

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EAST STOKE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2006.

PRESENT

Cllr Barry Quinn (Chairman)
Cllr Tib Axon
Cllr Rebecca Cady
Cllr Paul Whitmarsh
Cllr Tim Mills (District Councillor)
Cllr Mike Lovell (County Councillor)

APOLOGIES

Cllr Simon Cross (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Neill Child

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none for this meeting

It was hoped that PCSO Lindy Christopher would attend this meeting to talk about the role of Community Beat Officers in the area and discuss any local problems with us. However, due to the bad weather and shortage of staff she had telephoned the Clerk to say she was unable to make it. She advised the Clerk that the two things to be aware of at the moment were theft of copper particularly from roofs and Christmas tree theft.

Mr Jenkins from Middlefield Estate had been hoping to ask her about the continual speeding of traffic on the A352 especially along the straight stretch of road at the Middlefield junction. Traffic was seen to be doing what appeared to be 80mph with many cars overtaking at this point. The Chairman suggested the Clerk contact Lindy Christopher and ask her to get in touch with the Dorset Safety Camera Partnership suggesting the mobile camera be set up at this point.

Mr Elliott raised the safety of cyclists in Bindon and Holme lanes, Paul Whitmarsh informed the meeting he had seen cyclists along these lanes without lights on their bikes and he had reported this to the Police. The Chairman suggested the Clerk mention this point in her email.

MINUTES of the last meeting held on 2nd November as already circulated were signed as a correct record. In the absence of the Vice Chairman at this meeting, the Minutes were signed by Cllr Paul Whitmarsh who was present throughout that meeting.

MATTERS ARISING

1. War Memorial – Chairman confirmed the bill raised for the main work had now been paid. The grant from the War Memorial Trust had been reduced from £1700 to £1300. There was a small balance left of £400 to clean up weeds around the memorial and for gravel to be placed in front of the memorial. The wooden posts would be replaced. Paul

Whitmarsh had been in contact with DCC Highways and confirmed that kerbstones would be installed in front of the memorial which would retain the shingle. He had received a quote from a neighbour for the supply of £175 for 4 x 5" square oak posts. Alternatively aroka posts could be used at a cost of £170 for 4 x 4" square posts. All agreed that the 5" square posts should be used. The Chairman suggested the Council approach the Quarries to see if they could donate the shingle. Cllr Whitmarsh offered his help in putting the posts in the ground. Simon Cross had offered to write a letter to the Trustees of the Church requesting the holly tree and ivy be chopped back. Clerk to chase Simon on his return from holiday.

2. Rabbits – Clerk had telephoned Tim Hughes who would deal with the matter.
3. Parish Land – The Clerk produced insurance document from Mrs Tubbs' insurers. The Chairman asked the Clerk to write back thanking her but pointing out that the field was rented from the Parish Council and not Dorset County Council as shown.
4. Heritage and Historical Project – Chairman confirmed he had intended to hold another meeting this month but due to pressure of his work he would not be able to do this until early January. He would send out a flyer to those people who came to the previous meeting and showed particular interest in this project. Awaiting update from Iain Hewitt. Chairman would do progress report in the New Year.
5. Christmas Cards - No enquiries had been received in response to the paragraph in the last newsletter.
6. Cats Eyes – Paul Whitmarsh reported that DCC had now been in touch with him and they would be sending out someone to see how many were needed.
7. Village Hall Future – Chairman reported he and Paul Whitmarsh had visited the hall and checked there was no asbestos present and therefore no problem with demolition. It was hoped to get a small grant of £500 through Purbeck Community Partnership for this demolition. A committee comprising Maureen Quinn, Alan Lickiss, David Topp, Paul Whitmarsh, Beccy Cady and Simon Cross would be in charge of taking this matter forward. Paul Whitmarsh offered the help of his father who was here on holiday to clear the inside and be on hand if needed when the people come to disconnect and water and electric. A feasibility study would be done to see if the community hall as needed would stand alone or form part of an affordable housing project. It was hoped to get this moving early in the New Year. Mike Lovell would be meeting a company next week who deals with prefabricated housing and would ask about costs. Tim Mills made a suggestion that log cabins could be used.
8. Parish Boundaries – To chase up in New Year.
9. Frome River - Item to be left open. Chairman suggested Judith Baker, Biodiversity Officer at PDC should be invited to talk on this subject.
10. Binnegar Lane Weight Restriction – A reply email had been received from Richard Stubbs of DCC. He advised that our request to reduce the weight limit was not feasible as regulations did not allow such a low limit to be implemented.
11. Middlefield Estate – Clerk had emailed Enforcement Officer with reference to height of wooden fence on the corner property of the Estate. He confirmed a large volume of complaints had been received from residents and therefore his investigation would not be completed until January 2007. He further e-mailed the following day to confirm that as this fence was fronting the highway it should not exceed one metre and therefore this was in breach of planning control. This was also the case with the fence to the western boundary and southern boundary. However, he felt that these two boundaries would be difficult to take out action on. He asked for the views of the Parish Council and after

