

## ***EAST STOKE PARISH COUNCIL***

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EAST STOKE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2011

PRESENT	Cllr Rebecca Cady, Chairman Cllr Tib Axon Cllr Neill Child Cllr Christine Evans Cllr Barry Quinn (District Councillor)
APOLOGIES	Cllr Karen Barnes, Vice Chairman Cllr Adrian Naylor PCSO Stuart Hann
IN ATTENDANCE	County Cllr Mike Lovell Julie Wright (Parish Clerk) Mr George Henderson (Monkey World) 3 Members of the Public

#### **1 Public Participation Time**

- a) Mrs Wright reported that Mr Simon Cragg is going to organise a 'Comic Relief' Fun Run next March.
- b) Mrs Topp enquired how much the Parish Land fencing would cost. The Chairman explained that the Parish Council did not have the exact cost available at the meeting but it would be approximately £900 for the materials as the labour is being provided for free by volunteers.

#### **2 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were approved for Cllr Karen Barnes and Cllr Adrian Naylor.

#### **3 Declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in any items on the agenda.**

There were no declarations to record.

#### **4 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> October were approved and signed.

#### **5 Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting**

**None.**

#### **6 Planning applications**

- a) **6/2011/0627** – Longthorns (Monkey World Ape Rescue Centre), East Stoke. Erect replacement Siamang Gibbon house.  
Two existing buildings are being removed the orang-utan house and the old gibbon house.  
It was **resolved** that there were no objections or comments to make on this planning application.

## **7 Previous Planning Application Updates**

- a) **Appeal ref APP/B1225/A/11/2161905** – This is the appeal against PDC's refusal to grant planning permission for 6/2010/0082. The timetable for the Alaska Wind Farm appeal has been received. Comments need to be made to the Planning Inspector by 8<sup>th</sup> December. The public inquiry will start on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

**Action:** This item will be added to next month's agenda.

- b) **6/2010/0534** - Installation of water level control structure and low soil bund on agricultural flood plain land; Area of Frome floodplain, land upstream of Holmebridge.  
**Withdrawn**

## **8 Proposed diversion of Bridleway East Stoke BR1**

Cllr Quinn will be walking the proposed route of the bridleway on 9<sup>th</sup> November with Jonathan Halewood (SITA Planning Manager) and a member from the Rambler's Association and a member of the Friends of Dorset's Rights of Way.

## **9 East Stoke Level Crossing**

There was nothing to report. This item will be added to next month's agenda.

## **10 Reports from County and District Councillors**

### **a) County Cllr Lovell**

- i) A policy development panel has been set up to look at Winter Maintenance. This will include the farmer's snow plough scheme, grit bins and salt.
- ii) The County Council are working towards no increase in the council tax.

### **b) District Cllr Quinn**

#### **i) Core Strategy**

The out of town supermarket for Wareham has been taken out and it will be left out.

#### **ii) Neighbourhood Plans** are from the Localism Bill and Cllr Quinn will be attending a training course on these plans.

#### **iii) Gypsy and Traveller consultation**

The article written in the echo was not the information that was in the press release. It is very difficult in Purbeck due to all the planning restrictions - Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Conservation Area, Sites of Special Scientific Interest etc. to find sites for housing or Gypsy and Traveller sites.

The sites would be run by the County Council.

Four sites have been identified for consultation – three in Swanage and one in Wool. These sites will provide a total of eleven pitches. There is a need to identify further sites.

A visit had been made to the Ashoaks site at Cold Harbour by Members of the District Council.

#### **iv) The Boundary Commission Purbeck Electoral Review** report goes to the Council meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> November. Twenty seven District Councillors are required to ensure enough councillors for the current committee structure; the councillor's workload and the future number of electors.

The electoral review is taking place to provide improved electoral equality - each councillor should represent the same number of electorate. The projected electoral figure is 1410 electors per member. The review also considers community identity and effective and convenient local government.

The Members and Officers have spent quite some time trying to come up with solutions that meet the presumption in favour of three member wards (because PDC elect by thirds) but when logic is applied using the Local Government

Boundary Commission (LGBC) criteria of electoral equality, community identity and convenient and effective local government it doesn't work in the rural wards. The PDC report to the LGBC seeks to delay the implementation of the review by one year until 2015 so that PDC can have a single all out election to reduce the costs locally.

