.

**6. Declarations of Interest: None**

**7. Planning applications received for review:**

**2/2016/0938/HOUSE Treetops, West Street - erect carport/store (demolish existing building) - no objections agreed** by all Councillors.

**2/2016/0834/HOUSE Gurneys Cob, West Street - erect single storey rear extension & double garage, form new vehicle access - it was agreed** to object to this planning application for the following reasons - the use of glass in the extension is excessive and will create light pollution. The new drive may create a flooding issue as flooding has occurred in this area previously, work completed at the existing drive previously was to elevate a drainage problem. The building material used for the new garage and extension should match the existing house eg: thatch or slate. The rear window in the original wall may have a historical value and this should be checked by NDDC.

## 8. Planning applications - decision notices:

**2/2016/0734/OUT Land West of The Old School House, Dunbury Lane - develop the land by erection of 4 dwellings** - NDDC have refused this application.

## 9. Matters Arising:

**9.1 Co option of a 7th Councillor** - Keith Cowan (a previous Cllr) has **agreed** to re join the WSPC. He was unable to attend the meeting due to work commitments and was co opted onto the PC in his absence. The Clerk will email Keith the relevant forms that need completing.

**9.2 DCC Highways cuts - report from the DAPTC meeting** - Cllr Tebb had attended a meeting on the 20th July which included a presentation from DCC Highways. Due to budget cuts DCC are planning to reduce the Highways service to only include 'core functions' maintaining the highway, verge cutting, resurfacing, maintain bridges etc. The service will no longer cover 'non essential functions' sign cleaning, village gateway signs, cutting back verge encroachment on footpaths, footway sweeping, clearance of fallen leaves from gullies etc. The proposal to Parish Councils is that they find volunteers to complete the work or increase the annual precept fee to cover paying an individual/company to complete the work. The impact of these proposals will need to be discussed at a further Parish Council meeting.

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

- Clerk **£269.23** (salary July 2016 & office expenses)
- C Lovell **£85.50** (grass cutting for July 2016)

The annual return has been sent to BDO for the external audit. BDO have contacted the Clerk with some further questions with regards to the Solar Fund account. The Clerk will contact BDO and answer their questions, BDO have confirmed no extra admin charge will be added for this further work.

**11. Correspondence: received as follows-** All correspondence was emailed to Cllrs in advance of the meeting. The Dorset Mobile Library service is to finish by the end of 2016, at the latest March 2017. Dorset Waste Partnership are removing the last large glass, paper, plastic, cans recycle bins from car parks etc to be completed by 28th Aug 2016.

**12. Democratic period:** Kevin Oakley requested that he be allowed to complete some maintenance work on the Village Green in time for the summer Fete. Cllrs **agreed** that he could remove a fallen tree, clear some brambles and also trim a lime tree by the Church. A question was raised with regards to replacing/repairing the village fingerposts. It was stated that funding was available to the PC but unless a volunteer comes forward to manage the project the Parish Council does not at present have the manpower to take this project on.

**13. Items for the next agenda:** Play Park

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm

### Next meeting Date:

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

Signed.....Presiding Chairman

Date.....