

Stinsford Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10 July 2017 at 7.00pm in
The Old Library, Kingston Maurward College

Present: Mr Chris Hext (Chairman), Mr George Armstrong, Mr Michael Clarke, Mr Will Molland, Dr Andy Stillman and Mr Richard Wheel.

Also in attendance: Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk).

105. Apologies for Absence

105.1 An apology for absence were received from Cllr Mrs Jill Haynes (Dorset County Councillor).

106. Declarations of Interest

106.1 Mr Molland declared a personal interest in any discussion about the recent planning application for Gardener's Cottage, Lower Bockhampton, as he lived in the neighbouring property.

106.2 There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest.

107. Dorset County Council Matters

107.1 It was noted that Cllr Mrs Haynes was absent due to a family bereavement and the Parish Council requested that their condolences be sent to her.

108. West Dorset District Council Matters

108.1 In the absence of Cllr Cooke, the Chairman moved to the next item.

109. Public Participation Time

109.1 In the absence of any members of the public, the Chairman moved to the next item.

110. Minutes

110.1 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2017 be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

110.2 Further to minute 98.4, relating to WD/D/17/100307 – Gardener's Cottage, Bockhampton Lane, Lower Bockhampton DT2 8PZ – Detached garage outbuilding (Certificate of Lawfulness - proposed), the Parish Council considered the circumstances that had resulted in its objection to this application having not being considered by the Planning Officer. Essentially, the Clerk had been unable to submit the Parish Council's comments via the Dorsetforyou.gov.uk website in the required manner as the 'Make a comment' facility had not been available for this application. The comments had therefore been submitted by email and a request made that, as the usual facility was not available, these would be permitted as an exception. This had been refused. So whilst the comments had been forwarded to the Planning Officer, they were not considered. It was **resolved** to complain to the Leader of West Dorset District Council that valid, factual comments were disregarded in this instance due to a technical problem with the website.

110.3 Further to minute 102.1, it was noted that the river path had now been cleared.

110.4 Further to minute 102.2, the Clerk reported that she had contacted Cllr Cooke in respect of the lack of response from the Planning Enforcement Officer and he had

undertaken to pursue this. The Clerk also confirmed that she had submitted the latest information received from local residents about the impact of the cement works to the Environmental Health department of West Dorset District Council. They had requested further information. Mr Armstrong confirmed that he and other residents had provided further information and a new case had been opened.

111. Finance

111.1 Expenditure

The following items of expenditure were **resolved**:-

- HMRC (PAYE) (Quarter 1 2017/18) - £106.40
- Clerk's salary (Quarter 1 2017/18) - £425.98
- Society of Local Council Clerks – Clerk's membership renewal - £67.00

112. Affordable Housing Policy

112.1 The Parish Council considered the draft Affordable Housing Policy circulated by Mr Molland. Whilst welcoming the document, there was general discussion about the prioritisation of those with local connections to or those working within the parish and the definition of such connections.

112.2 Dr Stillman reported that he was a Director of the Dorchester and Area Community Land Trust (CLT) and explained that it was possible for Stinsford to either participate in this or set up its own CLT. He confirmed that the 'right to buy' did not apply to affordable housing provided by a CLT.

112.3 It was **resolved** that the draft Policy should be further refined in response to the comments made.

Action by: Mr Molland

113. Neighbourhood Plan for Stinsford

113.1 The Clerk reported that West Dorset District Council had commenced the consultation on the designation of the Neighbourhood Plan area and this would run until 4 August 2017. Notices about this would be placed on the parish noticeboards and the Parish Council's website and information about the next steps included in the August edition of The Pilot.

113.2 The District Council had provided some useful links to information about the next steps in the development of a Neighbourhood Plan and these would be circulated to the Members of the Parish Council for consideration before the next meeting.

113.3 It was noted that the establishment of a steering group to include stakeholders (residents, landowners, businesses, etc) within the parish would be necessary and it was **resolved** to consider suggestions at the next meeting.

114. Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre

114.1 It was noted that to date the situation with regard to parking was slightly calmer than in previous years, particularly in Cuckoo Lane. However, it was noted that the resurfaced bridleway had perhaps encouraged a greater number of visitors to attempt to drive to Hardy's Cottage itself and a more prominent 'no entry' sign was needed. It was noted that in order to prevent access except for residents or deliveries, a traffic regulation order would be required. It was resolved to formally request this from Dorset County Council as Highways Authority.

Action by: Clerk

114.2 Further to the request Cllr Mrs Haynes expedite the convening of a local liaison meeting during September, the Clerk reported that a message had been received earlier in the day from the Coast and Countryside Service Manager proposing that this be held on Tuesday 19 or Tuesday 26 September. The Parish Council welcomed this and confirmed that either date would be suitable.

Action by: Clerk

115. Superfast Broadband

115.1 The Clerk drew the Parish Council's attention to an announcement made earlier that day which stated that the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership would be investing £7.4 million to extend the fibre broadband network to over 3,800 premises. This would include plans to benefit homes not currently included in the current broadband roll-out programme – including those in Stinsford and Lower Bockhampton. It was anticipated that the engineering works will be completed by 2019.

115.2 Mr Wheal reported that BT Openreach engineers had been undertaking surveying and planning for the installation of fibre broadband at Higher Bockhampton and had confirmed that this would be completed by the end of 2017.

116. Road Safety and Traffic Management

116.1 It was noted that an approach of cutting verges later in the season and taking away the cuttings was now being taken by Dorset Highways. It was considered that greater intervention might be required to reduce the number of nettles and increase biodiversity in the verges, particularly in the Lower Bockhampton area. It was **resolved** to keep this under review and assess the current approach over a few seasons and, if it was felt that further intervention was necessary, investigate alternative funding sources available for a biodiversity project.

116.2 The Clerk reported that an email had been received to inform the Parish Council to introduce the new Community Highway Officer for the area. It was resolved to invite him to attend the Parish Council's meeting in September to discuss the highways issues within Stinsford.

Action by: Clerk

117. Correspondence

117.1 The Clerk confirmed that there were two letters to Dorset County Council or West Dorset District Council to which no response had been received. These were:
(i) a letter to Andrew Brown, Dorset Highways regarding traffic regulation in Cuckoo Lane, Lower Bockhampton and Church Lane, Stinsford; and
(ii) a letter sent to West Dorset District Council requesting an extension of the Lower Bockhampton Conservation Area to include the millennium avenue.

117.2 It was resolved to pursue responses to these letters.

Action by: Clerk

118. Items for future Agenda

118.1 It was resolved that the following items be included on the agendas for future meetings:-

- Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations (August)
- Neighbourhood Planning – next steps (August)

119. Date of next meeting

119.1 It was noted that the next full meeting would be held on Monday 14 August 2017.

The meeting concluded at 8:50pm.

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