

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF EAST STOKE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2016

PRESENT            Cllr Rebecca Cady (Chairman)  
                         Cllr Cherry Brooks (District Councillor)  
                         Cllr Christine Evans  
                         Cllr Barry Quinn  
                         Cllr Julie Wright

APOLOGIES        Cllr Neill Child (Vice Chairman)  
                         Cllr Tessa Wiltshire  
                         Cllr Brown (District Councillor)  
                         Cllr Miller (District Councillor)  
                         County Cllr Lovell  
                         PC Jepchott

IN ATTENDANCE   4 Members of the Public  
                         Liz Maidment (Parish Clerk)

### 1. Public Participation Time.

- a) Mr Burden has noticed that there are ruts along the B3070 near Holmebridge where a trainee tank driver came off the road. Cllr Cady said that the Army should report all these incidents. Mr Willgress has also witnessed it and has emailed photographs to the Parish Clerk who has reported it online.
- b) Mr Willgress inquired as to where the Parish boundary is along the Puddletown Road as at Duck Hill, which lies a quarter of a mile East of the Dorset Golf and Country Club there is a pipe running off and is accumulating water onto the road. The gullies are always full and last week there had been some black ice. He is also concerned that the Army Trojan vehicles are travelling too fast.  
**Action:** The Clerk to report it to Planning and Highways.
- c) Mrs Topp witnessed eight Army Land Rovers travelling fast and in convoy along Church Lane. She asked if there are any restrictions as to the number of vehicles that can travel together. Cllr Quinn doesn't think there are restrictions and commented that the vehicles may not be from Bovington.
- d) Mrs Topp saw a surveyor in a dorsetforyou van who was extremely helpful as Mrs Topp asked if she could clear the mud out of the gullies between Manor Farm and the River Laboratories which she did. She also started to dig out a grip by the River Laboratories but was unable to do so as there is a tree trunk in the way. It was noted that it needs to be cleared at Mill Stream. Mrs Topp would like to thank the surveyor for all her hard work. From the description Mrs Topp gave Cllr Quinn confirmed that it was Jenny Penney.  
**Action:** The Clerk to email on the thank you to Highways
- e) Mr Willgress asked if there has been any updates regarding the Binnegar Quarry. SITA had a meeting with the County Council to

discuss the obligations as part of the Unilateral Undertaking. There has already been agreement on some areas including Section 10b to restore the car park to heathland. There has been no dialogue between Natural England and SITA. The Solicitor has said that the car park is subject to a planning application to County but Cllr Quinn feels it should be to PDC. Mr Willgress commented that there should be native plants there instead of pampas grass and silver birch.

- f) Mrs Burden saw Jenny Penney looking at the culvert that goes under the railway line as she has been sent to inspect the drainage at the proposed SITA Site. The culvert itself is completely blocked. A letter from Raymond Brown has been received acknowledging the need to talk to the Council but it is not classed as a priority at the moment.
- g) Mrs Topp told Jenny Penney about the flooding near the railway crossing along Church Lane and she has noted it.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies were accepted and approved for Cllr Child, Cllr Wiltshire, Cllr Brown and Cllr Miller.

**3. Granting of Dispensation**

No applications for a dispensation had been made.

**4. Declarations of Interest**

None

**5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016 were approved as a true account and the minutes were duly signed.

**6. Matters arising from the minutes**

- a) The topple testing has been done.
- b) Minute No 224/15/2 the collapsed verge in Church Lane has been repaired.

**7 Planning Applications or Planning Information received**

- a) **6/2015/0759 - Birchwood**, BH20 6AN Erect detached wooden workshop in garden.

**No comments and no objections.** The Parish Council was in agreement that it was helpful having the photographs of the proposed site.

- b) **Installed Mobile Home Unit**

Cllr Brooks confirmed that there is no pending planning application that Purbeck District Council are aware of. The enforcement enquiry link has been forwarded onto the Clerk. It was also noted that a summerhouse house been erected without planning permission at a property in the Parish.

**Action:** The Clerk to complete the form.

**8. Update on Previous Planning Applications or planning information**

There were no planning updates.

**9. Hethfelton Wood Update**

County Cllr Lovell, Cllr Brown and representatives of the Parish Council met the Forestry Commission on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February. It started with a site visit to Hethfelton which was followed up by a meeting at the River Laboratories. There is currently no planning application for Hethfelton but the Mineral Plan is a joint application with Hanson. The Forestry Commission does not have any input to the planning aspect, but it was confirmed that they will receive royalties. The Parish Council will have to wait for more information which will be when the consultations have gone through. Mr Grugeon the Land Agent explained that the Forestry Commission only obtains 20% of the necessary funding from the Government and the remaining has to be self-financed.

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

**a) County Cllr Lovell**

No report. County is currently struggling with the budget, but an additional £7 million more than what they initially thought has actually been received.

