

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

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

**PRESENT** Cllr Rebecca Cady, Chairman  
Cllr Tib Axon  
Cllr Neill Child  
Cllr Damian Cullinane  
Cllr Christine Evans  
Cllr Barry Quinn (District Cllr)

**APOLOGIES** Cllr Karen Barnes, Vice Chairman

**IN ATTENDANCE** County Cllr Mike Lovell  
PCSO Stuart Hann  
7 Members of the Public  
Mrs Julie Wright (Parish Clerk)

**1 Mr Richard Stubbs**, Dorset County Council Highways, Technical Officer, Network Traffic Management was welcomed to the meeting.

a) No overtaking white lines on A352, Worgret Hill.

Strict visibility criteria must be met for having no overtaking lines. DCC are very unlikely to change the lines here.

The collision record here is good. The report of accidents is only when these have been reported to the police.

Question on how frequently the data is issued? It is issued monthly and shows a three year time span.

During the last three years how many times has there been notification of a collision that resulted in injury? On Worgret Road there have been 2 slight injuries and nothing until Holmebridge junction where 3 or 4 have been reported.

The problem with the data is the type of injury as a slight injury does not come up on the report.

Is the signage for the junction in the correct place? This could partly be the problem but a lot is due to bad driving and that requires educating drivers. To put up signs you need a Traffic Regulation Order and these are not being undertaken unless there is a major problem. Signs are usually ignored by local drivers as they know the road.

The filter lane for the turn off onto the B3070 is not wide or very long. The traffic in this lane blocks the view of the driver at the junction wanting to turn into the A352 so they do not see the cars immediately behind it.

b) Weight Limit Reduction of 3.5T for Binnegar Lane

There is a 7.5T environmental limit on this lane. Highways are not doing road Traffic Orders of this type from now on.

c) Speed of Traffic along Bindon/Holme Lane

This is down to individual drivers. Lower speed limits are to protect communities in towns and villages. Rarely is a speed limit put on a country lane.

Highways have a Rural Roads Protocol and they wish to reduce signs in the countryside.

Could there be a zone like within the national park. When Wool level crossing closes this lane is used as a rat run and the speed is a danger to other road users horse riders, cyclists the lane is part of the Purbeck Cycleway.  
If there was a speed limit there would need to be traffic enforcement.

Could there be a lower speed limit from Wood Street Corner to Luckford Lake as there are several properties along this road. Could a speed limit here be enforced?

Mr Stubbs said that speed checks can be carried out using the lines across the road which monitor the speed of traffic for 24 hours and are put in position for 7-14 days to record data. It is useful if the position for the speed check is near a telegraph pole so the box that collects the data can be attached to it. It would take 2-3 weeks to feedback the data.

The Chairman thanked Mr Stubbs for attending the Parish Council meeting to answer the above questions.

## **2 Public Participation Time**

Mr Adrian Naylor asked why Purbeck District Council is planning to remove the public participation period from planning board meetings. It was explained that a person could still to speak on a planning application at the planning board meetings if they wanted.

Was this to do with the fact that there have been objectors to the Wind Farm speaking during the public participation period? Cllr Cady said that Cllr Quinn would probably be able to answer his question.

Parish land tender, why does the Parish Council put the land out for tender when it was left for the Parish to use as a recreation ground for the children. Currently there are 11 children who use that land.

Anyone can tender for the land and use if for their own purpose, it would not allow the land to be used for motorbikes etc.

The extract 2.4.3 from the Parish Plan was read out by the Chairman 'The Parish Council also owns a piece of common land available to the community as a recreation ground though it has not been used as such for many years. In recent years it has been let for grazing but currently it is let for private recreational use'.

Mr Pete Burden had met with water level management plan PDC. There is a lot happening with the River Frome rehabilitation plan and Wild Rivers.

Mr Burden was asked if he had discussed this with the Parish Council and it is recommended that it is put to the vote for those residents who live along the river. To place in the Parish Plan that the Parish no longer wishes anymore water level plans or raising the water level in East Stoke.

