



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EAST STOKE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER 2014

PRESENT            Cllr Rebecca Cady, Chairman  
                        Cllr Neill Child, Vice Chairman  
                        Cllr Tib Axon  
                        Cllr Barry Quinn (District Councillor)  
                        Cllr Christine Evans  
                        Cllr Tessa Wiltshire

APOLOGIES        None

IN ATTENDANCE   County Cllr Mike Lovell  
                        PC Claire Jephcott  
                        PCSO Dave Brown  
                        9 Members of the Public  
                        Liz Maidment (Parish Clerk)

Due to there being representatives from the Police it was agreed that items 10, 11, 15 & 18bi on the agenda should be discussed directly after Item 4.

**1. Public Participation Time.**

a)        Mr Goldsack from Holmes for Gardens showed the meeting the plans for the planning application 6/2014/0459. He could not stay for the entire meeting, so outlined the proposals which included a new, safer entrance from the B3070, expanding the kitchens and moving the farm shop to a more central location. He explained that the build will have a low visual impact from the road and will have 22 employees with the majority living locally.

b)        Mr Willgress stated that he would like to have a link to the website with all the SITA documentation on it. He is still seeking clarification from SITA regarding the difference between Common Land and Public Access Land. It was asked if the waste site was closing down and Cllr Quinn confirmed that it was.

**Action:** The Clerk to email link to Mr Willgress.

c)        Mr Burdon said that when he went to the SITA site meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> September he was surprised by how small the drainage ditches were as they didn't appear adequate for the amount of land which is clay capped. He felt that the ditches should be bored down to the water table as the water is currently being kept too close to the surface. He suggested that this might have been one of the causes of the flooding further down the hill. Cllr Cady suggested that these findings could form a comment for the future Planning Application. Cllr Quinn did have a site meeting regarding this approximately ten years ago with SITA and the Environment Agency and they could not see any underlining problems with it. Mr Burdon

suggested that the Parish Council should write to the Environment Agency to notify them as whether the drainage is adequate.

d) Mr Whitmarsh noticed that the Monkey World signage planning application was refused and he questioned if a signage board can be put up on the Parish Land to advertise village events. Cllr Quinn said that he would have to seek advice, but he believes that permanent signage would be refused. Any signs advertising an event would have to be taken down immediately after the event.

**Action:** The Clerk to add signage onto the next agenda.

## **2. Apologies**

No apologies were received. County Cllr Lovell arrived late to the meeting.

## **3. Granting of Dispensation**

No applications for a dispensation had been made.

## **4. Declarations of Interest**

None

## **10. Any Police issues to report or update on issues reported**

a) PC Claire Jephcott explained to the meeting the Wareham Town & West area that is her "patch" which covers from Winfrith to Kimmeridge and up to Affpuddle. It consists of a team of four and due to the wide area, patrols are done in vehicles rather than on foot. To communicate issues more quickly to residents a Facebook group has been recently been set up and there has been a positive response to the various dispersals of information.

b) PCSO Dave Brown gave an update regarding crime figures which were all down from last year. They were: - dwelling burglary -3, non-dwelling burglary -5, theft from vehicle -3, theft -7 and criminal damage -3.

c) It was advised that if a member of the public sees a suspicious vehicle, particularly transit vans it is recommended that they call 101. It is important to contact them immediately rather than a few hours later otherwise it may be difficult to locate the vehicle.

d) The Ringmaster is no longer in existence as the company who operated it has gone bankrupt. In its place is Dorset Alert. People who were registered for Ringmaster have to re-register on Dorset Alert to get updates as the user data cannot be transferred.

**Action:** The Clerk to put an article in the newsletter about Dorset Alert.

e) Mr Willgress asked what the Police are doing about speeding motorists, especially HGV drivers as he experienced a lorry overtaking him. He called 101 but received no response back. He said something needs to be done to slow down vehicles, for example a slit sign similar to ones used near Arne. PC Jephcott does not have information regarding monitoring speeding as this is dealt with by the Traffic Department. PCSO Brown explained that if a blitz on speeding was conducted over a course of a week, then a week after motorists would go back to their usual speeding. It was suggested that concerned residents should contact the Dorset Partnership and they would go out and check speeding.

f) Cllr Wiltshire has had in the past theft from outbuildings and she was reassured to see a Police Landover do a night time patrol near her property recently. PCSO Brown confirmed that as well as going along the A352 corridor they also go down the more rural lanes and tracks and will stop anyone who looks suspicious.