**b) District Cllr Brooks**

- i)** The PDC allocation has now been delayed and there are three possible options. The rural MPs have threatened to revolt but the Chancellor has promised to provide more funding. It is forecast that there will be a shortfall, but the District will not be facing the dire situation that County is.
- ii)** There has been a briefing note on the Partial Review and the preferred options paper will be available at their next meeting.
- iii)** All councils are committed to the Combined Authority, which is working together for economic growth.
- iv)** They are no further forward regarding the unitary authorities. The Leaders across the County have agreed to carry on with the combined authority and the business case. East Dorset has voted not to participate in a Unitary Council and their leader, Spencer Flower has resigned. They now have a new leader, but they are not sure where this leaves the ambitions for an Eastern unitary of Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch and East Dorset which according to the press is forging ahead. The Local Government Association (LGA) sponsored development of a business case for reorganising local government in Dorset will consider other options, not just East, West or whole county unitaries. Cllr Cady asked what the timescale would be and Cllr Quinn confirmed that the LGA report will be in April. PDC is trying to engage with our two MPs, but a meeting with all Dorset MPs and Leaders has also been mooted but no date has been fixed. Meanwhile the DCC has scheduled a special council meeting on 10 March to debate the issue. At the DAPTC Annual Conference on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March there will be a briefing on the experiences of unitaries entitled the Future of Local Government. Cllr Quinn believes that this is a bit misleading as it is not necessarily the route that Dorset will take. Members of the District Council might attend to hear the presentations.

11. **Police issues to report or update on issues reported**
  - a) The link to Dorset Alert should be included in the forthcoming newsletter.
  - b) There has been a few break-ins within the local area.
12. **River Frome Issues**

The Keystone Project was not fully completed due to a complaint from a resident which prevented its completion. The timescales for the targets were quite short. Also, problems arose due to the funding ceasing and the agency changing. The Parish Council has not had sight of the Annual Report but has requested Cllr Miller to obtain a copy.
13. **Spring Newsletter**

Suggested articles included: - a link to Dorset Alert, delivery of Easter Eggs, updates on Hethfelton and the Woodlands Holiday Site and contact details for the District Councillors and their surgery dates. The Police and Village Hall Committee to be asked if they would like to submit articles.

**Action:** The Clerk to contact the Police and Village Hall Committee
14. **Appoint an Internal Auditor**

Mrs Paula Harding will carry out the Internal Audit
15. **Date of Annual Parish Meeting and consideration of speaker(s)**

The Annual Meeting of the Council will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> May and the Annual Parish Meeting will be on 12<sup>th</sup> May. It was suggested that Graham Nottage and Mark Warne from the Forestry Commission should be invited to speak.
16. **Highways Issues**
  - a) Update on issues reported  
Nothing to report
  - b) Manhole cover on A352 near the Stokeford Inn  
Wessex Water has confirmed that it does not belong to them and that it is BT equipment. It appears the leak is from a natural spring. Highways have cleared the ditch in the past and this did improve the situation and it was suggested that it should be done again.  
**Action:** Parish Clerk to email Cllr Lovell
  - c) Blocked culvert along Bindon Lane  
This has now been resolved.
  - d) Other Issues  
There is a large pothole before the bend at Bindon Abbey.  
**Action:** The Clerk to notify the Wool Parish Clerk
17. **Consultations for consideration or New Items for Discussion/Consideration**
  - a) Impact of changes to Government funding on Dorset County Council's financial situation. Dorset County Council's Cabinet will consider the latest Medium Term Financial Plan – updated to take account of the Local Government finance settlement. **Noted.**
  - b) Dorset Highways Councillors Satisfaction Survey Results. Results from the survey relating to the performance of the County Council's Highway Service. **Noted.**
  - c) Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments - Second Communication. These arrangements will come into effect from 1st April 2016. **Noted.**

## 17. Correspondence Received

All of the following items of correspondence were circulated prior to the Meeting.

