

## **PIMPERNE PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting held on **Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2012**, at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. P. Slocombe (Chairman), D. Andrews, A. Argles, A. Barker, D. Hart, D. Mackenzie, J. Tanner

**IN ATTENDANCE:** S. Bamforth (Clerk), some 65 members of the public.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from District Cllr Oliver and County Cllr Campbell

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** The Chairman and Cllr Tanner declared a personal and prejudicial interest, as school governors, in the Parish Council's response to Dorset County Council's proposals in relation to the new village school. The Chairman made a statement, noting the importance of preserving School Field as an open space and that DCC's proposal on the footpath was acceptable in principle to the Village Hall Committee. He then withdrew from the meeting. Cllr Tanner made a statement, emphasising the importance of the decision to be made by the Council for the future of the school and the village and withdrew from the meeting. Cllr Andrews took the chair, as resolved by the Council.

### **ACTION**

### **3. DEMOCRATIC PERIOD**

Mr Cross noted the importance of not doing anything to obstruct the construction of the new school. Mr Toze also stressed the need for a new school and urged the Council to respond positively to DCC's offer of a long lease on School Field. The Acting School Head emphasised the need for new premises and asked that the construction of a new school not be held up any longer. Other members of the public supported these comments and urged the Council, as elected representatives of the community, to think of the village's future needs.

**4.** The Chairman explained that the Council had sought legal advice on DCC's letter re proposals in relation to the new school and that a summary of Mr Bellman's advice had been circulated; he would ask the Council if they agreed to follow this advice. The Clerk noted that DCC had clarified their offer on moving or replacing play equipment, to explain they would only pay for the replacement of play equipment which had to be removed for the creation of the footpath to the school and so Mr Bellman's suggestion to ask for the replacement of all the play equipment differed significantly from DCC's offer. Cllr Hart noted the possible cost of maintaining School Field and suggested that the Council had not agreed to transfer the land at the corner of Newfield Road at no cost. Cllr Barker suggested that removing all the play equipment from the Village Hall site would detract from the Village Hall. Cllr Argles suggested that the Council should follow Mr Toze's advice on School Field and that, while a whole new play area would be most welcome, pressing for it should not be allowed to become an obstacle to the construction of the new school. The Acting School Head noted that the existing play equipment in School Field would be left in situ. The Council therefore resolved to respond as follows to DCC:

In return for as long a lease as possible on School Field, the Parish Council would transfer to DCC, at no cost, the land at the corner of Newfield Road required for the widening of the road. DCC would be responsible for the relocation or replacement and maintenance of the hedge until it was established. The Council would accept DCC's offer of relocating/replacing play equipment required to be moved for the creation of a footpath across Village Hall land. DCC would meet all legal and professional costs incurred in relation to these matters. The Council would hope that a meeting could be arranged as soon as possible to move these matters forward.

The Clerk would clear the draft with Mr Bellman.

**Clerk**

The meeting ended at 8.02 pm.