discussion it was felt a planning application should be requested from the occupant of the property for the whole area of the fencing.

12. Travellers/Gypsies – Mike Lovell advised that a bund had now been put up at the Gallows Hill site to stop any further occupation by travellers/gypsies. Chairman to check.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none for consideration at this meeting

PAST PLANNING

- (a) 6/2006/897 - Goldys Farm Shop – approved 16th November
- (b) 6/2006/836 – Woodlands Campsite – application withdrawn 16/11/06
- (c) 6/2006/816 – Monkey World – approved 8th November

At this point Cllr Mills raised the issue of the planning application for Woodlands Camping Site and the confusion with the applicants agents over apparently two conflicting letters sent to PDC. The Chairman stated that only one letter had been sent to PDC and that this reflected the minutes of the Council. This was summarised as the majority of the councillors present did not object to the aesthetic design of the proposal but had concerns over the precedent within the AONB and requested that the application be referred to the Planning Board. Cllr Mills eventually produced a copy of the second letter which turned out to be a Planning Office file note. The Chairman advised that this did not accurately reflect the discussion between himself and the Clerk and the Clerk and the Planning Officer. Cllr Mills stated that if this was understood to be the case at the time, the applicants would not have withdrawn the application. The Chairman reminded Cllr Mills that the business of the Parish Council with regard to planning was conducted during its monthly meetings and he was not available to contact the planning office at the behest of planning agents.

Councillor Mills asked to be excused from the meeting.

BUSINESS OF MEETING

1. District Councillor's Report – Nothing to report
2. County Councillor's Report – Mike Lovell reported that work was being carried out on the budgets. The matter of closure of rural libraries had now been deferred for two years.
3. Highway Issues – Paul Whitmarsh reported that the PMU's were due in January and if anyone knew of any problems to report back to him. Gorse in Binnegar Lane needed to be trimmed back.
4. Consultation on the Submission Draft Statement of Community Involvement – Chairman to peruse and comment by due date. He would then pass to Peter Sills.
5. Environment Agency – Letter and publication received. Paul Whitmarsh to read.
6. Rallye Sunseeker – Letter received re event on 23/24 February. Clerk to reply that the Parish Council had no objections.
7. Statement of Accounts from PDC – Filed.
8. Email received from Graham Black at bbc.co.uk ref programme 'Inside Out'. A programme was being compiled on Sat. Nav. and freight/HGV drivers. He asked if we

knew of any incidents where drivers have been directed down routes that encountered dangers or broken weight restrictions. The Chairman asked all Parish Councillors but none knew of any such incidents. Clerk to reply by email.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Paul Whitmarsh reported that his wife Lisa had asked him to ask the Parish Council if they could help with the problem of a sign advertising her business on the entrance to their property. The Enforcement Officer had been in touch with her to remove the sign and she felt that she had been singled out when other surrounding properties also had signs outside their properties. Mike Lovell suggested she write a letter to the Chief Executive with copies to District and County Councillors.
2. Mrs Axon produced an envelope for the Poppy Appeal. All agreed to a donation of £30 towards the wreath for Remembrance Sunday.
3. Hawkins Trust – Clerk had prepared a distribution list and Peter Sills had ordered hampers and bottles from Spar Shop in Wool. Distribution to be on 23rd December.
4. Letter received from PDC re grass cutting and grounds maintenance. Contract expires in October 2007 and there was an opportunity to explore the possibility of partnership arrangements. Chairman said this was not applicable to East Stoke.

FINANCE

- (a) BDO Stoy Hayward Chartered Accountants – Audit Fee £141.00
- (b) S. Barrett – Two Months Salary and Expenses £344.37
- (c) Baker Property Services – Accounts for August and November - £698.00
- (d) PDC Cost of Elections in May £50.00
- (e) Poppy Appeal £30

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

4th January 2007.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date