

## 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 January 2018

**Present:** Councillors D Godden (Chairman) J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman), K Cowan, V Manners, P Harlock & J Tebb **Apologies:** Cllr K Hickson & District Councillor Audrey Burch  
**In attendance:** Sam Smith (Clerk) & 3 members of the community.

- 1. Welcome & Apologies:** Cllr D Godden welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2. District Councillor's Report:** Audrey Burch did not attend the meeting or send a report in advance.
- 3. PC Officer's Report:** Cllr Manners had nothing of note to report this month.
- 4. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 27th November 2017 were agreed and signed by Cllr Godden.
- 5. Clerk's update/actions:** The Clerk is in the process of organising a plaque to be attached to the Village Sign plinth to commemorate the recent restoration work by BBC2 's 'The Repair Shop' The plaque will recognise the organisational assistance of Mr Oakley & Mr Felstead. A quote has been obtained and the plaque should be delivered before the February PC meeting. New data protection rules will come into effect from May 2018 and these will need to be adhered to by the PC. The Clerk has signed up to some DAPTC Data Protection training in March 2018. The Clerk will also be attending some DAPTC Audit training on the 30/01/2018, the charge to the PC for the audit training will be £15.00.
- 6. Democratic Period:** A resident mentioned that they had recently had a problem accessing the North Dorset Planning section on the 'Dorset for you' website. The Clerk explained that the 'Dorset for you' website was in the process of having a 'make over' and should be up and running smoothly in the new format in the summer. The triangular speed awareness sign that has appeared at the end of the village towards Blandford was also mentioned. The sign is blocking the view of traffic at the junction. Cllr Harlock agreed to move the sign slightly so the traffic view is no longer obstructed.
- 7. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 8. Planning applications received: 2/2017/1772/REM land south of The Old Malthouse, Clenston Road - Erect 2 dwellings.** Cllrs discussed these revised plans, outline permission for the 2 dwellings to be built has already been approved by NDDC. Concern was voiced by Cllrs and the public over road safety issues relating to vehicle access to the property. It was also noted that some of the building materials listed in the original application had been changed to less eco friendly materials. Cllr Sutcliffe agreed to put together a report on the PCs views and email this to the Clerk. The Clerk can then submit the PCs views on the application via the 'Dorset for you' website. Assuming that these issues are properly addressed support for the development remains in principle. The most critical objection is that of road safety. **2/2017/0460/OUT land west of The Old School House, Dunbury Lane - appeal** This application has been referred on appeal to The Secretary of the State after permission was refused twice by NDDC. Comments by the PC have been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate to support the refusal of this application. A copy of the Village Plan has also been sent in the post to the Planning Inspectorate.

9. **Planning applications decision notices: 2/2017/1153/FUL - Church View, North Street** - change of use from shop to residential & associated alterations. This application has been **approved by NDDC**

### 10. Financial report:

- Cheques for payment were agreed as follows:
- S Smith **£530.42** (Clerks salary December 2017 & January 2018 & expenses)
- C Lovell **£200.00** (grass cutting December 2017 & January 2018)
- D Godden **£20.00** (British Legion - donation for poppy wreath)
- D Godden **£56.00** (gift - Chairman's Fund)
- The PI Company **£78.00** (annual play park inspection)
- Liz Sellen **£18.79** (Clerks cover Oct 2017 meeting)
- Normtec **£1,781.80** (fingerpost refurbishment)

**10.1 2018/2019 PC Budget/Precept request:** The 2018/19 PC budget was discussed. It was agreed to keep the precept figure at the 2017/18 amount. The Clerk will submit the request for **£9,391.30** to NDDC before the end of January deadline. A possible donation to the Blandford Leisure centre was discussed as the Leisure Centre Consultative Group had written to the PC to ask for financial help. The PC decided not to provide a grant at this time but this decision would be reviewed again in 2018/19.