## **11. Motorbikes using SITA Land**

An email was sent to the Parish Clerk from a resident who has witnessed motorbikes on SITA land. When she confronted them, they said that they were allowed to use the land as one of their fathers' works for SITA. It was confirmed by Mike Greslow that it is forbidden to ride the bikes on this land. PC Jephcott informed the meeting that it is classed as anti-social driving and if they are caught the bikes can be confiscated for up to 6 months. It is up to all parties to enforce the action and PC Jephcott would like SITA to put up signs. If a member of the public witnesses this again, they should contact the Police straight away.

There has also been issues of this in Hethfelton Woods. Cllr Cady approached some motor bikers but their language was quite offensive so she reported it to the Police. PC Jephcott went to the area, but by that time they had disappeared.

**Action:** The Clerk to write to SITA informing them that the Police have advised them to put up signs saying motorbikes are forbidden.

## **15. Railway Crossings**

Cllr Quinn noticed that the incident at the Wool railway crossing was reported on the Purbeck Police Facebook page, but when the East Stoke crossing was malfunctioning this was not mentioned. Cllr Quinn telephoned 101 to report the problem, but the number was busy and gave up in the end. PC Jephcott didn't know if the Police were informed, but will check. Cllr Quinn will attend a meeting regarding the problems with the railway crossings on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

When there are issues with the Holmebridge Crossing Network Rail believe it is not their responsibility to inform the Police. It has come apparent that the risk has been shifted from the railway to the highway. There are still delays with the barriers, opening and it appears it is prolonged more for the Waterloo bound trains. It was asked that if there is a fault with the crossing, road signs should be erected more quickly to warn drivers of the closure.

## **18 Highways Issues**

### **Bi) Challenge Weymouth**

1. It was agreed that the main problem of Challenge Weymouth was a lack of communication between the organisers and local residents. It was questioned why residents and Parish Councils were not consulted in this area as there seemed to be only discussions about it in Weymouth. A lot of the residents were only aware of the event when the yellow signs were put up. The Police Inspector said that letters were sent out to residents, but they only received one complaint and this was from a resident in Holme Lane
2. Cllr Cady said that residents were not informed if they were able to access their properties. There were concerns that people would be stranded in their houses for the day and one person relies on carers for essential help. In the end, motorists were allowed both ways. There was a Police presence in Stoborough but it seems that no other junctions in the area were manned by them.

3. The Police informed the meeting that any complaints need to be directed to the organiser. Cllr Quinn would like to be informed of the complaints as well as he will be attending a highway meeting.
4. Cllr Wiltshire questioned as to what powers the marshals have. PC Jephcott answered if they are authorised trained marshals they can use signs similar to lollipop ladies and can stop traffic.
5. County Cllr Lovell was understood that the event this year is not classed as a race but is described as a "Sportive" therefore the event does not need to be registered. However, he feels that it is a race due to the participants having a chip placed on their helmets to record their personal best and the fastest person is given a prize. PC Jephcott said that the classification is trying to be changed as it is essential that the Police are informed of future events.
6. Mrs Topp asked what the regulation is for cycling two/three abreast. Cllr Neill stated that according to the Highway Code not more than two abreast is allowed.

**5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

It was resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2014 were approved as a true account of the meeting and were duly signed.

**6. Matters arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising.

**7. Planning Applications or Planning Information received**

- a) **6/2014/0459** Mr Goldsack, Holme Nurseries Ltd, West Holme Farm – Rationalisation of previously approved scheme to include new replacement retail buildings.

**It was resolved** that the Parish Council has no objections to this application

- b) **6/2014/0461** Mr & Mrs Haskell, Mayfield, Stokeford Farm – New Cattle Building to be built on fallow land

**Cllr Cady did declare an interest in this planning application but as she had no financial interest she did not have to leave the room.**

**It was resolved** that the Parish Council has no objections to this application

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

- a) SITA UK Ltd has applied to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under section 16 of the Commons Act 2006 to de-register part of the existing common land (register no. CL263) south of Puddletown Road and provide replacement common land immediately adjacent to the existing common.

