

Winterborne Stickland Parish Council

Chairman: David Godden

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

Email: wsticklandpc@gmail.com **Website:** winterbornestickland.org.uk

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 24th July 2017.

Present: Councillors D Godden (Chairman) J Sutcliffe (Vice Chairman) K Cowan, V Manners, P Harlock, J Tebb & K Hickson **Apologies:** None **In attendance:** District Cllr A Burch, Sam Smith (Clerk) & 1 member of the community.

1. **Welcome & Apologies:** Cllr D Godden welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **District Councillor's Report:** Audrey Burch reported that the NDDC Nordon site in Blandford was still in the process of being sold, the lodge part of the building will hopefully be retained by the council and used as a public information hub. Dorset CC has been awarded £2.5 million from Central Government funds towards the cost of improving the top and bottom main roads to Shaftesbury from Blandford, it was felt by PC Cllrs that this amount was nowhere near the amount needed.
3. **PC Officer's Report:** Cllr Manners reported that although no incidents have been reported in the village, there has been a number of shed & garage break ins recently in the surrounding villages. The Police have asked residents to be extra vigilant in the next couple of weeks, with the annual Steam Fair taking place over the August Bank holiday weekend.
4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 26th June 2017 were agreed and signed by Cllr Godden.
5. **Clerk's update/actions:** The NDDC Tree Officer has given permission for the tree works at the War Memorial to go ahead. This will be carried out in August with the 2 Yew trees being reduced in height. The flint & brick wall at the War Memorial has been taped off and will need to be repaired at some point in the future. Ownership of the wall needs to be ascertained before a repair can be carried out, the Clerk agreed to look into this matter. The dead tree on the triangle at the end of the village was discussed. The Clerk agreed to ask David Judd to remove it. A replacement will need to be sought as the tree prevented motorists from parking on the triangle, this will be discussed at a later meeting, once the dead tree is removed.
6. **Democratic Period:** Nothing raised
7. **Declarations of Interest:** None
8. **Planning applications received:** None
9. **Planning applications decision notices:** None
10. **Matters Arising:**
 - 10.1 **W Stickland Play Park:** The Clerk had placed an article in the Valley News asking for Stickland volunteers to come forward with regards to forming a play park committee/group. The purpose of this committee would be to oversee & manage a refurbishment/replacement of the play equipment. Interest from the community with regards to this article was low, but the PC felt that a new play park is something that should be seriously looked into in the near future. The Clerk will place the article again in next month's Valley News. Funding is not so much of an issue, the Parish Council has some money put aside for the Play Park and an application could also be made to the Solar Fund. In the meantime, the Clerk had met with play park suppliers Sovereign and is

126 / Minutes 2017

obtaining a quote for repairing the platform section of the slide structure. It was thought that maybe a flyer could be produced and distributed to the village to gain more interest in refurbishing the play park. Use of the bike park was also discussed and it was agreed that the play park issue would be discussed again at the Sept 2017 meeting, after the summer school holidays.

10.2 Village sign BBC2: On Monday 10th July 2017 the Village Sign was removed from the Green by Kevin Oakley & John Felstead. On Thursday 13th July the sign was transported by Kevin & John to Chichester to be filmed for the BBC2 series 'The Repair Shop'. Kevin has cleaned the stone surround on the Green where the village sign stood, ready for its return. The sign maybe returned in time for the Village Fete on the 5th August, but this has not yet been confirmed * If the sign is not back for the 5th August an alternative date will need to be arranged with a small welcoming party. Getting together the original members involved in the making of the sign etc was discussed as well as inviting Audrey Burch, Hilary Cox our local MP etc along to the unveiling. The use of some proper scaffolding, hard hats & vests etc was suggested for when the sign is re erected, this can be arrange when the return date is confirmed.

10.3 Village fingerposts: Cllr J Tebb has been in touch with Katherine Wright at ANOB Partnership with regards to repairing the W Stickland fingerposts. A breakdown of the approx costs has been supplied to Cllr Tebb by Katherine Wright. The breakdown shows that it would cost approx £1,000 to refurbish each sign/post. It was decided to tackle one post at a time starting with the sign at the end of the village towards Blandford. It was agreed this one post would be paid for from the Parish Councils reserve funds. The general cleaning of Stickland village signs was discussed, the Clerk agreed to contact DCC Highways and enquire as to the best cleaning product to use for the job.

10.4 Speed Watch: The response to the Clerks article in the Valley News has been poor, and unfortunately the number of volunteers that have come forward is not sufficient for the PC to take the Speed Watch scheme further at this present time. Although this is a disappointing result, the PC will keep communicating the villages speeding concerns to the Police in the meantime.

11. Financial Report: Cheques for payment were agreed as follows:

S Smith **£231.81** (Clerks salary July 2017 & expenses) C Lovell **£100.00** (grass cutting for July 2017) The annual WSPC audit has been sent in post to BDO for its final checks and approval.

12. Correspondence: received as follows - an email had been received from resident regarding dog mess on pavements & driveways in the village. It was felt that in order for the issue to be reported to the dog warden the dog responsible, and its owner must be identified first. The Clerk agreed to place an article in the Valley News as reminder to dog owners of their responsibilities. The bus route 311 Blandford - Dorchester which passes through Stickland will cease to exist from 22nd July 2017. The Milton Abbas Street Fair takes place on Saturday 29th July - Milton Abbas Street will closed to all traffic 9am - 6pm. An email had been received from a resident regarding a neighbours untidy garden, the resident has been informed that they should discuss the issue with their neighbour first to try and resolve the matter. Training will take place on the new village defibrillator on 2nd August 2017. All residents are welcome to attend at 6.30pm in The Crown car park. WSSCC will soon be hosting over an 35yrs football team at the sports field and this will start in September 2017.

13. Items for the next agenda: None

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15pm **Next meeting Date:** Monday 21st August 2017 @ **7.30pm Venue:** Pamela Hambro Village Hall. * **Since typing these minutes it has been confirmed that the Village Sign will not be returning in time for the Village Fete on the 5th August 2017.**

Signed.....Presiding Chairman

Date.....