

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 27th November 2017

Present: Councillors D Godden (Chairman) J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman) K Hickson, K Cowan V Manners, P Harlock & J Tebb **Apologies:** None

In attendance: District Councillor Audrey Burch, Sam Smith (Clerk) & 2 members of the community.

1. **Welcome & Apologies:** Cllr D Godden welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **District Councillor's Report:** Audrey Burch reported on the current 'planning application approval process' within DC Council. As long as certain criteria are met a planning decision can be approved or refused by a Senior Planning Officer under delegated powers. If an application is contentious or is out of the Senior Planning Officers scope, it can be referred to a separate Planning Committee to be considered by Councillors. There is a concern that at the moment not enough planning applications are being referred to the Development Committee for a final decision. It is thought that if the move towards a single unitary authority goes ahead, then more responsibility for planning issues will be placed in the hands of local Parish Councils.
3. **PC Officer's Report:** Cllr Manners had nothing to report this month.
4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 30th October 2017 were agreed and signed by Cllr Godden.
5. **Clerk's update/actions:** The Clerk will organise for a plaque to be attached to the Village Sign to commemorate the restoration work by BBC2 'The Repair Shop' and to recognise the organisational assistance of Mr Oakley & Mr Felstead. Cllr Godden has purchased a bottle of Malt Whisky each for Mr Oakley & Mr Felstead and this has been presented to them. Cllrs Harlock & Cowan attended the recent Remembrance Service at the Stickland Church. A wreath was purchased by the Parish Council and laid at the memorial. Cllr Godden had made a donation of £20.00 on behalf of the PC to the British Legion c/o Forum Framing, Blandford in exchange for the wreath.
6. **Democratic Period:** Cllr Burch informed Cllrs that there would be another quiz night hosted by our MP Simon Hoare in March 2018 at the Pamela Hambro Hall.
7. **Declarations of Interest:** None
8. **Planning applications received:** 2/2017/1617/HOUSE 2 Longmead Cottages, Knife Hill Road DT11 0LZ - all Cllrs agreed that there were no objections to this application.
9. **Planning applications decision notices:** None
10. **Matters Arising:**
 - 10.1 **2018/2019 PC Budget/Precept request:** The Clerk presented a draft copy of the proposed 2018/2019 PC budget to Cllrs. Items of expenditure were discussed. It was agreed that £150 should be put aside again towards maintenance of the stream. The Chairman's Fund should also be increased to £100. The cost to replace the war memorial wall was also included in the budget but the PC hopes to secure a grant from the War Memorials Trust to pay for this. DAPTC has informed the Clerk that General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will become effective on 25th May 2018 and this may

increase the Clerks work hours and have cost implications for the PC. The Clerk will make the amendments to the budget document and circulate to all Cllrs before the next meeting in January 2018. The budget will need to be agreed at the next meeting to enable the PC to make its Precept request to NDDC before the deadline. It was agreed by all Cllrs that the total Precept amount should stay the same as last year with no increase or decrease, only the spend on individual items would be amended.

10.2 Village fingerposts: Cllr J Tebb gave an update on the refurbishment of our village fingerposts. The new post has been erected at the grass triangle and at the moment it is looking like the new completed fingerposts will be in situ on December 8th 2017. The naming of the new roundel was discussed and 'Whiteway' was agreed. Cllr Godden agreed to just confirm the accuracy of this new name with John Gill first. Cllr Tebb has managed to secure a grant of £800 from the Dorset CPRE and a further £600 has been promised from Hilary Cox. Cllr Tebb has made an application to the Solar Fund for the balance of the cost to replace/refurbish all 4 fingerposts in Stickland.

10.3 War memorial Wall: The Clerk has ascertained that the war memorial wall is not owned by any of its surrounding properties. Work was carried out 20 years ago to landscape the war memorial area and this was paid for by the PC. The Clerk has a pre grant application form that she will submit to the War Memorials Trust, hopefully funding of a new brick and flint wall can be obtained through a grant. In the meantime the wall has been taped off and appears to be safe at present.

10.4 Play park: The Clerk is chasing up the replacement slide platform with the manufacturer. The old platform will need to be removed and a resident has kindly offered to undertake this work on behalf of the PC. The annual safety inspection of the play park has been carried out and the Clerk is awaiting the written report.

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

- S Smith **£230.71** (Clerks salary November 2017 & expenses)
- C Lovell **£100.00** (grass cutting November 2017)
- WSPC **£2,450.00** (from Solar Fund account) reimbursement for work at WSSCC
- **Credit £800.00** received from CPRE fingerpost grant

12. Correspondence: received as follows - the Clerk has received notification from SAAA of the PCs new external auditor for 2017/18 - MAZARS LLP. The Dorset Local Plan review is currently in consultation 27th Nov - 22nd Jan 2018. The Clerk has issued the 2018 dates for PC meetings to Cllrs. DAPTC, Chief Executive circular - at present there are no plans to cap precept amounts. An email from Blandford Leisure Centre - making a donation to the centre toward running costs was discussed as the centre is used by many village residents. It was agreed to discuss this item at the next meeting. A letter from Blandford Town Council - requesting a donation towards the running cost of the public toilets in Blandford - all Cllrs agreed to no donation.

13. Items for the next agenda: Budget 2018/19, Solar Fund update, donation to Blandford Leisure Centre

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm **Next meeting Date:** Monday January 22nd 2018 @ **7.30pm Venue:** Pamela Hambro Village Hall.

Signed.....Presiding Chairman

Date.....