Cllr Quinn is happy to form a response on behalf of the Parish Council and he will seek advice from Cllr Bridget Kenward. The issue of exchanging the Common Land needs to be investigated to see if it is necessary. Also, to find out the exact difference between the two terminologies of "Right of Access" and "Common Land". It was questioned if anyone at SITA knows

the legal definition. It was agreed that the Parish Council's opinion was to maintain with the status quo. This means that the Parish Council wants to formally register that the current farmland must be kept as agriculture and not be converted to heathland.

- b) **6/2014/0372** Mr & Mrs McConnell Highwood (Hilltop). Create additional living accommodation by raising the ridge height of existing garage, inserting dormer windows and erecting a side extension. Erect detached replacement garage, carport with storage over. **Approved.**
- c) **6/2014/0374** Longthorns (Monkey World Ape Rescue Centre) Erect timber structure to allow the display of 2 non-illuminated signs measuring 1.8 metres in height by 2.4 metres in width. **Refused.**
- d) **6/2014/0375** Longthorns (Monkey World Ape Rescue Centre). Erect a new marmoset building, enclosures, tunnels and fence. Refurbishment and use of former orangutan building for marmosets and erect new tunnels to existing enclosures. **Approved.**

## 9. Reports from County and District Councillors

### a) County Cllr Lovell

- i) County Cllr Lovell distributed the Corporate Plan for the Councillor's perusal.
- ii) A meeting with the Environment Agency regarding the River Frome has been at the planning stage for a few months, but County Cllr Lovell is unable to get a representative from the Agency to go. Other parties who should attend include Cllr Kenward, Will Bond and Pete and Sue Burdon. If a response cannot be obtained from the Environment Agency, County Cllr Lovell will contact Richard Drax MP.
- iii) County Cllr Lovell is unable to attend the Challenge Weymouth meeting at County but Cllr Quinn will take his place instead. It was noted that there is no Safety Advisory Group (SAG) for this event.
- iv) A budget of £5,000 has been given by County to be used within the Division. £500 of which would be allocated to East Stoke and it was asked if there are any projects within the Parish that could use this money.

**Action:** Clerk to add it to the next agenda.

- v) As part of the Electoral Review of Dorset, County are proposing to have one additional County Councillor within Dorset which will be in the North. It is planned that Purbeck will stay the same by having five County Councillors. The plans are still in the initial stages and County Cllr Lovell will find out more at the meeting next week. There might be a slightly larger division for County Cllr Lovell. The response is due on 1<sup>st</sup> December.

**Action:** Clerk to add it to the next agenda.

### c) District Cllr Quinn

PDC has discussed a change to the governance arrangements. At the moment it is run by a cabinet, but in future, according to the Localism Act it has to be run as a committee system. This means only

important items need to be discussed at a full council meeting so therefore they will only be held every 6 weeks and the other committees will meet monthly. It will, however, entail more meetings during the day and Cllr Quinn is concerned that there will be poor attendance by Councillors.

**12. Maintenance of Parish Land and Churchyard**

**a) Tree Planting**

Simon Goldsack from Holme For Gardens has kindly offered to donate £50 towards a yew tree for the Churchyard.

Action: Clerk to email Mr Goldsack to accept the offer and organise the arrangements.

**b) Tree cuttings left in the churchyard.**

The detritus has been removed, but it has not been completely cleared up.

**Action:** Clerk to contact residents to ask to clear away all the leftover cuttings.

**c) Any other issues**

George Lunn will cut back the gorse on the Parish Land during the next few weeks. An additional key has been cut for him to use and will be returned to the Clerk.

**13 East Stoke and Wool Community Chest**

Cllr Cady gave a presentation on how to set up a solar benefit community fund at the Parish Clerk's Annual Meeting. The income is nearly ready to be transferred into the account and when this has been done the application forms will be publicised

**14 River Frome Issues**

See minute 209/9 a) ii)

**16 Autumn Newsletter**

The following items will be included in the newsletter:- Dorset Alert, Hethfelton Woods, 1<sup>st</sup> World War, Village Hall Committee, thank you for the noticeboard posts and details regarding the neighbourhood response to the Solar Farm

**17 Review of New Standing Orders**

The Standing Orders were amended and agreed. A media policy for the Parish Council will be drawn up.