Residents are to email or write with views on the Environment Agency's plans to allow logs/trees to fall into the river and no more reed cutting. This will be added to the next newsletter.

It was agreed that the Environment Agency will be invited to attend a Parish Council meeting.

Questions for EA

- i) It would be courteous to let local people know what they propose to do on land that they have purchased.
- ii) Are they aware of the problems that are occurring in East Stoke and the water table?
- iii) What ditches can be cleared to alleviate problems around properties.  
As the riparian owner the EA is responsible for clearing ditches.

Mr David Topp asked if the EA can do work without planning permission. Are they exempt from planning process as they are carrying out works on the land they have purchased digging out trees etc. Cllr Quinn may be able to answer this question.

Residents were asked to send any photos to the Clerk.

Mr Paul Whitmarsh wanted it clarified if a fence can be made out of pallets. A panel fence has been blown down in the strong winds (it is not structurally sound) and is being replaced by pallets.

Action: The Clerk will contact Bridget Downton for advice on this matter.

Mr Damian Cullinane had contacted a local valuation office about Wind Farms and Council Tax banding. If the Wind Farm affected the value of the property then the Council tax banding would be reduced.

It was agreed to move to agenda item 10) Reports from County and District Councillors

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

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

Last week Cllr Lovell had a meeting at DCC with Tim Westwood, Cllr Budd and 4 members from network rail to talk about railway crossings.

For Wareham it has been agreed that temporarily they can keep the crossing.

At East Stoke they want to stop the crossing for traffic. There will be a gate for horse riders, cyclists and pedestrians. The farmer will have to telephone to use the crossing.

A meeting will be organised before the end of March with the interested parties the farmer, Mr L Haskell, Parish Council. A list is needed of who should be at the meeting. It could be held at the River Laboratory and then there could be a site meeting. The police and emergency services will need to be invited.

This crossing is vital for local business. If the crossing is closed it will cut the Parish in two. When there is an accident on A352 traffic has been diverted onto this road.

The crossing is being closed on grounds of safety. No issue caused by staff or by the members of the public. Mr Will Bond needs to be informed.

When moving cattle the road can be closed, so can the railway be closed for moving cattle?

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

The main report from PDC is the budget this year PDC will have an increase of £13,000 but will have £23,000 less next year.

### **4 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Karen Barnes.

**5 Declarations of personal or prejudicial interest in any items on the agenda**  
None.

**6 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

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

**7 Matters arising from the above minutes**

None.

**8 Clerk's report on actions from last meeting**

The Chairman read out the Clerk's report, a copy of which is below.

- a) Letter sent to Ms Downton on the ways to mitigate the impact of the Wind Farm. This included the residents' comments. No reply.
- b) Ms Downton response regarding the order of speaking at planning board meetings. 'Thank you for your email. I will make sure that we keep a record of it so that we can learn from this experience should any similar circumstances arise in the future'.
- c) District Cllr Quinn responded on the queries at minute no 160/6 and 160/9b).  
**Waste Collection** – District Cllr Quinn will feedback the comments on the water absorption which is surprising given the material it is made from. The rebate comment stands no chance as SITA have to catch up so this will probably be addressed within the contract. That said this was raised at last night's council meeting as my previous question from September's meeting was omitted from the minutes. This is being rectified and it is planned to refer this to Overview and Scrutiny to establish the lessons learnt prior to transfer to the Waste Partnership. There are two key points emerging: 1. Deferral to the next collection date with a fortnightly service is unacceptable. 2. Communication is critical so that people know what is going on.  
  
Long Coppice – this was discussed with Alan Davies. It appears that there is little he can do on this at the moment as there are no TPOs and the previous application was refused. The suspicion is that as the hedge/sightlines was the main objection that a new application will be submitted in due course.
- d) No response to date from Mr John Alford regarding 'Camp Bestival' traffic
- e) The signage (160/22) has been referred to PDC Enforcement
- f) Libraries – a response to the email about the changes to the library service will be responded to shortly.

