

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 November 2019

Present: Cllrs D Godden (Chairman) Cllr J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman) J Tebb, P Harlock & B Drammis **Apologies:** K Hickson

In attendance: Unitary Cllr Andrew Kerby, Sam Smith (Clerk) & 3 members of the community

1. **Welcome & Apologies:** Cllr D Godden welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Unitary Councillor's Report:** Unitary Cllr Andrew Kerby reported that the Dorset Council are working on the new Dorset wide Local Plan, the consultation process has just started. It was reported in the local press recently that the DC has a budget deficit. Andrew explained this was not a true picture of the DC current financial situation as more money is being invested in certain areas eg: children's care to hopefully facilitate savings in the long term.
3. **PC Officers Report:** Cllr Drammis had no local crimes to report. A report of the speed data obtained by the SID has been received. Cllr Drammis agreed to forward this information on to Cllr Sutcliffe who will try and put the data into an easy to read format so that it be shared with residents & Cllrs.
4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 28th October 2019 were agreed and signed by Cllr Godden.
5. **Clerk's update/actions:** The Clerk has prepared a 'comfort' letter to be sent to the Kingston Maurward Croquet Club, Cllr Godden signed the letter. WSPC 2020 meeting dates were agreed as follows - 20th January, 24th February, 30th March, 27th April, 1st June (May date), 29th June, 27th July, 24th August, 28th September, 26th October, 30th November, no meeting in December. It was agreed that the WSPC AGM & AP would be held on the 1st June due to the May Bank Holiday & school holidays at the end of May.
6. **Democratic Period:** Nothing was raised.
7. **Declaration of Interest:** None
8. **Planning applications received: 2/2019/1389/VARIA - Solar Farm & Canada Farm -**
An application has been submitted to extend the original planning permission duration for the Solar Farm at Canada Farm, from 25 years to 40 Years. Cllr Godden had contacted BSR and they confirmed that they are no longer the owners of the Solar Park & they will only continue to pay the Community Benefit themselves for the original agreed timescale. Cllrs agreed that they had no objections to this planning extension proposal, but would like to request that any extension to the permission also includes an extension of the Community Benefit annual payment, funded by the new owners of the park.
9. **Planning applications decision notices & progress updates:**
ENF/2019/0151 - 5 Fairmead DT11 0ND - DC enforcement have investigated the construction of a driveway/parking at this address. The applicant should have sought planning permission at the time of the works, but as the new access is safe, enforcement have decided to not pursue the matter further.

10. Financial report: Cheques for payment were agreed as follows:

S Smith	£455.02	(Clerks salary November 2019 & expenses)
C Lovell	£100.00	(grass cutting for November 2019)
WSPC	£115.00	(12 months Solar Fund advert - transfer from SF ac)
D Godden	£20.00	(British Legion wreath donation)

10.1 2020/21 PC Budget - a draft budget document was prepared by the Clerk & circulated to Cllrs. Each item listed for expenditure was discussed in turn. It was felt that £500 should be earmarked for further repairs of the war memorial wall next year. The Clerk will adjust the figures and the budget will be discussed again at the PC meeting in January 2020, to enable the PC to make its 2020/21 precept request on time.

11. Matters arising:

11.1 Co option of a 7th WSPC Cllr: Caroline Williams was welcomed and co opted on the WSPC as its 7th member.

11.2 The Crown Pub: A village meeting was held at the Pamela Hambro Hall on the 30th Oct 2019 to discuss the possible sale by Marston's of The Crown. A large audience attended the meeting and a number of residents put themselves forward to volunteer their services and join the Community Action Group. Since this meeting was held, The Crown has been sold & subsequently purchased by Admiral Taverns. The Asset of Community Value did not apply as the pub was not vacant when sold. It is not yet know if Colin and Ash will continue at the Pub, they have had meetings with Admiral Taverns management but a decision on their future has yet to be made. Cllr Godden confirmed that the original Asset of Community Value register still applies, and if Admiral Taverns decide to sell The Crown, the PC will be notified and the period of notification will commence again.

11.3 WSPC Standing Orders & Financial Regulations: The Clerk agreed to make the suggested amendments to the Standing Orders, print & issue a copy to all Cllrs at the January PC meeting. Cllr Godden agreed to read through the proposed Financial Regulations along with Cllr Drammis and inform the Clerk of any changes, ready for the document to be agreed at the January meeting.

11.4 Solar Fund: The Solar Fund Committee had recently met to discuss an application for funding from the KM Croquet Club, soon to be the Winterborne Valley Croquet Club. The Club had submitted a request for the funding of a ride on mower to maintain the proposed croquet lawn. The committee had agreed to funding of £4,000. Before a cheque is issued, the Clerk agreed to check the current total of SF spending for this tax year to confirm that the £4,000 would not place us over our annual spending limit.

11.5 PC website: The Clerk spoke to Cllrs regarding the new legislation that imposes regulations on Local Councils to ensure that their website meet accessibility standards. The Clerk has spoke to Alex who maintains the PC website on our behalf. Alex had explained that the new legislation is not straight forward and changes to the website would be costly and require a large number of hours work to be implemented. All Cllrs agreed that work on the website with regards to this matter should be put on hold, and we should wait and see if any further help/funding is forthcoming from DAPTC or central government in the near future.

11.6 Dorset Council call for land: Dorset Council has begun work on the Dorset wide Local Plan and the council is carrying out a 'Call for Sites' exercise to identify sites that may have potential for development in the future. A resident attended the meeting to inform Cllrs of his intention to submit a plot of land in Stickland for the potential development of approx 10 dwellings. There are no plans for the development to take place in the near future, and planning permission will need to be sought from DC in the normal way, with residents & the Parish Council being given the opportunity to have their say on the plans.

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11.7 Arts Reach tree planting: Arts reach's is celebrating its 30th Birthday next year. To mark the occasion Sherborne's Castle Gardens have very kindly offered to donate 30 Tom Putt Dorset apple trees to Artsreach promoters. Castle Gardens are happy to assist in the planting of the trees, and for the cost of £20 per tree will include stakes, ties, compost, rootgrow and mulch and someone to help with the labour. All Cllrs agreed that the ideal spot for an apple tree would be in the Stickland Play Park.

12. Correspondence: All correspondence had been forwarded to Cllrs ahead of the meeting. Wednesday 15th January 2020, Corn Exchange Dorchester - Planning Advisory Service (PAS) review of Dorset Councils planning Service, Cllrs have been invited to attend.

13. Items for the next agenda: Play Park, 2020/21 Budget

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm.

Next meeting Date: Monday 20th January 2020 @ 7.30pm

Venue: Pamela Hambro Village Hall

Signed.....Presiding Chairman

Date.....