

## 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 27th April 2020

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

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

**In attendance:** Unitary Cllr Andrew Kerby, Sam Smith (Clerk) & no members of the public.

- 1. Welcome & apologies:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2. New NALC virtual meeting guidance:** The Parish Council has received written instructions from NALC & DAPTC with regards to the PC hosting its monthly meetings virtually. The Clerk has signed up for 1 months subscription to 'Zoom'. It was agreed that to enable the meetings to run smoothly, hands should be raised to request to speak & mute used to limit back ground noise.
- 3. Unitary Councillor's report:** Dorset Council are at present concentrating on looking after the vulnerable in the community. DC Highways have been delivering food parcels & medicine. Hotels have been opened for the homeless in Weymouth & in other areas hotels are being used as interim accommodation for people leaving hospital waiting to go into care. The Police have closed local beauty spots. Reports have been coming in that some Air BnB & guest houses in the local area are still operating, please report these if known to the Police or DC. Promised local business grants are at present being processed. The emptying of dog waste bins has been reinstated & the green waste collection will soon follow. The local Recycle Centres are presently shut as trips to them are classed as non essential journeys and a request to not light bonfires has been issued by the Fire Brigade & Dorset Council.
- 4. PC Officer's report:** Nothing to report at present but obviously due to the lockdown the Police are more active in the area. The village defibrillator is still a loan, a replace while ours is being repaired.
- 5. Democratic period:** Nothing raised.
- 6. Declarations of Interest:** None
- 7. Planning applications/decisions/updates:** Hawthorne Business Park - a general discussion took place about the possible change of use of Hawthorn Business Park from a commercial site into a small housing development. These were only early proposals in principle and would be subject to a specific planning application should the owner decide to proceed. The PC would consider supporting the idea subject to certain community benefits being added, traffic calming, pavements etc. **2/2019/1789/HOUSE** - The Hollow, Chalky Path - extension to garage - **approved** by Dorset Council. **2/2019/0532/FUL** - Royal British Legion Clubhouse, Legion Lane - demolish former Legion Club premises & erect 1 dwelling & garage - **approved** by Dorset Council.

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

S Smith **£405.85** (Clerks salary April 2020 & expenses)  
C Lovell **£137.50** (grass cutting for April 2020 - final payment)  
Pamela Hambro Hall **£42.30** (room hire for Post Office)  
The Clerks annual pay scale/rise for 2020/2021 was agreed by Cllrs.

**8.1 End of year accounts/audit:** NALC & DAPTC have confirmed that the deadline for submission of the end of year accounts has been extended due to Covid. In the meantime the internal audit can still take place with social distancing. The accounts still need to be signed off with a 'wet signature' and this can be completed by the PC at the next 'non virtual' meeting.

### 9. Matters arising -

**9.1 WSSCC:** The Croquet Club has requested permission from the PC to cull the rabbits that are invading the lawn. It was agreed that this could take place for now but that fencing the area off would provide a better long term solution.

**9.2 Grass cutting:** The new contractor will start work on 5th May 2020. It was agreed that the Orchard will be cut after the bulbs have finished flowering. The Clerk will contact Charles Lovell to ask for the sport field gate keys to be returned.

**9.3 2020 AGM & APM:** NALC & DAPTC have advised that the requirement for the PC to hold an AGM & APM does not apply this year due to Coronavirus.

**10. Correspondence:** All correspondence had been forwarded to Cllrs ahead of the meeting. The storm/flooding debris on Chalky Lane had been raised at a past meeting. DC Highways had visited the site and stated that they are not responsible for its cleaning but Dorset Waste Partnership is. Cllr Godden had contacted DWP but received no reply. The issue of the newly installed gate at the top of Chalky Path has been raised again. A resident states that the gate is preventing oil deliveries & hay deliveries to their property as the lorries can't turn around. Paul Starkey (DC Highways) has visited the site & stated that the Highway stops at gate. Cllrs agreed that they cannot interfere in civil issues between neighbours. Two solutions were suggested - that the gate is left open at the times deliveries are planned or the Beech Tree Farm drive could be used for turning. Both suggestions will need to be discussed with the land/property owners involved and The Clerk will contact the affect resident to suggest that they do this. The subject of increased dog mess on the pavements & footpaths in the village was raised. Andrew Kerby has messaged the dog wardens to ask the patrols to visit if they are operating at present & The Clerk will post a request to clear up after your dog on the village FB page.

### 11. Items for the next agenda:

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

**Next meeting - Date: Monday 1st June 2020 @ 7.30pm Venue: TBC**

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