

## 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 23rd January 2017.

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

**1. Welcome & Apologies:** Cllr D Godden welcomed everyone to the meeting. Unfortunately due to fog and bad driving conditions the Clerk was unable to attend the meeting. The minutes were taken by Cllr Godden.

**2. District Councillor's Report:** District Cllr Audrey Burch reported on the proposed re-organisation of the local councils into two unitary authorities, following the results of the recent consultation. There will be a vote on the recommendations at the next full District Council Meeting on 27th January 2017. The only authority against the proposals is Christchurch and at present all the others seem to be in favour.

**3. PC Officer's Report:** Cllr Manners reported that the Police are currently seeking a person in Bournemouth for not attending court.

**4. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 28th November 2016 will be signed at the February PC meeting due to the Clerks absence.

**5. Clerk's update/actions:** To be carried over to the next meeting.

**6. Declarations of Interest:** None

**7. Planning applications received for review: 2/2016/1763/TEL - removal of the BT phone box at Downfield** - all Cllrs agreed to the removal of the telephone box.

**8. Planning applications - decision notices:** None

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

**9.1 Budget for 2017/18:** A draft 2017/18 budget had been presented and discussed at the PC meeting in November 2016. Due to rising costs and the extra responsibilities being passed down from Dorset County Council to Parish Councils, all Cllrs had agreed at the November meeting that a rise in the precept for 2017/18 was advisable. The next 12 months will almost certainly see the Parish Council being asked to fund more local services than before. It was agreed by all Cllrs to adopt the budget presented last month and agreed that the Clerk should go ahead and submit the amount requested to NDDC.

**9.2 Sports Club update:** Vaughan Manners presented an estimate of £1,450 to repair the back wall of the Sports Club pavilion, other quotes have been requested. The Sports Club was advised to provide a list of urgent repairs to enable the PC and Solar Fund to understand the full picture required to maintain the integrity of the building. The Sports Club has spent £460 from their own resources on repairs to the driveway. Their AGM is planned for 8th February 2017 and as many members as possible are encouraged to attend.

**9.3 Solar Fund update:** The solar fund committee met on the 5th January 2017 at the Crown public house. In attendance were Adrian, Hazel, Charlotte, Julie and John. The yahoo email was checked and no new ideas have been submitted. Charlotte Banyard was voted in as a new member. It was agreed that the committee would continue without a formal chair taking advice from Parish Councillors as voting members. Charlotte agreed to take meeting notes. The committee will meet every 2 months to consider any new ideas. John agreed to submit an advert in the Valley News recurring every month to encourage ideas. This has been submitted and an invoice requested. It was agreed that although match funding was desirable it was not critical and all ideas should be considered on an equal basis. The next meeting will be held in March 2017.

**9.4 Election of Parish Councillors:** There are currently 3 vacancies for Cllrs on the W Stickland Parish Council. Two 'Notices of Vacancy' will be put on the PC notice board following the resignations of Paul Kennea & Sean Phillips.

**9.5 Play Park repairs:** Following an advert placed in the Blackmore Vale Magazine requesting a handyman to complete maintenance at the play park, a number of replies had been received by the Clerk. All applicants had been asked to submit quotes for the PC to consider. The Clerk will chase these quotes in time for the February PC meeting.

**9.6 Bike Park:** A discussion took place on its general usage and whether it should be closed. It was agreed to review the bike park situation at the end of Summer 2017 and in the meantime Councillors would seek views from the village community.

**9.7 Rights of Way & Highways:** A resident had reported to the PC a problem with access to the Jubilee Way and muddy conditions caused by a herd of cows. The Clerk has contacted the Dorset Countryside Ranger for advice.

**10. Financial Report:** Cllr Godden will ask the Clerk to circulate to PC Councillors details of payments to be authorised. The Clerk will present the cheques for signature to signatory Councillors outside of the meeting. It was agreed that payments could be authorised this month, in this way, as the Clerk was absent at the meeting.

**11. Correspondence:** received as follows - All Cllrs had been encouraged by email to complete the CCG Survey currently asking for views on the future of healthcare in our area. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the CCG to highlight the PCs concern over lack of perceived publicity. The Clerk will also request 50 copies of the survey for distribution in the village. Ownership of the Village Green has been queried by a member of the public, Cllr Godden will reply to the query. It was agreed that refurbishment of the Village Sign would make a good project for a proposed BB2 TV production.

**12. Democratic period:** nothing raised

**13. Items for the next agenda:** An enquiry received about the possibility of a Community Shop is to be discussed at the next meeting. The Village Flood Plan should be put on the PC Website, to be adopted at the next Meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15pm

### **Next meeting Date:**

Monday 20th February 2017 @ **7.30pm Venue:** Pamela Hambro Village Hall, W Stickland.

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## Notes added after the meeting by the Clerk:

### **Payments to be authorised and cheques signed:**

S Smith **£465.64** (Clerks salary December 2016, January 2017 & office expenses)

C Lovell **£171.00** (grass cutting for December 2016 & January 2017)

A payment of **£274.00** has been received from Colin J Close Funeral Service (Audrey Walters)

**Planning: 2/2016/1495/HOUSE Gurneys Cob** - approved by NDDC

**2017/18 Budget/Precept:** Precept agreed at £9,391.30 a rise of £763.22 on 2016/17

The **Dorset Countryside Ranger** will be writing to the owner of the cows on Jubilee Way about another matter and will mention the cows at the same time. Not much can be done about the mud in the meantime.

Following a residents complaint re overgrown hedges at **Legion Lane**, Cllr Manners has cleared a lot of overhanging hedge from the Lane.

Signed.....Presiding Chairman

Date.....