Cllr Quinn stated that the Waste Partnership will be giving briefings at the Parish and Town Councils Liaison meetings and will come and speak at Parish Council meetings.

**9 Planning Applications**

- a) **6/2011/0010** – Bindon Lane (Woodlands Lodge), East Stoke, BH20 6AS. Change of use of shower block to form one self contained holiday letting unit. Carry out external alterations and insert additional windows.

Mr Rodgers of Willowbank (neighbouring property) was asked for his comments. The house is currently for sale and they let out the main house for hen and stag parties. Mr Rodgers wanted to know if letting requires fire regulations.

The original application was to capture out of season trade and augment the business.

Policy QL4 – it is not an essential development in the AONB. Development for re-use has already been made and granted for holiday use only.

Policy QL15 does not refer to this application.

- b) **6/2011/0034** - Bindon Lane (Long Coppice), East Stoke, BH20 6AS. Erect extension to form rooms under new higher roof, erect replacement garage and stables and form new vehicular access to dwelling.

The comment was made that this development's visual impact is greater due to the removal of the mature hedge.

- c) **6/2011/0048** (County Matter Permission - Other Development). P J Andrews Ltd, Spratley Wood, Hyde, East Stoke, BH20 7PJ. The continued use of the site for the recovery of aggregates and soils from imported inert waste materials.

**No objection.**

## **10 Update on previous planning applications**

- a) Luckford Wood Campsite - **Notice A: Appeals A and B: Appeal Refs: APP/B1225/C/10/2126830 and APP/B1225/C/10/2126831** - appeals dismissed and the enforcement notice upheld.
- b) **Notice B: Appeals C, D and E: Appeal Refs: APP/B1225/C/10/2135037, APP/B1225/C/10/2135038 and APP/B1225/C/10/2135551** - appeals dismissed and the enforcement notice upheld.
- c) **6/2007/0812** - Hill View Farm, East Stoke, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 6AW. Importation and spreading of fill to be followed by top soiling to create level field surface suitable for ongoing agriculture activities. PDC have given approval, this application is to be decided by DCC.
- d) **Appeal Ref: APP/B1225/C/10/21387121** - Luckford Wood Camping & Caravan Site, Holme Lane, East Stoke, Wareham, BH20 6AP. Appeal dismissed.

Mr Paul Whitmarsh handed the Parish Council a letter from PDC regarding fencing at Luckford Wood Campsite. The clerk will circulate this to all councillors.

## **11 Keystone Project update**

Cllr Quinn has met with Bridget Downton regarding the exit strategy as Judith Baker leaves at the end of March.

The water level management plan 6/2006/0666 which was retrospective has gone through. There was a site meeting yesterday to discuss issues relating to the River Frome.

The two plans approved for Rushton may not get implemented.

The panel report has gone to the Policy Group and will go to the full Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

The management plan is still needed and is a condition of the planning applications. A point of contact is needed. The ditch on B3070 is overgrown but the culvert is clear.

The Parish Plan needs refreshing and updating in environmental part to reflect the other issues e.g. water table and the things that may be affecting this, Rehabilitation Plan and Wild Rivers Project.

**Action:** To keep this item on the agenda.

## **12 Police Update**

PCSO Hann gave a report.

a) 'Camp Bestival 2011'

PCSO Hann has obtained a copy of the draft traffic plan. All traffic will be directed to 'Camp Bestival' at East Lulworth using the B3070. If this starts to get congested then traffic will be diverted through Wool. There will be a one-way system in East Lulworth with signage in place 2 days before.

It was felt that last year's congestion was due to the cars being stopped in East Lulworth. Camp Bestival takes place 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> July. 80 – 90% of people attending travel by car. Car sharing is encouraged. Those travelling by rail will get transport from Wool Station this year.

If the traffic can be kept moving then it should be OK.

b) Crime in East Stoke. Theft from oil tanks on the Puddletown Road. A problem is thefts from outbuildings and mechanical metals or scrap.

c) Can now see crime for this area on the National Crime Mapper.

## **13 Highways Issues**

a) Parish Maintenance Unit (PMU)

The drains at Middlefield Cottages and Binnegar Lane need to be cleared.

b) Other Highways Issues

None.

