

## Winterborne Stickland Parish Council

**Chairman:** David Godden

**Clerk:** Mrs Sam Smith: Hill Cottage, Milton Abbas, Blandford Forum, DT11 0AZ

**Email:** wsticklandpc@gmail.com **Website:** winterbornestickland.org.uk

### MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 26th February 2018

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

**Apologies:** Cllrs J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman) & K Hickson **In attendance:** District Councillor Audrey Burch, Sam Smith (Clerk) & 1 member of the community.

1. **Welcome & Apologies:** Cllr D Godden welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **District Councillor's Report:** Audrey Burch reported - it has been announced that the Secretary of State has agreed to support the Future Dorset proposal for local government reorganisation. Two unitary Councils will be formed Bournemouth/Poole/Christchurch & North/West/East Dorset & Weymouth/Portland being the other. A deadline has been set for April 2019 to go live, at which point NDDC will cease to exist. Cllr Burch also informed us that NDDC has balanced its budget for 2018/19 and only a small increase in Council Tax will be necessary. Staff at NDDC Blandford have now relocated and the information hub on the Norden site is now open.
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 22nd January 2018 were agreed and signed by Cllr Godden.
5. **Clerk's update/actions:** The Clerk has sourced a brass plaque to be attached to the Village Sign plinth to commemorate the recent restoration work by BBC2 'The Repair Shop' The plaque was given to Cllr Godden to install at the site. The Clerk attended the DAPTC Audit training on the 30/01/2018. The PC will no longer be required to complete an external audit, an internal audit will still be required with all the PC financial information being displayed on the PC website for the public to inspect. The Clerk has contacted the property owners re the sharp wire on the footpath, they have informed the Clerk that it will be removed. A funeral took place at the church on the 21st February 2018 this was for Eileen Robbins and she was laid to rest in the PC burial ground in Stickland.
6. **Democratic Period:** No issues raised
7. **Declarations of Interest:** None
8. **Planning applications received: 2/2017/1987/FUL Stickland Hill Farm, DT11 0LY -** erect agricultural building to store fodder, tractor & implements. Cllrs raised no objections to the proposed plans but stated that the new building should be for agricultural use only.
9. **Planning applications decision notices: None**
10. **Financial report:** Cheques for payment were agreed as follows:  
S Smith **£268.19** (Clerks salary February 2018 & expenses) C Lovell **£100.00**  
(grass cutting February 2018) **£290.00** received from Colin Close funeral services (Eileen Robbins) **£9,271.48** received from BSR into the Solar Fund account  
Cllr Godden signed the final 2018/19 PC budget document for our records.
11. **Matters arising:**
  - 11.1 **Village fingerposts:** Cllr J Tebb gave an update on the refurbishment of our village fingerposts. The fingerpost at the Village Green is the next to be refurbished and this will soon be removed and sent off for restoration. The Clerk had applied to ANOB back in Dec

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2017 for some additional funding for the fingerposts. No news on this has been received, Cllr Tebb agreed to chase this up.

**11.2 War memorial:** The Clerk has completed a 'pre grant application form' on behalf of the PC and she has submitted this to the War Memorials Trust. If we are eligible for a grant this will fund a new brick and flint wall at the site. Due to the excessive number of applications that the War Memorials Trust is receiving at present we have been given an approx 8 week wait for a decision on our application. Cllr Harlock raised the issue of safety of the current wall and should we wait for the funding? or pay for the wall repairs out of the PCs own money? A condition of a grant is that we do not start any work before funding is agreed by The WMT. The wall at present is taped off and appears to be safe. The Clerk agreed to contact Paul Starkey at DCC Highway and ask if the PC could borrow some highways barriers to secure the site further. The Clerk has also recently received notification from Historic England that the Stickland War Memorial is now Grade 2 listed. It has been confirmed that the listing would be for the memorial only and not the garden or wall.

**11.3 Play park:** Cllr Harlock had met with the Clerk at the Play Park and together they had assessed the site. Cllr Harlock had the carried out a few repairs/alterations to ensure that there was no immediate safety issues at the park. Cllr Harlock stated at the PC meeting that the situation at the play park can no longer be ignored. A decision needs to be made on the current play park to ensure that it is a safe area. Future plans can be discussed at a later date, do we even need or want a replacement play area? Cllrs Manners & Cowan agreed to meet Cllr Harlock at the park before the March PC meeting. Steps will be taken (removing equipment) to ensure the area is safe. The Clerk agreed to contact the Milton Abbas Clerk and to discuss safety/rules signage that is present at the MA play park. Cllr Harlock also stated that the hedge running alongside the path (Church Hill Court) needs cutting back. The Clerk agreed to ask Charles Lovell if he could trim the hedge for the PC.

**11.4 WSSCC update:** The Sports Club seems to be self sustaining at the moment. The WSSCC AGM was held recently. A 4 day small music festival is booked onto the sports field on the 20th April 2018. Cllr Godden thanked all the volunteers at WSSCC on behalf of the PC for all their hard work over the past 12 months.

**11.5 John Gill memorial:** Cllr Godden has spoke with Johns relatives and they are supportive of the idea to create a memorial to John Gill in the village. It was agreed that the triangle of land at the end of the village would be named 'John Gill Green' Cllr Manners stated that some oak planters were being purchased for this piece of land. The Clerk agreed that once the measurements of the planters were known she could order a plaque which could then be attached.

**11.6 The Crown Pub:** The Clerk had written to Marstons as the PC were concerned that the pub would be shutting down after the last Landlord left. In the meantime the pub has now re opened under new management.

**12. Correspondence:** received as follows - An email from Michael Trevett on behalf of St Mary's PCC asking for permission to hold the following events on the Village Green in 2018 - Fun Dog Show 20th May, Afternoon Tea 8th July, Village Fete 11th August. Permission was given for all the events and the associated advertising banners needed. Cllrs are invited to Dorset AONB Annual Form on 8th March 6pm in Blandford.

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

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm **Next meeting Date:** Monday 26th March 2018 @ **7.30pm Venue:** Pamela Hambro Village Hall.

Signed.....Presiding Chairman

Date.....