

Winterborne Stickland Parish Council

Chairman: David Godden

Clerk: Mrs Sam Smith: Hill Cottage, Milton Abbas, Blandford Forum, DT11 OAZ

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MINUTES of the Annual Parish meeting held on the 21st May 2018

Present: As AGM **Apologies:** As AGM **In attendance:** As AGM & 2 members of the community.

1. **Welcome & apologies:** As AGM

2. **A review of the year:** The Chairman gave a review of the past year which covered the following - The annual Solar Fund payment for 2017 has been received by the PC. Over the past 12 months the Solar Fund has paid for a village defibrillator, funded repairs at the Sports Club & part funded superfast broadband at the Pamela Hambro Hall. More applications for projects are still required, and the Solar Fund committee & PC encourage all residents to apply for funding for village projects. WSSCC (sports club) is still in operation but members & events have reduced since WSSCC first took over the club. The pavilion rental agreement was finalized in 2017 and WSSCC are now the official tenants. The club at the moment is self sustaining, as always more members are needed, as is continued support by residents of the social events. The River Management Group has been working hard, filling swallow holes & completing the programme of stream works/maintenance. Work can begin again on the stream at the end of May and then the excessive weed will be removed slowly. In the past few months there has been some flooding on West Street, but no houses were affected this time. Some work needs to take place on the river back near Rusholme. The River Group has applied for a licence to complete this work. Cllr Godden thanked Will Bown & Richard Marchant for all their work over the past 12 months on the stream. Tim Martin has allowed the PC to place the removed weed on his fields, he has also cut the hedges along the stream & trimmed along Dunbury Lane. Cllr Godden thanked Mr Martin for assisting the PC so readily. So far 2 of Sticklands white fingerposts have been restored, co ordinated by Cllr Tebb and funded by the PC, the solar fund & DCC grants. The Stickland Village Sign on the Village Green has been restored this year by the BB2 TV programme 'The Repair Shop' This was co ordinated by the Clerk, Kevin Oakley & John Felstead. Cllr Godden thank all 3 of them for their work. Community sprit seems to be high with Coffee Pot, Stickleberries Nursery & village events all seeming to make W Stickland a pleasant place to live.

3. **Challenges for the coming year:** The PC will need to recruit new Cllrs in the coming 12 months, we are already 2 members down with another stating that they will be stepping down in May 2019. The War Memorial wall is awaiting repair and hopefully this will be restored by the end of the summer. The rest of the village fingerposts are planned to be restored/replaced by the end of 2018. There are some issues at The Crown Pub which will hopefully be resolved, but in the meantime a group of residents have decided to register the pub as a 'Community Asset' meaning that if the brewery decide to put the pub up for sale, residents will have a greater say in its outcome. The Stickland play park has come to the end of its life and a decision on its future needs to made, do we replace it? or just shut it down and not have a village play area? residents will have their say and a decision made this year. Generally all rural services are under threat as DCC & the Government try to make savings and pass on more responsibilities (but no more money) to Parish Councils.

4. **Matters raised by the community:** None

5. **Closing remarks from the Chairman:** Cllr Godden thanked the Clerk and all the Parish Councillors for their support over the past year. **End of meeting**