

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 meetings held on the 26th of April 2021

Please note – The 2 meetings were held via 'Zoom' due to the Coronavirus crisis

Present: Cllrs S Jubb (Chairman) C Mc Cormick (Vice Chairman) P Harlock, C Williams & E Peachey

Apologies: K Hickson **In attendance:** Unitary Cllr Andrew Kerby (part), Sam Smith (Clerk) & 1 member of the public.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

1. **Welcome & apologies:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **A review of the year:**
 - On behalf of the PC, Cllr Simon Jubb thanked Cllr Andrew Kerby for all his support and assistance over the past year.
 - Unfortunately, this year the River Management Group lost its long-standing committee members who all took the decision to step down from their roles.
 - Our longstanding PC Chairman David Godden resigned from the PC & moved away from the village. Several WS Parish Cllrs have resigned, and new PC Cllrs have joined.
 - Covid and the lockdown put a stop to most village & wider activities.
 - The PC switched to virtual meetings via Zoom as we were unable to meet in the Hall.
 - Despite the challenges of the pandemic, Cllr Williams has made some progress on the play parks future.
 - Plans for the War Memorial refurbishment have moved a step forward.
 - The PC would like to thank John Felstead and the workman for all their hard work at the burial ground.
 - The Croquet Club opened for play at the WSSCC.
3. **Challenges for the coming year:**
 - The River Management Plan document is still valid and in place, but new member/volunteers to run the group will need to be sought.
 - There are currently 3 PC Cllr vacancies on the PC. These will need to be filled.
 - The Play Park development is moving forwards, but more money will need to be raised before construction can start.
 - The War Memorial wall needs further repairs and hopefully the WM restoration can be completed with a grant from the WM Trust.
 - For the coming year, communication between the PC and the village needs to be improved, the PC website needs some work. Facebook could be more widely used & the PC noticeboard tidied up.
4. **Matters raised by the community:** None.
5. **Closing remarks from the Chairman:** Cllr Jubb thanked the Clerk and all the PC Cllrs for their work and support over the past year.

END

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

1. **Welcome & apologies:** Cllr Simon Jubb welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Current PC Cllr vacancies:** At present there are 3 Cllr vacancies on the PC. Two residents have come forward expressing an interest to join. The period notice required to advertise these vacancies has now expired, so the PC is now free to go ahead and co-opt new members. To be discussed further at the next PC meeting in May.
3. **Unitary Councillor's report:** Cllr Andrew Kerby reported as follows – the riverbank and road repairs to Water Lane are scheduled to start on the 7th of June 2021. The closure will now be for a week's duration and a 24hr closure. Cllr Andrew Kerby has arranged for a site meeting to take place in May to enable PC Cllrs to ask questions about the proposed works. A 50m section can only be completed each time to protect the wildlife. The DC Local Plan consultation has come to an end. Dorset Council are collating the responses to produce a final document. This document will then be put out for a 2nd round of consultation with public.
4. **Democratic period:** Nothing raised
5. **Declarations of Interest:** None
6. **Planning applications/decisions/updates:** **P/HOU/2021/00259 Westgate, West Street DT11 0NT – demolition of flat roofed store & erection of extension to create utility room.** All Cllrs agreed that they had no objections to the application.
P/HOU/2021/00105 The Haven, Fairmile DT11 0LU – erection of 2 storey extension to form self-contained annexe. All Cllrs agreed that they had no objections to the application.
A resident has contacted the Clerk with regards to the erection of a fence surrounding the boundary of a Grade 2 listed property in the village. The resident had raised the issue of the new fence blocking the view from a workshop window. This has been brought to the attention of DC Planning. A concern was also raised over the proposed felling of a tree on the property grounds. This matter is now with the Tree Officer.
7. **Financial report: Cheques for payment were agreed as follows:**
 - **S Smith £413.55** Clerks wages & expenses for April 2021
 - **R Smith £85.00** grass cutting for April 2021
 - **P Harlock £25.50** paint & brush – tree guard
 - **H Lappin £29.48** plants for the village planters - from the SF account
 - **£305.00** has been received for a plot reservation at the PC burial ground
 - **£4.00** has been received – peppercorn rent Kersin

The Clerks annual pay rise was agreed by all PC Cllrs effective from the 1st of April 2021

It was agreed to go ahead and sign the PC up for internet banking, the Clerk will circulate the bank forms to Cllrs, 2 signatures will be needed.

The Clerk gave a report on the current balances in the PC bank accounts as follows -

Play park account **£8,030.20**

Main account **£16,763.41**

Solar Fund **£69,903.31**

8. Matters arising –

- 8.1 **Burial Ground:** The rubber surface on the access ramp has been repaired. The far corner of the PC burial ground has been cleared and re seeded. This will give the PC an extra 40 plots at the burial ground. The PC expressed its thanks to John Felstead and his workman, the burial ground now looks so much better and lighter. Cllr Jubb agreed to draft a letter of thanks.

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8.2 Play park: Cllr Andrew Kerby has been assisting Cllr Williams to apply for funding grants to make up the balance of money needed for the project at the play park. Another play park site visit is planned by Cllrs in May to confirm the siting of the proposed structure. The size of the structure was discussed and the impact on the close neighbour who has expressed his concerns. Steps would need to be taken to minimize the view from the structure into neighbour's garden. The owner of Kersin has spoken to the Clerk and voiced his concern with regards to the trees on the edge of sports field/play park area. The ownership of these trees is vague. So far BT have agreed to attend to the trees and trim the branches back. The PC agreed to look at the trees at the next site visit. The Croquet Club have mentioned a plan to install a pipe from the water meter to the croquet green, this will be sunk in a trench. It was agreed that a drawn-up plan and some finer details would be required first before the PC could consider giving the go ahead for the work.

8.3 Downfield track: Fly tipping has become a problem on the land owned by the PC at Downfield. Letters will be going out to affected residents whose property backs on to the land. A concern was raised about general waste tipping on this land, especially as the track has now been made more accessible to trucks. Erecting a gate or steel barrier was discussed, with the contractors who empty the septic tank given the code/key.

- 9. Correspondence:** All correspondence had been forwarded to Cllrs ahead of the meeting. Water Lane will be closed to traffic on the 7th of June – 11th 2021 to enable works to take place. The Defibrillator at The Crown had started flashing a red light meaning it was not working. It has now gone to be repaired and will be returned in approx 6 weeks. A temporary defibrillator is now in its place. The legislation that allows PCs to hold virtual meetings expires on the 7th of May 2021. The possibility of holding a face-to-face PC meeting at the end of May was discussed. The Clerk will contact the Pam Ham Hall in the first instance to see if they are open to room hire.

10. Items for the next agenda: AGM

The Chairman closed the meeting at pm. Next meeting 24th May @ 8.45pm 2021 Venue - TBA