

## 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 25th June 2018

**Present:** Councillors D Godden (Chairman), K Cowan, J Tebb & P Harlock

**Apologies:** District Councillor Audrey Burch & Cllrs J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman) V Manners &

K Hickson **In attendance:** Sam Smith (Clerk) & 6 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 did not attend the meeting or send a report in advance.

**4. Minutes:** The minutes of the meetings held on the 21st May 2018 were agreed and signed by Cllr Godden.

**5. Clerk's update/actions:** Dorset Waste Partnership have confirmed that there would be an installation & emptying charge if a extra dog waste bin was placed along Water Lane. The current bins are serviced currently by DWP under a contract, but all new/extra bins are to be charged and therefore the extra cost needs to be funded by the PC. A decision was not made, but the Clerk agreed to ask DWP to assess the site in the meantime, to ascertain if Water Lane is suitable for a bin. The Clerk has contacted the local contractor and asked him to start work on re building the war memorial wall, hopefully the wall will be repaired in time for the winter. Cllr Godden has been in contact with DCC and has instructed them to complete the speed survey of the village. This survey should identify sites in the village where the SID (speed indicator device) can be sited safely. The cost for the survey is a bit more than first thought, but all Cllrs agreed to still go ahead. The price quoted by DCC is £366 + VAT. The PC had nominated Kevin Oakley for a NDDC Community Hero Award and our nomination was successful, Kevin will receive his award at an afternoon tea presentation on Sunday 5th August 2018 hosted by the Chairman of NDDC.

**6. Democratic Period:** The completed application form to register the village pub as a 'Community Asset' was given to the PC by 2 residents. Cllr Godden will now sign the forms and return to the Clerk to attach the required PC documents. The form will be forwarded to NDDC. By registering an interest in the pub we can hopefully give the community time to decide its future, should it unfortunately be closed down, or there is a proposal/application for it to be sold for development.

**7. Declarations of Interest:** None

**8. Planning applications received:** None

**9. Planning applications decision notices & progress updates: Land South of the Old Malthouse 2/2017/1772/REM -** Cllr Godden attended the Planning Committee meeting on 19th June 2018. The PC had in the past raised concerns over the access & road safety. Lines of sight, splay, stopping distances & the moving of a hedge was discussed. The access to Clenston Road was agreed in 2015 for the outline application and legally this can't be overturned as it has not changed. The visibility splay must be built before any work starts. The hedge is being moved and must not be allowed to grow more than 0.6 metres – this is enforceable. The Planning Committee wanted further stipulation about hedge maintenance and the cedar cladding will be changed to another wood. The Planning Committee were satisfied that all the issues were resolved and the development was approved.

**The Hollow, Chalky Path** - the Clerk has received a number of complaints with regards to a studio/office that has been built on top of a garage at this newly built property. The issue was referred to Planning Enforcement by The Clerk after this issue was raised at the last meeting. A resident spoke at the meeting to express his disappointment with the apparent breach of planning permission, he has himself lodged a complaint with NDDC planning. The Clerk will give an update on the situation at the next PC meeting.

**10. Financial report:** Cheques for payment were agreed as follows: S Smith **£278.57** (Clerks salary June 2018 & expenses) C Lovell **£100.00** (grass cutting for June 2018) DAPTC **£199.82** (annual membership subs 2018/19) The PC has not yet received the annual rental payment for 2018/19 from WSSCC for the Stickland sports field/pavilion. The Clerk will chase this. A payment has been received into the PC bank account from DCC on the 24/4/18 for **£600**. This is from a funding grant for the purpose of assisting PCs in funding the cost of refurbishing village fingerposts.

**10.1 Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2018:** The internal audit of the PCs financial accounts has recently been completed by our internal auditor. The following sections of the Annual Return were agreed and signed by Cllr Godden & The Clerk -

- Approval of the Annual Governance statement 2017/18 section 1 - signed by the Chairman & the Clerk
- Approval of the Accounting Statements 2017/18 section 2 - signed by the Chairman & the Clerk
- Approval of the Certificate of Exemption - signed by the chairman & The Clerk.

The Clerk will now forward the Exemption Certificate to PFK Littlejohn LLP & publish the documents of the PC website.

### **11. Matters arising:**

**11.1 Village Fingerposts update:** The last 2 fingerpost sites are currently being refurbished, Hedge End & by Hustings Cottage. The grass triangle opposite Church Hill Court was discussed as it was reported that it was looking a bit untidy with various signs & some yellow tape. The Clerk agreed to contact the Bulbarrow music festival organisers and ask them to collect their advertising signage. The Clerk also agreed to contact Cllr Manners and obtain an update on some flower planters that were planned to be sited on the grass in memorial to John Gill.

**11.2 Village verge cutting:** Dorset Countryside have informed the Clerk that the rural roadside verge cutting will soon take place. The verges are now only cut once a year in the summer and it was felt that this was not an adequate service. Any subsequent cuts will need to be funded by the PC. The Clerk has made a few enquiries to locate a local farmer/gardener who may have the equipment to complete the job. A few further possible contacts were given to the Clerk. The grass triangle at the village green was discussed it has recently been cut for free by a local workman. The Clerk agreed to thank the workman and to enquire if he could make the cutting of the triangle grass a regular job.

**11.3 Play park:** Cllr Harlock has been monitoring the play park equipment on a weekly basis. The condition of the equipment was again discussed. It was felt by the PC that a new replacement play park should not be a foregone conclusion. There must be a need for it and the required enthusiasm from residents, if the project were to go ahead. The bike track was also discussed and it was felt that this should be dismantled as it is not used and the condition is poor. The play park will stay open for the rest of the summer and the issue will be discussed at the September PC meeting with a view to dismantling all the equipment and closing the play park.

**11.4: Hedge along Clenston Road:** This is an ongoing issue and the hedge has still not been cut by the owners. The Clerk agreed to again contact the Environment Agency as the problem had been reported to them many months ago. The hedge is now over & in stream and will soon be out on to the road.

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**11.5 Tree at village green junction:** The Clerk has received notification from DCC that the 2 Lime trees in the village are due to be trimmed, by the old Post Office & the Village Green.

**12. Correspondence:** Hilary Cox is hosting a Winterborne Division meeting on the 28th June 7pm in the Milton Abbas Reading Rooms - Cllr Godden agreed to attend. An email had been received from the Church Warden - would Stickleberries Nursery be able to site a scarecrow (Loch Ness Monster) on the village green for 'Casting the Net' 1st July - 31st August, this was agreed, Cllr Harlock will contact the Church Warden to confirm that the scarecrow will be placed so that the grass can be cut around it.

### 13. Items for the next agenda:

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm Next meeting Date: Monday 23rd July 2018 @ **7.30pm** Venue: Pamela Hambro Village Hall.

Signed.....Presiding Chairman

Date.....