

Stinsford Parish Council

**Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Monday 27 June 2022
at 7.00pm in The Pengelly Room, Kingston Maurward College**

Present: Mrs Sarah Pattison (Chairman), Mr George Armstrong (Vice-Chairman), Mr Michael Clarke and Ms Susan Escott

Also in attendance: Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk) and three members of the public

39. Apologies for Absence

39.1 No apologies for absence were received.

40. Declarations of Interest

40.1 There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interest.

41. Presentation from Turners Associates

41.1 The Parish Council received a presentation from Mr Colin Turner – Managing Director, Mr Andrew Elliott – Technical Director – Town Planning and Mr Simon Conibear, Development Consultant, representing Turners Associates. This outlined an alternative concept for the North of Dorchester Garden Community to the masterplanning work currently being undertaken by Hyas Associates on behalf of Dorset Council.

41.2 They explained that three local landowners had commissioned them to take a more landscape-led, holistic approach to what would be a legacy project, should the Garden Community be approved through the Local Plan development. This also included a focus on good quality landscape space, multi-functional development and affordable housing in perpetuity. Particular mention was made of the critical need for a northern bypass if the development was to be progressed and the need for different solutions to be identified for problems to ensure that it was a sustainable place to live.

41.3 In response to questions from the Parish Council, Mr Elliott explained that the masterplanning process was to develop a specific policy and design guide for the proposed Garden Community. Planning permission would still be required to progress the development and there would need to be a legal agreement about infrastructure. He was confident that there would be opportunity to share these alternative ideas with Hyas Associates and Dorset Council.

41.4 The Chairman thanked Mr Turner, Mr Elliott and Mr Conibear for their presentation and asked that the Parish Council be kept updated as their work was progressed.

42. Public Participation Time

42.1 Mrs Linda Paulsen, one of the members of the public present, expressed her concern that the work being undertaken by Turner Associates was facilitating the development of the Garden Community opposed by so many local people. She also shared concerns about the approach taken to community engagement by Hyas Associates.

*The representatives of Turner Associates and members of the public
left the meeting at 7:55pm.*

43. Resignation

- 43.1 The Parish Council formally noted the resignation of Miss Liz Crocker as a member and the publication of the notice of the casual vacancy arising from this.
- 43.2 The Parish Council expressed its thanks to Miss Crocker for her contribution since her co-option.

44. Finance

Expenditure

- 44.1 The following items of expenditure were **resolved**:
- (i) Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils – annual subscription 2022/23 - £138.08
 - (ii) Society of Local Council Clerks – Clerk’s annual membership 2022/23 - £80.00
 - (iii) Paula Harding (Barker-Fox Associates) – internal audit fee 2021/22 - £41.13

45. Approval of Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22

- 45.1 The Clerk introduced the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/22 for approval before it was published to comply with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The Parish Council also considered the report of the Internal Auditor which set out a conclusion of substantial assurance but made eight recommendations.

- 45.2 It was **resolved** that:

- (iv) the report and recommendations of the Internal Auditor be received;
- (v) the Certificate of Exemption be signed by the Chairman and submitted to the External Auditor;
- (vi) the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) be approved;
- (vii) the Accounting Statements (Section 2) be approved; and
- (viii) the period of public rights commence on 28 June 2022 and end on 8 August 2022 and notice of this be published on the parish noticeboards and the Parish Council’s website.

46. Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan

- 46.1 The Parish Council welcomed the decision reached by Dorset Council’s Cabinet on 21 June 2022 to make the Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan part of the statutory development plan for the Stinsford Neighbourhood Area.

- 46.2 It was considered that this was now a policy document of the Parish Council. How to progress the implementation of the projects contained within the Plan was discussed. It was agreed that it would need engagement from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, as well as other residents, to drive these projects forward and it was suggested that they be invited to the September meeting of the Parish Council for an initial ‘what next’ discussion.

- 46.3 The Parish Council also noted the need to ensure that there was synergy between the Neighbourhood Plan and the Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy.

47. North of Dorchester Garden Community

- 47.1 The Parish Council considered the response from Dorset Council’s Service Manager – Spatial Planning to the formal complaint submitted. Disappointment was expressed that this did not entirely respond to the issues raised in the complaint and relied on an inaccurate definition of ‘local authorities’ that did not align with the Local Government Act 1972. It was **resolved** to submit a response setting this out before consideration was given to progressing the complaint via the Local Government Ombudsman.

47.2 It was also considered whether the Parish Council's decision not to participate in the North of Dorchester Garden Community Board should be revisited and the same approach be taken to that of Charminster Parish Council attending the meetings in the capacity as observer rather than participant. It was resolved to ascertain the current approach being taken by Dorchester Town Council before further consideration be given to this.

48. Communications Strategy

48.1 The Parish Council considered the draft Communications Strategy and whether this should focus solely on the Council's news and activities or the parish in total. In addition, the Chairman expressed her view that this should link to the equalities agenda.

48.2 It was considered that this should be as overarching and broad as possible in its focus but that ideally it should be resident-led and therefore it was necessary to know what local people wanted. It was proposed that a reference group to consider engagement would assist in identifying this.

49. Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy

49.1 The Parish Council reiterated the approach discussed under the Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan item.

50. Stinsford Parish Council Priorities for 2022/23

50.1 The Parish Council considered its priorities for 2022/23. It was resolved that the initial priorities should be progressing the projects and actions within the Neighbourhood Plan and that these be extracted for consideration in conjunction with the Steering Group.

50.2 An informal workshop could then be held to consider additional priorities if there was felt to be the capacity to progress these in the current year.

51. Date of next meeting

51.1 It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled to be held on Monday 11 July 2022.

The meeting concluded at 9:00pm.

Chairman..... Date.....