

Winterborne Stickland Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr Simon Jubb (Chairman)

Clerk: Sam Smith, Hill Cottage, Milton Abbas, Blandford Forum, DT11 0AZ

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MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on the 25th of October 2021

Present: Cllrs S Jubb (Chairman), C Mc Cormick (Vice Chairman) P Harlock & P Dunn & K Hickson

Apologies: PC Cllrs E Peachey & C Williams

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

- Welcome & apologies:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Approval of the minutes of the PC meeting held on the 27th of September 2021:** The minutes of the meeting were approved & signed by The Chairman.
- Unitary Councillors report:** Cllr Andrew Kerby attended the meeting. Cllrs agreed that it was good to see him well and back at work. Cllr Kerby spoke of the recent death of MP David Amess. A 'Cllr Safety Advice' document has been emailed to The Clerk to be forwarded on to PC Cllrs. Dorset Council Planning still has a very large backlog of submitted planning applications, land searches for house purchases are also taking a very long time to complete. The Dorset Local Access Forum is looking for volunteers to join them helping to improve public paths & open spaces in Dorset. A public consultation 'Shape the future of Dorset's libraries' started on the 25th of October 2021 & runs until 7th of January 2022. Further information on both these matters can be found on the Dorset Council website.
- Democratic period:** A resident expressed his dissatisfaction with the PC with regards to an ongoing issue with planning matters in the village. Correspondence has been ongoing for a number of weeks between the PC and the resident. As a resolution cannot be achieved by the PC the resident was advised to take the matter up further with the Dorset Council Monitoring Officer. W Houghton PC have approached W Stickland PC to propose the idea of moving the W Houghton village boundary, to include the two new houses at the Tranquility site. All Cllrs agreed that they had no issue with the proposal and could not see a reason why Stickland would object to this idea. Dorset Council is currently undertaking a 'Community Governance Review' the process is a lengthy one and this boundary proposal will be forwarded to them by W Houghton PC for consideration.
- Declarations of Interest:** None
- Planning applications/decisions/updates:**

P/HOU/2021/02842 Newlands, West Street, DT11 0NT – raise roof & install dormer windows to provide first floor accommodation. Erect porch. Cllrs had no objections but suggested that finished exterior could be more aesthetically pleasing. A need for further off-road parking would also need to be considered.

P/HOU/2021/03543 The Haven, Fairmile, DT11 0LU – single storey annexe. No objections.

P/FUL/2021/03288 Water Lane – erect stables, create new vehicular access, bridge over the river & land change of use to equestrian. Cllrs thought that Water Lane is too narrow, with some dangerous bends, to safely create another vehicle entrance point. A previous application in 2017 was refused. There have been confirmed sightings of water voles in stream/river and building a bridge would disturb the wildlife. When the entrance is in use the road would be impeded and there are limited passing places. The PC objects to this application.

P/LBC/2021/03597 The Crown Pub – display 1 pole sign, illuminated & non illuminated signs to exterior. No objections.
- Financial Report: Cheques for payment were agreed as follows:**
 - **S Smith £428.52** (Clerks wages & expenses for October 2021)
 - **R Smith £85.00** (grass cutting October 2021) SO
 - **R Smith £15.00** (bike park grass cut) BT
 - **Pam Ham Hall £52.50** (room hire Post Office July – Sept 2021)
 - **Heartbeat Trust UK £135.00** (defibrillator pads) BT
 - **The Play inspection Com Ltd £360.00** (play park annual inspection & new equipment)
 - **David Ogilvie Engineering Ltd £2,474.40** (war memorial benches) from Solar Fund account

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The balance in main PC account is currently **£13,567.44**. Play Park savings account **£1,030.50**. Solar Fund account **£51,834.53**.

