

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 22nd May 2017.

Present: Councillors D Godden (Chairman), Cllrs J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman), J Tebb, V Manners, K Cowan & K Hickson **Apologies:** Cllr P Harlock **In attendance:** District Cllr A Burch, Sam Smith (Clerk) & 1 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 have anything further to report following the AGM.
3. **PC Officer's Report:** Cllr Manners reported that a Downfield resident had been arrested following a Police investigation in to the recent burglary and shooting in St Ives.
4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 24th April 2017 were **agreed** and signed by the Chairman.
5. **Clerk's update/actions:** The Clerk agreed to contact the Milton Abbas Speed Watch team to ask if they would consider running a trial speed watch session in Stickland. The Clerk agreed to place an article in the Valley News to gauge residents interest in setting up a Stickland Speed Watch team. Volunteers will be asked to contact the Clerk and the PC can then decide if the scheme is viable and the idea can be taken forward. The benches at the burial ground & war memorial have recently been installed by Stickland resident Nick Young. The PC agreed that the Clerk should purchase Nick a thank you gift to the value of £25.00. Cllr Cowan had investigated a neighbour issue in Downfield that had been raised by a resident. Cllr Cowan had visited both parties and was satisfied that there was nothing further that could be done by the PC to assist in the situation.
6. **Democratic Period:** Nothing raised
7. **Declarations of Interest:** None
8. **Planning applications received for review:** None
9. **Planning applications - decision notices: 2/2017/0460/OUT** Land West of The Old School House - the application was refused by NDDC.
10. **Matters Arising:**
 - 10.1 **Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2017** - the following documents were signed by Cllr Godden to enable the Clerk to get the internal audit underway - The Parish Council Risk Assessment, The Parish Council Asset Register, The PC Statement of Accounts. The Annual Return 2017 sections 1 & 2 were also signed by Cllr Godden and the Clerk. It was agreed that the Sport Club building would be added to the Asset Register for the forthcoming year at a nominal cost. Bank account statements for the PC, Play Park & Solar Fund were signed by 2 Cllrs as seen.

10.2 Water Vole mitigation plan: Cllr Godden has received various responses from Natural England with regards to the Water Voles in the stream and as to whether a licence is required. Cllr Godden has been advised that it is up to us to decide whether we need a licence. The PC took the view that we do not need a licence so long as we take care not to disturb the Water Voles and Will's Bowns mitigation plan should cover this. The legislation seems to require contractors who deliberately disturb the voles to register etc and there seems to be no mention that routine maintenance of the water course needs a water vole licence.

10.3 Play park: The Clerk had met with a sales representative from Haggs play park suppliers on site at the Stickland play park. The life of the existing play park is coming to an end and it cannot just be left for much longer in its current state. The Clerk had been quoted approx £600 to repair the current slide structure platform and it was agreed that this should go ahead as the existing structures need to be safe in the meantime. The swing steps need to be removed as the wood has rotted away. A local handyman is still needed to carry out some of the park maintenance work asap. Haggs has provided the Clerk with a drawing/plan of a replacement play park and the PC agreed that a new play park was a possibility. A combination of PC money set aside, the solar fund & match funding would make the funding of a new play park relatively straight forward. Residents support is needed if any further action is to be taken, with maybe a play park committee being set up. The Clerk agreed to place an article in the Valley News to gauge interest in the play park. A survey/questionnaire was discussed to be circulate to all village residents asking for volunteers and to gauge support. The Clerk will put a draft flyer together for the June PC meeting.

10.4 Solar Fund update: £500 has recently been paid out of the Solar Fund account to go towards Superfast broadband at the Pam Ham Hall. The purchase of a village defibrillator has been agreed and will be placed on the wall of The Crown pub. Once the defibrillator is in the village a training session will be held by South West Ambulance service to anyone who wishes to attend, date to be confirmed.

10.5 War memorial: The Clerk had received a quote from David Judd to trim the yew trees at the village war memorial and cut back the brambles etc. All Cllrs agree that the quote was good value for money and David should be asked to complete the work. A resident had shown the Clerk the brick wall at the war memorial which may need to be repaired. The ownership of the wall is unknown but it was agreed that to start with we should make sure that the wall is safe. Cllrs Manner & Cowan agreed to have look at the wall and give their opinion. John Felstead was mentioned as a workman who may be able to assess the wall for us. Cllr Manners will contact him to obtain a quote for repair.

10.6 Sports Club: A signed copy of the rental agreement between WSSCC and WSPC has been received by the Clerk from Miriam. The Clerk has obtained a quote for some 'no dogs' signs from Paul Sealy, The Dorset Sign Company. Cllr Manners agreed to let the Clerk know the size signs required and the wording so the signs could be ordered. A number of events are planned for the coming months at the Sports Club including some visiting caravans for 10 days.

10.7 Website funding: The PC has received £313.92 via DAPTC from NALC to go towards the funding of the PC website and the staffing hours associated with its maintenance. It was agreed that the PC would keep £95.04 to cover the 2016/17 hosting fee. The balance of £218.88 will be split £50 to Alex Ross (website admin) and the balance to The Clerk for extra hours spent maintaining the site.

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

- Clerk **£349.42** (salary May 2017 & office expenses)
- C Lovell **£100.00** (grass cutting for May 2017)
- Came & Company **£865.85** (PC insurance inc sports club)
- South West Ambulance Service **£2,160.00** (Defibrillator from Solar Fund account)

- **£313.92** received from DAPTC (website funding)

- It was **agreed** to transfer £1000 from the PC bank account to the play park account.

12. Correspondence: received as follows - All correspondence was emailed to Cllrs in advance of the meeting. A letter has been received from Connells enquiring into the possibility of residential development land availability in W Stickland. The Weymouth Ironman event will again take place on 17th September 2017. The Clerk will put a map of the planned road closures for that day on the PC notice board. Dunbury School are holding an event to celebrate their 'Good' Ofsted rating on 26th May @ 2pm W Whitechurch Base. Hilary Cox will be holding a Division meeting at the end of June 2017 date TBC. A letter has been received from St Marys PCC thanking the Parish Council for use of the village green for the dog show in May.

13. Items for the next agenda:

At the end of the meeting Cllr Sutcliffe along with all PC Cllrs expressed their thanks to Cllr Godden for all his hard work as PC Chairman over the past year.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm

Next meeting Date: Monday 26th June 2017 @ **7.30pm Venue:** Pamela Hambro Village Hall, W Stickland.

Signed.....Presiding Chairman

Date.....