

Winterborne Stickland Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr Simon Jubb (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 25th January 2021

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

Present: Cllrs Simon Jubb (Chairman) C Mc Cormick (Vice Chairman) P Harlock, C Williams, E Peachey, Gary Critchell & Unitary Cllr Andrew Kerby **Apologies:** Cllrs J Stephen & K Hickson
In attendance: Sam Smith (Clerk) & 0 members of the public.

1. **Welcome & apologies:** Cllr Simon Jubb welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Unitary Councillor's report:** Cllr Andrew Kirby reported as follows - in December he had met with DC Highways & the Environment Agency, a site visit had taken place at Water Lane (the stretch alongside the river). The road is being undermined by the water and some structural engineering work needs to take place to support the road. The Environment Agency have stipulated that the work must be carried out in stages to protect any wildlife. DC Highways will only be legally allowed to complete the work in phases.
 - 2.1 The former St Mary's School site in Shaftesbury has been purchased by DC. A consultation regarding its future use is under way, it is hoped that the site will become a school for children/young adults with special needs. Part of the site would become a residential children's home for Dorset children who are frequently placed outside of the county when taken into care. The recycling center in Blandford is to undergo a refurbishment. The new site will be larger with an improved layout & the scope of recycling increased.
3. **WSPC Cllr vacancy:** Sadly, Cllr Drammis has decided to step down from the PC as a Cllr. The vacancy has been advertised on the PC noticeboard as per Democratic Services instructions. The appropriate time has now lapsed, and the PC can now go ahead and co-opt another member if it wishes. It was agreed that this matter was not urgent and will be discussed further at the next PC meeting in February.
4. **Nominate a DAPTC representative & PC police/crime officer:** It was agreed to nominate Cllr Critchell as the PC Police/crime officer. It was agreed to nominate Cllr Jubb as the PC DAPTC representative.
5. **Democratic period:** Nothing raised.
6. **Declarations of Interest:** None
7. **Financial report -**
 - 7.1 **2020/21 PC budget:** The Clerk had circulated a working document in advance with regards to the 2020/21 budget. A discussion was had on village projects planned for 2021 and the associated costs involved. It was agreed to transfer another £1,000 from the PC main bank account into the play park account in 2021. Some of the proposed war memorial repairs have already been budgeted for in previous years and the balance will be taken from savings currently in the PC bank account. It was agreed to budget £500 for the future development of the PC website. Considering our increased projected costs in 2021/22, it was agreed to increase the 2021/22 Precept by a total of £288.61 on last years amount. This equates to an 88p increase per Band D property in W Stickland. It was agreed to submit a total precept request for £9,679.91 to DC.

Cllrs Peachey, Williams & Jubb have been added to the PC bank account as cheque signatories.

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7.2 Cheques for payment: were agreed as follows:

S Smith **£1,363.40** (Clerks salary December 2020, January 2021 & expenses, inc a replacement laptop)
R S Smith **£85.00** (grass cutting for December 2020 & January 2021)
P Harlock **£100.00** (Tesco gift vouchers)

It was agreed that the old PC laptop will be given to the Blandford Youth Centre via Andrew Kerby.

8. Planning applications/decisions/updates: P/HOU/2020/00272 The Hollow, Chalky Path – erect extension to garage (modifications) all agreed no objection to the change in doors. P/LBC/2020/0026 - The Barn, Dunbury Lane, DT11 0NN - removal of partition wall to create open plan kitchen/diner – approved by DC.

9. Matters arising -

9.1 WSSCC & Croquet Club: The PC has been informed by WSSCC that the boiler at the club has broken and needs replacing. WSSCC are presently obtaining quotes for the work. The sports club is currently closed due to Covid-19/lockdown. Cllrs agreed that the work should be done asap while the club is closed. Cllr Mc Cormick agreed to contact Miriam and see if he could help with obtaining some quotes for the work so that the matter can be moved forward. The W Stickland Croquet Club have requested a sign at the 2 triangles at either end of village to direct visitors to the Croquet Club. Cllrs agreed against the signs as these will make it difficult to cut grass in the summer and this would set a precedent encouraging others to put their own signs up. The Clerk will inform the CC of the PCs decision.

9.2 War memorial: The PC has received pre approval of a War Memorial Trust Grant, this will hopefully cover a large proportion of the costs involved in its refurbishment. A restoration survey needs to take place first and initial quotes indicate a cost of approx £750 plus Vat. Cllr Jubb agreed to try and find a cheaper alternative. The work at the war memorial will be funded by the PC, a WM Trust Grant & possibly the Solar Fund. Cllr Jubb will also investigate further to ascertain if the survey cost can be recoverable from a WMT Grant.

9.3 Play park: Cllr Williams offered to try and move the play park issue forwards on behalf of the PC. It was agreed that erecting a new play park along the lines of the one already in Milton Abbas was probably a bit too ambitious at present. Could we make some improvements to the current park? & restore the original the equipment that has been removed? aiming to keep the project small and manageable. It was agreed that the fencing for cycle track should be taken down as the track is never used. Cllr Harlock agreed to inquire if the tractor (Normandy Farm) could be used again to lift the posts. This should take place in March when the weather improves. The play park area should cater for under 12 years. Cllr Williams agreed to get some quotes for some new equipment so that we have a starting point for discussions. Money to fund the project would come from the play park account, the solar fund & match funding etc.

9.4 PC website: The PC still needs to update its website so that it meets current accessibility regulations. The DAPTCs suggested website provider is not suitable for our needs. Cllr Jubb will speak again to Alex (our current website manager) and plan a way forward with regards to our current website.

9.5 PC noticeboard: Cllr Jubb raised the issue of the current condition of the PC noticeboard (by the church) It was agreed that it needs a refurbishment. Cllr Jubb will see if anyone in the village is interested in completing the work.

10. Correspondence: All correspondence had been forwarded to Cllrs ahead of the meeting. A consultation on the Dorset Council Local Plan is currently running until the 2021. A poster has been placed on the PC noticeboard informing residents of their options should they wish to comment on the proposals. Dorset Council are moving forward with their plans to standardize car parking charges across the DC area. The Clerk had received an email on guidance with regards to disposing of Covid waste, this was posted on to the village FB page.

11. Items for the next agenda: Solar Fund, Stream management

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm. Next meeting 22nd February 2021.