7.1 Budget/Precept 2022/23: The Clerk distributed to Councillors some financial documents that she had prepared. A current budget v spend analysis, a bank reconciliation & an income and expenditure document. A discussion of the PCs estimated expenses for 2022/23 took place. It was agreed that next year's budget should still include £1,000 to be allocated to the play park account. This account will be used to cover future costs with maintenance/replacement of the equipment etc. Cllrs were asked to start thinking ahead of projects for 2022/23 that will need funding. The Clerk will prepare a PC spending forecast to April 2022 for the November PC meeting.

8. Matters arising:

8.1 Play Park signage: A design proof has been circulated to Cllrs of the proposed signage for the play park. The cost is £240.00 inc posts. The Clerk will add the PC website address to the sign. Cllr Williams will need to chase up our funding application that was submitted to the National Lottery. It was agreed to postpone the large sign for now until we have news on the funding and the PC may have a PC logo soon. It was suggested that a small temporary sign could be attached to the side of the wooden structure in the meantime. Cllr Harlock raised the issue of levelling the old bike track and adding grass seed. A digger/tractor will be required – Cllr Harlock to investigate further.

8.2 River/stream: A stream clearance took place on the 23rd of October 2021, a big thank you was said to all the volunteers. A section of the Clenston Road stream was also cleared. The removed weed has been left on the verge along Water Lane. Dorset Waste have agreed to supply the waste bins free of charge (they would normally charge for this service) The Clerk will chase for a delivery date. The Clerk has sent an email to the Environment Agency inviting them to attend a WSPC meeting but has received no reply to date. Cllr Kerby has reported the blocked drains at the bottom of Chalky Path to Highways. The recent road repairs at Water Lane are failing, this has been reported numerous times to Highways – Cllr Kerby to chase.

8.3 WSSCC: The WSSCC held its AGM meeting on the 7th of October 2021, attended by Cllr Williams. Several members wish to resign from the Sports Club Committee. They are required to give the PC 6 months' notice. The building still has no functioning heating. The Committee have been asked to obtain some quotes for the work. The Croquet Club would like to lay a water pipe to connect to the existing water supply at the Pavilion. The pipe would be laid underground and run to the croquet lawns. It was agreed that the PC would have no objection to this. The issue of siting a defibrillator at the Sports Club building was raised at the AGM. The PC were against the idea of funding this as there are already 2 defibrillators in the village. The idea that the Croquet Club may wish to take on the Sports Club building was suggested. The Clerk agreed to locate a copy of the Croquet Clubs contract with WSSCC.

8.4 PC website & village communication: Cllr Dunn reported that he had met with Alex with regards to the PC website. Do we need a PC logo? All Cllrs thought this was a good idea. A village competition to design one was discussed with a possible prize included. The Clerk will need to check the legality of giving away a prize. It was agreed that the PC should push the website as our main form of communication as FB is not the best platform for this. The possibility of some small signage for the village with our logo was discussed, the Clerk will get a quote for the costs. It was agreed to put a link to the Valley News on the PC website. A new resident's 'welcome pack' was suggested as a future project.

8.5 Solar Fund: A resident has brought to the attention of the PC some inconsistencies in the current SF Constitution. After a discussion it has been decided that the Constitution should be reviewed, amended and re written. The Constitution was first adopted when the Solar Fund was set up and events have moved on since then. The current SF Committee members will be asked for their views. The plan is to present the revised edition to the PC at the November meeting for agreement/further amendments.

9. Correspondence: All Cllrs need to complete their ROI digital forms by the 31st of October 2021. A resident had emailed the Clerk with regards to the recent 'Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme' launched by the Government. Andrew Kerby agreed to contact the resident to suggest a way forward. Residents in Houghton have complained about the Tranquillity site with mud on road and safety issues. Cllr Jubb has been in contact with Cllr Westby (WHPC) with regards to the matter.

10. Items for the next agenda: Budget/Precept 2022/23, Solar Fund Constitution

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15pm. Next meeting 29th November @ 7.30pm 2021
Venue – Pamela Hambro Hall

Signed Chairman..... **Date**.....