- a) Groundwater warning area promotion. The Environment Agency is promoting their new groundwater flooding alert system. **Noted.**
- b) The Great British Fish and Chip Supper. To take place on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May in aid of the Spinal Injuries Association. **Noted.**
- c) Have your say on future of rural bus links. Dorset County Council is looking to save £500,000 from a review of rural bus services and there will be a four-week public consultation which will start on Monday 11 January. The 104 bus is under threat and also some routes in the Bere Regis area.
- d) Royal Garden Party Nominations. Closing date Wednesday 3rd February. **Noted.**
- e) Youth Centres and Clubs - Cabinet Decision 13 January 2016. **Noted.**
- f) rCOH Neighbourhood Planning event leaflet. Advising Parish Councils of the latest neighbourhood planning information. To take place on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February. **Noted.**
- g) Heathlands SPD Adoption Letter. Adoption statement for the Dorset Heathlands Planning Framework 2015-2020 Supplementary Planning Document. **Noted.**
- h) Household recycling centres - Temporary closures for cleaning. The Wareham Centre will be closed from 2nd to 4<sup>th</sup> February. **Noted.**
- i) Meet Healthwatch Dorset Board. The Board will meet the Healthwatch Dorset Champions on the 27<sup>th</sup> January. **Noted.**
- j) Temporary road closures - A352 at Wool Level Crossing. The operation will run over two consecutive nights from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January. **Noted.**
- k) Latest version of the good councillors guide available to order. This can be ordered through DAPTC. **Noted.**
- l) Purbeck Area 2016 Surgery Dates. The Dorset Community Action will run drop in sessions at Not Just Sundaes Community Café in Wareham from 9am to 2pm on the 24th March, 23rd June and 20th October. **Noted.**
- m) Social Media Training 25th Feb 2016. Dorset Community Action is running the session at the Sandford Village Hall. The cost is £30 pp for voluntary and community groups, £50 pp for statutory groups. The timings will be 10am to 2.30 pm. **Noted.**
- n) Prevent WRAP III training opportunity. Training will be given on the introduction of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 6pm. **Noted.**
- o) Letter to call town and parish councillors from the Chairman of the National Association of Local Councils. An annual update from the Chair of NALC. **Noted.**
- p) Nomination documents for 2017 Honours. The deadline for nominations of the New Year 2017 Honours round is the 4<sup>th</sup> February. **Noted.**
- q) Safer Dorset Fund - Community Grant Round. A funding source for voluntary and community sector organisations to deliver projects that meet one or more of the Police and Crime Plan priorities. Closing date 22<sup>nd</sup> February. **Noted.**

- r) HM Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations. A guide on how Parish Councils can get involved by organising an event on the 21<sup>st</sup> April.  
**Action:** The Clerk to email it to the Village Hall Committee
- s) Bournemouth International Growth programme. A growth plan focusing on employment and development around Bournemouth Airport. **Noted.**
- t) Purbeck Community Network Event. It will take place on 10th March 2016 at Harman's Cross Village Hall, from 10am to 1pm.  
Cllr Quinn will raise the issue of the Keystone Project.
- u) Updated Legal Topic Notes. LTN 17 – Control of dogs and LTN 14E – Byelaws (England). **Noted.**

## 18. Finance

### a) The following receipt was noted:

2015 Dividends from the Fyler and Butler Trust      £128.87

The Fyler grave front panel which is a marble slab has fallen off and it has been shattered. Cllr Quinn will investigate the extent of the problem. It was asked if there are any available grants and whether the family could be traced so that they could finance it. Cllr Brooks said that one solution is to buy another headstone but it was agreed that it should be repaired as best they could.

**Action:** Cllr Quinn will obtain a quote from Albert Marsh and will contact Revd Floate.

b) Payments	Amount	Cheque No
Miss E Maidment January 15 Salary	£211.76	000492
Re-imburse Mrs R Haskell for resin to repair the chain at the War Memorial.	£8.50	000491

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

### c) Third quarter Budget Report

The third quarter Bank Reconciliation, Cashbook and bank statements were circulated prior to this meeting. The Receipts and Payments cashbook balance agreed with the reconciled bank statements. The cashbook balance at 30<sup>th</sup> December 2015 was £26861.34.

### d) Consideration of overtime payment to the Clerk to attend the Forestry Commission Meeting.

It was agreed that six hours of overtime could be claimed.

### e) Risk Assessment year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016

The risk assessment document was circulated prior to the meeting. Assets – Cllr Wright advised that a statement should be added to stating that in order to comply with The Transparency Code for Smaller councils a copy of the Fixed Asset Register is displayed on the website.

## 19. Items for Information or next agenda

- a) The grass cutting tender from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 have been published on social media sites. Quotes were obtained from local newspapers but they were quoting up to £170. It was agreed to keep on the tender the maintenance of the old Village Hall Site and include that all cuttings must be taken away.
- b) It has been noted that the cherry trees in the Churchyard have all died and they need to be cut down. This will be added to the agenda in April/May after the nesting season has taken place.
- c) Cllr Brooks asked if there should be a sign on the bin advising people

what not to put in there. There are still problems of the bin not being emptied regularly. It was also noted that the compost heap needs to be sorted out.

**Action:** Cllr Brooks will speak to Jill Jackson at PDC.

- d) The beech hedge is currently at least 8ft high as the current contractors have not maintained it.

**Action:** The Clerk to email Wessex Garden Services to restore it to a minimum of 7ft.

- e) Cllr Evans asked for an update on the pension scheme. A Notice of a Resolution has been displayed and it will be added to next month's Agenda.

**20. Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting.**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 at 7pm.

With no further business to transact the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.36hrs.

Chairman: .....Date.....