**Action:** The clerk will write to the Boundary Commission stating the East Stoke wants to remain in a one member ward – West Purbeck Ward.

## **11 Police Update**

The Safer Neighbourhood Team was unable to attend this meeting.

## **12 River Frome Issues**

- a) The Flood Warden, Mr Burden, reported that the final Frome Rehabilitation Plan is available on the Environment Agency's website. This plan is the same as the draft plan; it still includes leaving fallen trees across the river and the removal of high banks so that the river and flood plain can work as one.
- b) The Environment Agency has withdrawn the septic tank registration for the time being.

## **13 Parish Land**

- a) Registration of the Parish Land

Cllr Quinn gave a detailed report on his findings from the research of the Inclosure document held at the Dorset History Centre and old Parish Council minute books. Two maps were shown - the first is an extract in the Parish Minute Book from 1898 and the second a modern extract covering the area of the Parish Land. Copies of these maps are appended to the minutes. Cllr Quinn has conducted a rudimentary check of the boundary measurements on the ground and is content that these match those provided by PDC Planning office and on the much larger map attached to the Inclosure Document at the Record Centre.

The Inclosure Document states that the land was transferred to the Parish of East Stoke in 1870 "as a place for exercise and recreation for the inhabitants of the said parish and neighbourhood". 1870 predates the formation of the Parish Council as it is now and the entry from 1898 (a couple of years after the Parish Council was formed) was a similar question about ownership but unfortunately the answer is not recorded. The document also states the responsibility for maintaining the land and some fences rests with the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor and their successors i.e. the Parish Council. It also states who was responsible for the maintenance of the lane though that has been overtaken by events as the properties in Primrose Lane have been built.

There is an entry from 1932 referring to a query about usage from the Playing Fields Association and stating that it was not being used at that time.

That establishes the ownership from a historical perspective but the Parish Council need to see where they stand from a legal point of view from subsequent events in the 1980's in particular. The Clerk has advised that the designation of this land is important as if it was classed as a village green then it cannot be built on.

Regarding the gas main the Parish Council was aware of it and was approached for access when Transco re-sleeved the pipe a few years ago.

**Action:** Cllr Quinn will speak to Officers at County and Mr John Hart, Principal Legal Officer at PDC. After which there should be enough information to register the land. Cllr Quinn will find out if Mr Simon Cross has found the documents that are held by the solicitors.

Thanks were expressed to Cllr Quinn for all his hard work.

b) Fencing of the Parish Land

The Young Farmers have started work on re-fencing the Parish Land. Additional work will be required as fencing of the wooded area (behind the pub) was not included in the original quote.

In the Spring the Young Farmers will level the ground and reseed it.

**Action:** Cllr Quinn will ask Mr Alan Morgan for a quote for the additional materials which will be required.

c) Tenancy Agreement for Parish Land

It was agreed that additional clauses are required:

The land must be maintained and left in the same condition as at the start of the tenancy agreement.

The land must be kept secure and the tenant will be liable for any rent monies owed if the land is occupied after the tenancy agreement ends if they fail to do so.

**Action:** The Clerk will contact Mr Cross to see if he will advise on the correct wording for these amendments.

## 14 Highways Issues

a) **Community Response Teams (Previously Parish Maintenance Units)**

No issues to report.

b) **Other Highways Issues.**

i) The footway along the A352 needs side verging due to the encroachment of weeds.

ii) The drains in Binnegar Lane need clearing.

iii) There are weeds that need removing at the old Holmebridge. This bridge is a listed ancient monument.

Cllr Quinn stated that there is a maintenance plan in place for the ruins of St. Mary's Church. These ruins are also an ancient monument.

**Action:** Cllr Quinn will make enquiries at County to see if there is a maintenance plan for Holmebridge and will arrange to spray the weeds.

## 15 Finger post at East Stoke Crossing

This has not been replaced.

There is a new wooden signpost at the end of Highwood to direct walkers and horse riders to Wood Street, Shaggs and Coombe Keynes.