### 11. Matters arising:

**11.1 Village fingerposts:** Cllr J Tebb gave an update on the refurbishment of our village fingerposts. Our first new completed fingerpost has been erected at the grass triangle at the end of the village towards Blandford. We are just waiting for the new roundel to be completed and fixed to the top. Cllr Tebb has successfully made an application to the Solar Fund for £2,000, the balance of the cost to replace/refurbish all 4 fingerposts in Stickland. The Clerk has recently completed a grant application form for the ANOB and hopefully this will secure a further £600 towards the project. Cllr Tebb will next be moving on to refurbishing the village fingerpost by the Village Green.

**11.2 War memorial:** 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. The Clerk has received notification from Historic England that they are recommending that the Stickland War Memorial is listed. It has been confirmed that the listing would be for the memorial only and not the garden or wall. All Cllrs supported this recommendation as listing will also enable grants to be obtained to preserve the memorial in the future.

**11.3 Play park:** The replacement slide platform has been installed and another safety inspection report has been completed. The report listed a number recommendations with regards to the maintenance and safety of the existing equipment. A lengthy discussion was had over the future of the play park. All the equipment is coming to the end of its useful life. Should the play park be removed? and should the play park be replaced? It was agreed that firstly it should be made safe before any further action can be taken. Cllr Harlock agreed to meet the Clerk and see what could be done asap to address any possible safety concerns. Once the existing problems have been addressed its future can then be discussed.

**11.4 John Gill memorial:** A memorial to John Gill who sadly passed away recently was discussed. Planting a tree or dedicating a piece of land in the village was suggested. Cllr Godden agreed to have a chat with Johns relatives first and to see if they supported the idea before a final decision is made.

**11.5 Solar fund:** A meeting of the Stickland Solar Fund Committee had taken place in December 2017. A £2,000 grant was agreed towards the fingerpost project. The Sports Club had made an application for help with security equipment but this was not finalised. Cllr Sutcliffe stated that funds are available to all residents wanting to take on a Stickland community project.

**11.6 Highways, footpaths, hedges:** The issue of the hedge on Clenston Road was discussed. The Clerk stated that she has contacted the owners of the field/hedge a number of time recently but the hedge has still not been cut. A number of residents have contacted the PC to request that this hedge is cut back asap. Not only is the hedge unsightly and obstructing the flow of the stream but it will not be long before it is also causing a road safety issue. Cllr Godden had contact the Environment Agency and spoke to Philip Winslow who offered to contact the owners of the hedge and request again that they trim it. The Clerk will follow this up with Philip. There is also a fallen tree in the stream which needs to be removed. Cllr Godden & Cllr Sutcliffe agreed to remove this tree at the weekend. It was reported that a broken fence behind a property alongside a public footpath, off West Street, was causing a hazard to some residents whilst out walking. The Clerk agreed to contact the fence owner and request that the sharp wire is removed. The condition of the Blandford Road during the recent slurry hauling was raised. The road was covered in mud and it took a while of it to be cleaned up, in the meantime the road was dangerous and slippery. The Clerk agreed to contact the farmer and let them know that the issue had been raised at the PC meeting.

**12. Correspondence:** received as follows - an email from Tim Martin (stream weed removal) thanking the PC for their gift. Simon Hoare MP - roundtable on 2nd February 2018 at The Crown, Blandford - Cllr Godden agreed to attend. There is a Parish and Town Planning Session (Hosted by Dorset Councils Partnership) 6pm - 8.15pm, Thursday 8th March 2018, South Walks House - Cllr Tebb agreed to attend. Information on the new Dorset Care record to go live early Spring 2018. Milton Abbas PC are looking into purchasing a SID device (speed indicator device) for their village. Stickland had been approached as a possible share for the device. Cllrs were keen and the Clerk will report back once the MA Clerk has obtain some more information.

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

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm **Next meeting Date:** Monday 26th February 2018 at **7.30pm Venue:** Pamela Hambro Village Hall.

Signed.....Presiding Chairman

Date.....