

**Winterborne Stickland Parish Council**

**Chairman:** John Sutcliffe (temporary Chairman)

**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 24th August 2020**

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

**Present:** Cllrs J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman), C Williams, P Harlock, B Drammis, J Tebb & C Mc Cormick (part) **Apologies:** Cllr K Hickson **In attendance:** Unitary Cllr Andrew Kerby (part) Sam Smith (Clerk) & 2 members of the public.

1. **Welcome & apologies:** The Vice Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **PC Cllr & Chairman vacancies:** Due to the resignation of Cllrs Sutcliffe & Tebb (this was their last meeting) there is now a total of 4 vacancies on the WSPC, 3 of these vacancies are advertised on the PC village noticeboard. The 3 vacancies can be filled once the required notice period has expired. A number of residents have come forward with a view to joining the PC. The 2 attending members of the public were asked to temporarily leave the meeting so that the potential candidates could be discussed between Cllrs. All the candidates were discussed in turn and a vote taken on their suitability to join the PC. It was agreed that Simon Jubb would be co opted at this meeting to fill the 1st vacancy . The other vacancies will be filled later in the month, adhering to the required notice periods. The Clerk will inform the successful and unsuccessful candidates in the coming weeks. At the next meeting in September the PC should be a full Council and a Chairman & Vice Chairman will need to be elected. Simon Jubb was welcomed back to the meeting & co opted on to the PC immediately.
3. **Unitary Councillor's report:** Andrew Kerby attended the meeting but had no news to report.
4. **PC Officer's report:** See 8.3 stream
5. **Democratic period:** Nothing raised.
6. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Williams made a declaration of interest in the planning application **2/2020/0897/FUL**.
7. **Planning applications/decisions/updates: Tranquility, Water Lane - update -** a meeting had previously been held on site with the developer, Cllrs from WS & WH had attended. An amended application has been emailed to the PC for Cllrs to view, these revised plans had not been officially submitted by the developer to DC planning at the time of this meeting. Cllr Burnal (WH Parish Council) raised some concerns with the accuracy of the new plans. He also raised concern over the large amount of glass on the frontage of the proposed properties. It was agreed that a further discussion could take place once the application has been submitted officially to DC planning and WSPC will then be requested to officially submit its comments. **2/2020/0897/FUL - The Old Farmhouse, Chalky Path DT11 0NS - demolish existing garage & erect 1 dwelling** - Councillor Williams removed herself from the PC discussion and vote for this application. The applicant did not attend the meeting but Tom Williams a neighbour to the proposed development read out a statement of objection. The following issues were

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raised - 2 new properties have already been built on the same land, it was agreed that a further property would be a gross over development of the site. The proposed new build would overlook the neighbour's property which is Grade 2 listed. The adjacent neighbour would suffer a lack of privacy as windows from the new build would look directly into the garden and house. The proposed accommodation upstairs would be looking down on the neighbour's garden. The large amount of glass on the property would contribute to light pollution. All PC Cllrs were agreed unanimously in the decision to object to the application for the above reasons.

### 8. **Financial report:** Cheques for payment were agreed as follows:

S Smith **£398.05** (Clerks salary Aug 2020 & expenses) R S Smith **£110.00** (grass cutting for Aug 2020) R S Smith **£160.00** (clear track from Downfield to Septic tank) Croquet Club **£750.00** (from SF account)

Due to the recent Cllr resignations new PC cheque signatories will need to be cleared with the bank and added to the PC bank account. The Clerk will contact the bank to arrange this.

### 9. **Matters arising -**

**9.1 Solar Fund:** Due to the resignation of Cllrs Tebb & Sutcliffe a new PC representative is needed to join the SF Committee. This will be discussed at the next PC meeting in September.

**9.2 Grass Cutting:** The hedging has been cut back by our grass contractor on the track to the septic tank at Downfield. All Cllrs agreed that our current grass contractor was doing a great job. Cllr Harlock raised the issue of thanking the volunteers who cut the PC Burial Ground and it was agreed by all that the graveyard is looking so much better recently.

**9.3 The Stream:** A group of residents undertook some maintenance work on the stream at the Village Green a few weeks ago. Some residents were concerned by the amount and type of vegetation that was removed which has resulted in a visit to the village by the Police, Dorset Council & the Environment Agency. The visitors invited Councillor Sutcliffe to attend. The group were joined by a member of the residents that conducted the clearance and on the encouragement of Councillor Sutcliffe the stream was walked from the village green to the fish farm. The group of visitors agreed to send a note with their observations of the work done and the management of the stream once they had considered their findings. It was agreed that a village meeting would be helpful to re-visit the guidance in the WS Village management plan which has been endorsed by the EA and to allow villagers to ask questions of the county experts from DC, EA and rural police. For those interested in taking part in an important community group there are vacancies on the River Management Group. Applicants should be reasonably fit, well organized and have an interest in conservation.

### 10. **Correspondence:** All correspondence had been forwarded to Cllrs ahead of the meeting. The hedges bordering the PC burial ground, along Legion Lane, are to be removed in September. This had previously been agreed with the PC. Cllr Drammis will visit the site on the day to avoid any confusion with regards to the scope of the work. The annual Play Park safety inspection is booked for September 2020. The Play Park will remain closed until the report has been received and any recommended actions taken. An email from a resident has been received by the Clerk with regards to some land clearance and fly tipping at Chapel Lane. The Clerk had received a call from some teenagers requesting to use the Bike park.

### 11. **Items for the next agenda:** elect Chairman, co opt new members

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm. Next meeting 28th Sept 2020.