**It was resolved that the new Standing Orders were provisionally adopted.**

**18 Highways Issues**

**a) Update on issues reported**

- i) There will be a safety upgrade to the B3070 junction.
- ii) The A3572 outside Stokeford Cottages will have larger patching works carried out from 5<sup>th</sup> November and large scale surfacing is planned for next year.
- iii) The spring along the A3572 has seemed to have dried up.

**c) Other Highway Issues**

- i) The road outside Middlefield is still flooding this maybe due to the drains getting silted up

**19 Consultations for consideration or New Items for Discussion/Consideration**

- a) Purbeck Local Plan Partial Review – draft engagement programme for Town and Parish Councils and Parish Meetings  
A working group has been set up at District and issues such as renewable energy policies will be discussed. The Parish Councils will be engaged in the process.
- b) Chairman's Network meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014  
Cllr Cady attended the meeting. Events that are consulted on at District and County level are not cascaded down to Parish Councils. Cllr Cady requested that PCs should be notified of events, however, they do not need to be consulted
- c) Electoral Review of Dorset  
See minute 209/9 a) v)

**20 Correspondence Received**

- a) Process for salt bags and community salt bins  
The bin near the Church is full of rubbish and water. It was felt that it is unlikely that extra salt will be needed due to the mild weather last winter. Cllr Quinn to investigate level of salt in bins.
- b) New release – Council tax – checks on single person discounts continue
- c) Poole Harbour Catchment Initiative – Newsletter (June –Sept 2014)
- d) Proposed Temporary Road Closure – B3070, Holme Level Crossing
- e) DAPTC AGM Resolutions for Consideration by member councils
- f) Dorset Community Action – Sustainability Purbeck Meeting  
Cllr Quinn attended the meeting
- g) Material planning considerations – 8 October – 2pm – Westport House  
Cllr Wiltshire will attend. The modular trainings are run during the daytime one year and during the subsequent year it is run in the evenings.
- h) Email from Cherry Brooks expressing interest in being a Parish Councillor  
Another email was received from a potential councillor (Julie Wright) but it arrived too late for it to be added to the agenda. At present there is only one vacancy but Cllr Cady stated that if anyone wishes to stand down then there would be the opportunity to co-opt two people. If, however, this does not arise then the two candidates will be voted upon.

**21 Finance**

a) Payment	Amount	Cheque Number
Miss E Maidment Sept 14 Salary	£162.16	000434
Miss E Maidment re-imburse Wessex Water 7/2/14-28/08/14	£13.34	000435
BDO External Audit Fees	£42.00	000437
Miss E Maidment re-imburse key cut for Parish Land	£6.50	000438

- b) To consider purchasing a wreath for Remembrance Sunday  
Cllr Axon will consult the British Legion. Cllr Quinn is unable to attend on the 9<sup>th</sup> November but proposed that Will Whitmarsh, who is in the cadets should be nominated to lay the wreath.

**Action:** To be added to next month's Agenda

- c) External Audit

The External Audit has been completed however, there are two minor issues that were highlighted. The return was completed down to pennies, but it should have been rounded up to the nearest Pound. An asset was gifted to the Parish Council during the year and it should have been included as either nil or £1. An action plan has been written so these errors would not be occurring again in future years.

## **20 Items for Information or next agenda**

- a) Cllr Axon has noticed brambles around the bus shelter and questioned who is responsible. Cllr Quinn will look and it need be clear away the brambles.
- b) Cllr Cady has found out that Swanage Town Council has purchased a recording device for £90 which will be used in meetings. Due to the new regulations if a member of the public records a meeting it would be useful for the Parish Council to have their own copy. It was felt that the grant from County Cllr Lovell could be used for this.
- c) The Clerk has seen that the noticeboard at Holmebridge has leaked. Cllr Cady asked if this could be added to the next agenda.

## **21 Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting.**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7pm.

With no further business to transact the Chairman closed the meeting at 9 pm

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