

# Stinsford Parish Council

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Electors  
held on Monday 12 May 2014 at 7.00pm in The Old Library,  
Kingston Maurward College**

**Present:** Mr Michael Clarke (Chairman of Parish Council), four other members of Stinsford Parish Council and one member of the public

**In attendance:** Miss K Riglar (Clerk) and Cllr A Chisholm (District Councillor).

## **1. Welcome**

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr Michael Clarke, welcomed everybody to the meeting.

## **2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Mrs Pat Pollard (Parish Councillor), Cllr Mrs S East (District Councillor) and Cllr Mrs J Haynes (County Councillor).

## **3. Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council**

The Chairman presented his report for the year 2013/14 (a copy of which is attached to these minutes).

Mr Clarke was thanked for his report and his work as Chairman during the past year.

## **5. Report from County Councillor**

Due to a family emergency Cllr Mrs J Haynes was unable to attend the meeting but had undertaken to forward her report by email as soon as possible.

## **6. Report from District Councillors**

Cllr Mrs S East had kept the Parish Council up to date throughout the year but, in her absence, her report was received which covered the following:-

- The Local Plan would be suspended for six months to allow for further work on housing numbers for West Dorset to be undertaken; the Council's consultants would report on their findings at the end of May. Meanwhile information on the strategic land availability assessments had been updated, including new sites such as the Dorchester prison site. It was anticipated that the Council would agree any changes to the plan in July and it would be subject to further consultation over the summer.

- The Government had brought forward further legislation to allow more permitted development.
- West Dorset and Weymouth and Portland Councils had agreed to enter into talks with North Dorset District Council on forming a partnership.
- Matt Prosser from South Oxfordshire had been appointed as the new Chief Executive of the partnership councils.

Cllr Chisholm added that there had been a lack of communication with councillors about the prospect of entering into a partnership with North Dorset. He expressed his concern that local members were not always informed of issues within their wards and that there was a need for all tiers of local government to be more accountable to the electorate.

In response to a question about the sale of the Stratton House site, Cllr Chisholm reported that this was an unconditional sale and there was not yet an overall master plan for the site. At present, piecemeal planning applications were being submitted. He expressed his concern that the prison site would also be developed piecemeal as the only aspect of the site to be scheduled was the gateway. He hoped that the new Chief Executive would look at the situation relating to the developments within central Dorchester, including Charles Street, and make significant changes to the District Council's approach.

### **7. Report of the Village Hall Trust**

Mr George Armstrong reported that the Village Hall funds could be used for any communal project to enhance leisure within the parish. There had been a small increase in the value of the charity bond shares over the past year, with an income of £38.56. Whilst the Parish Council now held reserves for maintenance of the playground, there was a possible requirement for the continuation of the Trust in order to be the body to apply for funding through grants and rewards.

It was **resolved** that Mr George Armstrong, Mrs Lynda Pain, Mrs Pat Cosgrove and Miss Kirsty Riglar be appointed as Trustees.

### **8. Public Discussion Period**

Those present discussed the appearance of a sinkhole by the fingerpost at Stinsford Cross. It was possible that this might contain WW2 detritus. The Council had been contacted about this twice but there had not yet been any action taken.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.30pm

**Chairman**..... **Date**.....