## **14 East Stoke Crossing Update**

See County Councillor Lovell's report at 160/3 a).

## **15 Finger post at East Stoke Crossing**

**Action:** To keep on future agendas until the fingerpost has been replaced.

## **16 Planter for War Memorial**

This will be on next month's agenda.

## **17 Fyler and Butler graves**

Cllr Quinn will take a look at the Butler grave to see if the work has been completed.

## **18 Fisherman's Stone bench in Water meadow**

**Action:** The Clerk will add this item to the next agenda.

## **19 Parish Plan Update**

The Steering Group needs to be reconvened.

**Action:** An advert is to go in the next newsletter.

## **20 Invitations**

- a) New Forest District Stakeholder Event – 'The future of the Public Forest Estate in England, a public consultation'. 2<sup>nd</sup> March, Brockenhurst or 10<sup>th</sup> March, Blandford and Public Information Drop-In sessions.

The Clerk will reply that no one is available to attend. Cllr Quinn will be attending the public drop-in session at Wareham Forest.

## **21 Consultations**

- a) South East Dorset Transport Study and a leaflet about the preferred strategy  
Cllrs will respond as individuals to this consultation.
- b) DCC Winter Service Review Questionnaire  
Cllr Cullinane completed the questionnaire and the Clerk will submit these comments to DCC.

## **22 Correspondence Received**

All correspondence had been circulated via email prior to the meeting.

- a) Dorset Village of the Year  
The Parish Council would not be taking part in this competition.
- b) Royal British Legion –Poppy Party, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> June 2011  
These details are to be passed on to the Village Hall Committee.
- c) Website design service from Refined Line Web Development and e-mango  
Noted. West Lulworth is starting looking at developing a website and Cllr Quinn has expressed East Stoke's interest in perhaps having a joint site.
- d) Chief Executive Circular 01/11. Nomination for Royal Garden Party (Chairman)  
None were put forwarded.
- e) Mr P Whitmarsh CD and letter  
These were noted.
- f) Purbeck Transport Action Group summary of meeting and a request to consider appointing a Transport Liaison Officer.  
Cllr Quinn receives all the information about PTAG and is willing to act as the Parish Council's point of contact.  
In the Parish Plan it was planned to make the footpath on the A352 into a joint footway/cycleway and to get this continued into Wareham.
- g) Community Travel Hubs – pilot village required.  
East Stoke would not be a suitable village for a pilot.

## **23 Internal auditor**

- a) Internal Auditor  
It was **resolved** to appoint Paula Harding as the Parish Council's new Internal Auditor and the amount of the honorarium to be given is £40.00
- b) The audit programme  
The audit programme was circulated prior to the meeting.  
It was **resolved** that the audit plan was approved.

## 24 Finance

### a) The third quarter bank reconciliation – December 2010

It was **resolved** that the third quarter bank reconciliation for December 2010 was approved. The bank reconciliation and cash book agreed with the balance of £15,458.81.

### b) Payment schedule

Expenses to Mrs J Wright for the purchase of Ink cartridge, A4 plastic pockets and 12 stamps

£14.21 cheque no 000306

Mrs J Wright Dec/Jan salary

£333.11 cheque no 000307

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

### c) Quotations for trimming back of the hedge in the Churchyard

Only one estimate had been received from Weld spray contracting £153 – annual cost

It was agreed to get two more quotes for this work.

The Clerk will contact C and P Edwards for a quote.

### d) Parish Land tender

Various items need to be considered can the lease be made for longer than one year.

Could a clause be included that allows the Village Hall Committee use it for Fund

Raising Events.

The Clerk will find out when the current tender expires.

## 25 Matters for discussion and/ or inclusion on next Agenda

None

## 26 Date of Annual Parish Meeting and consideration of speaker(s)

This cannot be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> May due to elections. Cllr Quinn stated that Neil Randall could give a talk on the new Waste Partnership.

## 27 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2011 at 7pm.

Chairman: .....

Date: .....