

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 1st June 2020

Please note - This meeting was held via 'Zoom' due to the Coronavirus crisis

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

In attendance: Unitary Cllr Andrew Kerby, Sam Smith (Clerk) & 4 members of the public.

- 1. Welcome & apologies:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2. Unitary Councillor's report:** The Dog warden has recently visited Stickland after reports of stray dogs and fouling on the pavement/footpaths etc. Currently there are no foot patrols & the Dog Warden can only patrol in the van. Businesses that were not eligible for Government funding through previous COVID related financial support schemes are invited to apply for business support funding through the Discretionary Grant Fund, from 1st June until the closing date at midnight, 14th June. The funding is designed to help small businesses that did not meet the criteria for the first round of funding which targeted Small Businesses in the Retail, Hospitality and Leisure sector. We still have no news from DC on the highway repairs proposed for Water Lane.
- 3. PC Officer's report:** A red car was seen in W Houghton, the occupant was looking into house windows/gardens. The SID will be moved from Blandford Road to Clenston Road. The village defibrillator is still the replacement model but it is working well.
- 4. Democratic period:** Nothing raised
- 5. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 6. Planning applications/decisions/updates: 2/2020/0314/OUT - Tranquility, Water Lane demolish existing 2 dwellings & replace with 5 dwellings & new access -** Houghton residents & WHPC Cllrs joined the meeting virtually to discuss this item. The location of the site is within the W Stickland village boundary but due to the layout of the village many residents would class the site as being located in W Houghton. The following are the comments from the WSPC as official consultees - WSPC Cllrs were not opposed to the idea of the site being developed, the 2 current derelict buildings are an eyesore & are the 1st properties seen upon entering the W Houghton village. All Cllrs agreed that the proposed building of 5 properties would be an excessive overdevelopment of the site & that 2 or 3 properties might be a more suitable proposition. The new development shows plans for 2 storey buildings and it was thought that 1 storey bungalows would be more in keeping with the surrounding area/properties. The site at present is very rural & the 2 storey 'suburban' nature of these houses would be completely alien in the rural setting. The design/finish of the proposed properties was thought to be not in keeping with the rural village surroundings, with little thought given to local Dorset design or detail. Road safety issues were highlighted. The main village highway is single track with no upper speed limit with numerous blind bends in the road. Any new access will need to be carefully thought through. WSPC would welcome any engagement from the developer and would encourage them to attend a future WSPC meeting to discuss this application. A compromise on the future of the site could be discussed before a revised application is submitted.

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A resident has contacted the PC, via email, with regards to a long standing planning issue. A draft reply was circulated to Cllrs and the wording agreed. The Clerk will send the reply to the resident.

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

- S Smith **£398.05** (Clerks salary May 2020 & expenses)
- R S Smith **£115.00** (grass cutting for May 2020)
- Came & Company **£901.01** (annual PC insurance, 3yr deal)
- Charles Lovell **£137.50** (re issue of a missing cheque)

8. Matters arising -

8.1 PC annual insurance: It was agreed to go ahead with Came & Company's recommendation of the Pen Insurance policy & to sign up for the 3yr deal which brings a reduction in the premium.

8.2 Grass cutting: The general consensus from Cllrs was that the new contractor is so far making a very good job of the village grass cutting. The new contractor started on the 1st May 2020. Cllr Williams agreed to monitor the work of the contractor and report back to the PC.

9. Correspondence: All correspondence had been forwarded to Cllrs ahead of the meeting. An email has been received from Dorset Council & DAPTC - the 'Coronavirus impact on the Collection Fund' the Clerk agreed to forward this email to Andrew Kerby for information. On the 8th June 2020 the Post Office is re opening Mondays & Fridays at the Pamela Hambro Hall. The WSPC has received a letter from a member of the public with regards to the donation of a village bench. Cllrs Sutcliffe & Williams agreed to look into the suitability of this proposition and report back at the June PC meeting. Cllr Godden has received a follow up email from a resident with regards to the gate issue in Chalky Path and the suggestions that were made by the PC at the last meeting. It was agreed that this matter has gone beyond the PCs remit and has now become a civil issue, the 2 neighbours need to talk and come to a compromise. It was agreed to pay out the 3 outstanding requests for funding from the Solar Fund.

10. Items for the next agenda:

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.

Next meeting - Date: Monday 29th June 2020 @ 7.30pm Venue: TBC

Signed.....Presiding Chairman Date.....