## 16 Email regarding the re-tarmacing of Primrose Lane

The Clerk had followed up the email to Smiths Gore - the response received was that the properties in Primrose Lane are responsible for maintaining this lane.

It was agreed that as the Parish Council have no responsibility there would be no contribution made towards the retarmacing work.

**Action:** The Clerk will write to Mr Naylor to inform him of the Parish Council's decision.

## 17 Consultations or new items for consideration

a) **Boundary Commission** Purbeck electoral Review 2011 – consultation on warding arrangements.

This was discussed at 170/10/b) iv)

**b) Volunteer of the Year**

It was proposed by Cllr Axon and seconded by Cllr Cady that Cllr Barry Quinn was put forward for this parish's Volunteer of the Year for his work with the Parish Plan, initiating the formation of a new village hall committee, the Heritage and Historical Society including the work on the East Stoke History Project. **Resolved.**

**18 Feedback from meetings attended**

**a) Planning Policy Development Panel**

Cllr Barnes had written a brief report. This was read by the Chairman.

The meetings of this panel only come up with suggested 'policies' that will go to the Policy Group to make suggestions to the Main Council.

The suggestion to abolish Public Participation Time (P.P Time) at the start of Planning Board meetings will not happen. There are suggestions that will allow the Board of the day to be aware of what might be raised in P.P Time but there will be no unreasonable hurdles put on the way. There are other alterations regarding 'site visits' and the days of the week that meetings are held on.

There will be workshops in the New Year for Parish Councillors regarding the Planning Process and the suggested changes. It was stressed that it is very important for all Parish Councillors to make the effort to attend these workshops.

**b) Winfrith Site Stakeholder meeting**

Decommissioning of the site continues and it is progressing well. Houses will be built on the technology park.

**19 Churchyard water butt**

Mr Darren Haskell and Cllr Barry Quinn hope to install the water butt soon.

This item will be added to the next agenda.

The liners in the waste bin in the Churchyard have been changed to the correct type.

**20 Grit Bins**

The Clerk had circulated the prices of grit bins from four companies.

It was resolved that three 10 cubic feet green grit bins would be purchased from Viatic at a cost of £99 per bin and total carriage charge of £40.00.

**Action:** The Clerk will find out from highways where the grit bins can be sited at Middlefield Cottages, the crossroads of Holme Lane/Church Lane and one at the top of Church Lane.

**21 Correspondence Received**

All of the following items of correspondence were circulated prior to the meeting and noted.

a) Came and Company "Parish Matters" newsletter Autumn 2011 edition.

b) DCC Highways Traffic Engineering team letter of introduction from Andrew Brown, Manager.

c) Revised list of contacts for drainage.

**22 Invitations**

a) Briefing on Superfast broadband 10<sup>th</sup> November at 10am, Dorford Centre.  
No one is available to attend.

b) 'Protecting Purbeck's Heritage: A Review of the Purbeck Heritage Committee' on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2011, at Harmans Cross Village Hall, 9.30am – 1pm.  
Cllr Child will attend if available.

## 23 Finance

### a) Invoices and payments

Payee	Amount	Cheque number
Mr Barry Quinn (Printing of Parish Council newsletter)	£26.25	000333

It was **resolved** that the above payment schedule was approved.

### b) The second quarter budget report

The second quarter bank was circulated with the papers for this meeting. The Receipts and Payments cashbook balance agreed with the reconciled bank statements. The cashbook balance at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011 was £17,878.10. The bank reconciliation was approved and signed by the chairman.

### c) Budget 2012/13

The following items will be added to next year's budget 2 grit bins, four drawer filing cabinet.

### d) Donation to the Purbeck Citizens Advice Bureau

This request will be kept on file and considered at the end of the financial year.

## 24 Matters for information and/ or inclusion on next Agenda

- a) Tender for Churchyard grass cutting.
- b) Fyler grave – the grave needs weeds removing.
- c) Emergency email list.
- d) Cllr Axon or Cllr Child will lay the wreath on Remembrance Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

## 25 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011 at 7pm.

Chairman:.....

Date:.....