

## PIMPERNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2017, at 7.00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. P. Slocombe (Chairman), A. Argles, T. Harman, D. Mackenzie, P. Peters, M. Richley, J. Tanner.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** County Cllr. D. Croney, District Cllr. P. Brown, Parish Clerk and one member of the public.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** None

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

**3. DISPENSATIONS:** None

**4. MINUTES:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**5. HILLFORTS WARD REPORT:** The latest report, provided by Cllr. Croney, included updates on Highway Maintenance, Nordon and the forthcoming Hambledon division meeting. Dorset Highways has considered 3 options on the issue of widening the footpath in Church Road - widening the road, narrowing the road and a combination of the two. County Cllr. Croney has urged Highways to involve the Parish in considering the options. The next division meeting to be held at Durweston village hall on 18<sup>th</sup> April will provide an opportunity to reinforce this viewpoint as Andrew Martin, Head of Highways, and Roly Skeats, Community Highway Team Leader, will be in attendance.

**Action Cllr. Richley**

Plans from the 4 bidders are required to be submitted to the Nordon Project Board by 13<sup>th</sup> April. The following District Council services are now based at South Walks House in Dorchester:- senior management, Legal, Financial Services, HR, IT, Business Improvement, Democratic Services, Digital Access, Economy, Leisure & Tourism and Elections.

The following services will still operate out of Nordon:- Housing, Technical Services including Facilities, Building Control, Community Safety, Environmental Health, Planning Policy, Planning, Trees, Conservation, Land Charges, Revenues and Benefits.

**6. DEMOCRATIC PERIOD:** Nothing to report

**7. MATTERS ARISING:** The Chair requested an investigation to determine whether the Open Gardens event will be covered by the Council's insurance.

**Action Clerk**

Cllr. Harman provided a detailed verbal report on his attendance at a recent planning training course and course slides will be forwarded when available. **Action Cllr. Harman/ Clerk**

Thanks were expressed to Cllr. Mackenzie for her hard work in producing the latest newsletter, which had received many compliments. Cllr. Tanner reported that the River Stour has now been sprayed to prevent the Blandford Fly.

**8. URGENT MATTERS:** None

**9. PLANNING**

**a) Granted applications:**

- Woodbury – No further progress.

- 2/2017/0241/VARIA–Former Pimperne School – an application to change plans for a double garage to a double car port was passed.

**b) Outstanding applications**

– 2/2016/1763/Various Sites –BT telephone box – no progress to date.

**c) New applications**

- 2/2017/1763/ KJ Pike & Sons Ltd – It was agreed that the Council would oppose the part retrospective application to extend hardstanding areas for vehicle parking and trolley storage.

**Action Clerk**

**d) Tree applications** – No new applications.

**e) Other planning issues**

Planning Enforcement have written to the owners to ask for the Chapel and surrounding land to be cleared, together with all overgrown trees and shrubs which are growing over the Chapel walls and roof, by the end of April and to complete the task to the satisfaction of the Council.

As the Berkeley House barn is set back from the road and in a private garden it is considered unlikely that the Council can have any control over its condition.

The extension at 3 Portman Road has also been inspected and viewed to be in accordance with planning requirements, although further clarification is to be sought.

**Action Clerk**

**10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Progress has slowed owing to the need to consider three further potential sites. The first pre-submission draft has been completed and consultant Jo Witherden is currently working on a number of amendments.

The Blandford Plus hearing Neighbourhood Plan hearing was attended by Jo and Cllr. Argles who provided a verbal report. Policy 1 (development to the North and East of Blandford) will not be undertaken on Pimperne land, although Savills continue to retain it on their plans. The Plan was criticised by the AONB for its insufficiently robust evidence base, while NDDC regarded the development as a strategic matter for consideration by the Local Plan rather than a Neighbourhood Plan. The Examiner questioned why the whole area of the Crown Meadows had been omitted from the Plan. The Examiner will consider all evidence and provide a response “within weeks rather than months.”

**11. OLD SCHOOL FIELD**

Cllr. Harman’s comments will be included in the Chairman’s response to the DCC’s solicitors. County Cllr. Croney will be invited to attend a meeting with DCC and relevant correspondence is to be forwarded to her.

**Action Chairman**

**12. FINANCE**

**a) Financial Statement:** The statement for March was presented and approved and hard copies of the December – March accounts signed by Cllr. Mackenzie.

**b) Cheque Approval:** The Council approved the payment and instructed the signature of the following cheques:

		At
		agreed
		rate
1347	Clerk’s Salary	
1348	M. Richley – Mileage expenses	51.30
1349	B. MacGregor – Anti-virus protection	89.99
1350	B. MacGregor – Clerk’s Office Allowance	100.00
1351	D. Mackenzie – Quarterly website hosting	12.56
1352	Sandisons – Payroll admin.fee	174.00
1353	Village Hall Committee	46.00

**c) Savings/investment accounts**

Further information on the Local Authorities’ Property Fund will be requested from NDDC.

**Action Clerk**

### **13. OFFICERS' AND REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS**

a) **DT11:** The DT11 office is now closed and all services run down.

b) **Tree Officer:** Nothing to report.

c) **Rights of Way:** Enquiries will be to NDDC to query the lack of formal notification provided on the current work being undertaken by Scottish & Southern Energy on the footpath behind the church.

**Action Clerk**

d) **Highways -** Potholes in Church Road near the Brown House have been addressed but improvements in Portman Road are yet to be undertaken.

**Action Cllr. Argles**

Further details on DCC Highways' plans for footway widening in Church Road are to be sought.

**Action Clerk**

e) **Pimperne Primary School:** Nothing to report.

f) **Village Hall:** As caretaker Mrs Pierrepont has unfortunately broken her wrist, all users are being requested to tidy up after using the hall.

g) **Flood Warden:** Nothing to report. The Environment Agency is to be contacted for an update on the presentation provided in February 2016.

**Action Clerk**

h) **DAPTC:** Nothing to report.

i) **Transport:** Tenders for the provision of Service 20 for a further 12 months have been requested by DCC.

### **14. HOMEWATCH/COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH**

Mr. Andrews will be requested to provide a report for the Annual Parish Meeting.

**Action Chairman**

An early morning speedwatch was held on 12<sup>th</sup> April. Further sessions will be arranged before the planned combined Devon and Dorset police event on 28<sup>th</sup> April. Action Cllr. Richley

### **15. CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND TRAINING PLAN**

Cllr. Peters will attend a new Councillors induction course on 6<sup>th</sup> May. **Action Cllr Peters**

### **16. PROPERTY CHECKS**

a) General – Nothing to report

b) Play areas – It was agreed that funds for the Reading Room account will be accessed to purchase an item of new equipment for the Junior Play Area, via match funding with Section 106 monies. The quotation will include the provision of protective flooring compared to bark mulch.

**Action Chairman/Clerk**

A further quotation for 20 dumpy bags of protective bark mulch for both play areas will be requested from the suppliers.

**Action Clerk**

### **17. CORRESPONDENCE**

DAPTC had provided information on Dorset Highway's proposals on Non-essential maintenance. It was agreed that the Council would not participate in the NALC consultation on the Government's Housing White Paper.

### **18. MATTERS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION:**

Cllr. Peters agreed to assist in preparation for the Best Kept Village Award and will discuss further action with the Chairman

**Action Chairman/ Cllr. Peters**

### **19. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:**

The Local Access Forum's request on the Definitive Map and The Open Gardens event will be added to the next agenda.

**Action Clerk**

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**20. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish meeting at 7pm on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017. All Councillors are requested to attend.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and May Parish council meeting will be held on Wednesday May 10<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm