

# Stinsford Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held on Monday 10 April 2017 at 7.00pm in the Conference Hall,  
Kingston Maurward College**

**Present:** Mr George Armstrong (Vice-Chairman – in the Chair), Mr Chris Hext and Dr A Stillman.

**Also in attendance:** Cllr Mrs Jill Haynes (Dorset County Councillor), Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk) and eight members of the public.

## **58. Apologies for Absence**

58.1 Apologies for absence were received from Mr Michael Clarke, Mr Will Molland and Mr Richard Wheal.

## **59. Declarations of Interest**

59.1 There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

## **60. Presentation – Turnberry Planning**

60.1 The Parish Council received a presentation by Mr Chris Pattison, Director of Turnberry Planning, regarding the submission made in response to the West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland Joint Local Plan Review issues and options consultation on behalf of the North Dorchester Consortium (predominantly Grainger plc and Persimmon Homes). This submission set out a draft strategic level development framework for the land north of Dorchester identified as D1, D2 and D3 in the consultation document.

60.2 Mr Pattison explained that critical mass of development was needed in order to support the delivery of infrastructure, such as school provision. It was therefore proposed that three neighbourhoods, each with a centre of its own, could deliver approximately 3,300 homes, 35% of which would be affordable housing. It was anticipated that this would enable the provision of a strategic employment area, a new education campus, a link road from the A35 leading to the A37, allotments and community sports facilities and open access to the watermeadows for the public.

60.3 It was noted that the next step in the Joint Local Plan Review would be publication of preferred options, likely to be in early 2018. Mr Pattison explained that Turnberry Planning may bring forward an initial consultation process on the strategic vision for the land north of Dorchester alongside the Review. However, he assured the Parish Council that when it came to looking at a masterplan for this site, Turnberry Planning would seek to do so with community involvement.

60.4 Following a period of questions, to which Mr Pattison responded, the Chairman thanked Mr Pattison for attending the meeting.

## **61. Dorset County Council Matters**

61.1 Cllr Mrs Haynes reported that:-

- (i) At the end of 2016 the County Council had received transformation funding for Children's Services to enable changes to be made to the approach taken for recruiting and retaining social workers in Dorset. At the beginning of 2017, the County Council had 28 vacancies for social workers. To date, 17 had been recruited and interviews would be taking place in the next few weeks to fill the remaining vacancies.

- (ii) The County Council was currently tendering for new school transport contracts. Buses serving secondary schools would not be exclusive but were likely to be public service buses. It was hoped that this approach would encourage greater competition amongst providers.
- (iii) There were now 62 community car schemes successfully operating across Dorset and there were more in the pipeline.

## **62. Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre**

62.1 The Parish Council noted the response received from the Leader of Dorset County Council to the concerns about the management of Thorncombe Woods and the local nature reserve. Cllr Mrs Haynes added that she had discussed the need for the Dorset Countryside Rangers to arrange a guided walk for members of the Parish Council and local residents to share information about the management works and plans, as previously requested. She also undertook to pursue the possibility of a liaison or consultative committee being established to ensure constructive communications.

62.2 Mr Thomas, a resident of Higher Bockhampton, informed the Parish Council that the repairs to the surface of the section of the bridleway past the Visitor Centre had commenced earlier in the day. Whilst local residents had been informed that this would be commencing, he detailed the problems experienced in relation to the arrangements for access and considered that these were unlawful. He also reported that large diggers had been traversing the bridleway in the evening, with no notice and no regard for possible damage to properties.

62.3 Mr Grenville-Jones, a resident of Higher Bockhampton, also raised the issue of the exclusion of National Trust members from paying to park in the Thorncombe Woods car park. Cllr Mrs Haynes explained that this had been agreed as part of the agreement with the Trust for the funding of the Visitor Centre. However, it was noted that no formal agreement setting this out had been provided in response to a recent request under the Freedom of Information Act. The Parish Council agreed that it was important to know the details of the agreement between the County Council and the National Trust in relation to this issue, as local people were being penalised.

62.4 It was **resolved** that, on behalf of the Parish Council, Dr Stillman would approach Dorset County Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services about these issues and raise the concerns that the County Council are operating outside of the law.  
*Action by: Dr Stillman*

## **63. West Dorset District Council Matters**

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

## **64. Public Participation Time**

64.1 Mr Grenville-Jones informed the Parish Council that at the recent annual meeting of the Parochial Parish Council, the local vicar had stated that Wiltshire Police had no problem with directing traffic to alternative routes when they closed a road. This was contrary to the statements previously made by Dorset Police.

64.2 Mr Armstrong reported the concerns of a resident of Knapwater in relation to the road surface and the uncertainty about whether this was the responsibility of Dorset County Council, as Highways Authority, or Magna Housing. It was suggested that the reporting tool on Dorsetforyou.gov.uk would clarify the ownership and responsibility.

## **65. Minutes**

65.1 It was **resolved** that the minutes of meetings held on 13 March and 27 March 2017 be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

## **66. Finance**

### **66.1 Expenditure**

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

- HMRC (PAYE) (Quarter 4 2016/17) - £104.60
- Clerk's salary (Quarter 4 2016/17) - £418.42
- Kingston Maurward College – refreshments for meeting held on 27 March 2017 - £29.70
- Sutcliffe Play (South West) Ltd – replacement swing chains for Lower Bockhampton play area - £274.81

## **67. Preparation for Audit**

67.1 The Parish Council considered a number of documents prepared by the Clerk, as Responsible Financial Officer, in readiness for the annual audit of the financial year 2016/17. She also reported that it was necessary for the Parish Council to appoint a new internal auditor, as Mr Graham Mounce, who had undertaken the role for a number of years, would shortly be moving out of the area.

67.2 It was **resolved** that:

- (i) the Council's risk assessment document be approved for consideration by the internal auditor;
- (ii) the Council's Asset Register be approved;
- (iii) the Internal Controls be noted; and
- (iv) Paula Harding of Barker Fox Associates be appointed as internal auditor for the year 2016/17.

## **68. Planning Matters**

68.1 WD/D/17/000169 – Kingston Maurward Agricultural College, Kingston Maurward, DT2 8PY – Installation of solar panels on roof of The Stafford Building (Full)

It was **resolved** to SUPPORT this application.

68.2 WD/D/17/000170 – Laurel Bank, Kingston Maurward, DT2 8PX – Installation of solar panels to the rood of Laurel Bank (Full)

It was **resolved** to SUPPORT this application.

68.3 WD/D/17/000661 – Land adjacent to lay by on A35, Stinsford – Retain refreshment unit and picnic area

It was **resolved** to SUPPORT this application.

68.4 WD/D/17/000439 – Bhompston Farm, Stinsford, DT2 8QN – Outline application for demolition of two redundant agricultural buildings and erection of 2 rural-exception affordable dwellings with associated works

It was **resolved** to SUPPORT this application.

68.5 WD/D/17/000440 - Bhompston Farm, Stinsford, DT2 8QN – Dismantle existing equine loose boxes and remove from site and erect two rural-exception affordable dwellings with associated works (Outline)

It was **resolved** to SUPPORT this application.

- 68.6 WD/D/17/000711 – Gardeners Cottage, Bockhampton Lane, Lower Bockhampton, DT2 8PZ – Erection of garage/outbuilding

The Parish Council noted that this was not a planning application but an application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed use or development. It was **resolved** to request an extension to the consultation period to allow for the Parish Council to seek clarification as to the status of this application.

**69. Superfast Broadband**

- 69.1 No issues were raised in relation to superfast broadband, although the lack of response and specificity about the provision of fibre broadband within the parish was noted.

**70. Road Safety and Traffic Management**

- 70.1 The Parish Council noted that, during a recent closure of the A35 due to an accident, there was no signage to indicate the most appropriate diversions for traffic to take, Consequently, a number of inappropriately large vehicles had attempted to travel along the Tincton road. It was **resolved** that a request be sent to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dorset requesting that a strategic plan be put in place to sign pre-planned diversions in the event of closure of the trunk road.

*Action by: Clerk*

- 70.2 It was reported that a coach had recently traversed Church Lane, Stinsford to reach St Michael’s Church and had experienced difficulty in turning around. It was noted that a sign previously in place to indicate that this was not suitable for coaches was no longer there. It was **resolved** to request that Dorset County Council replace the ‘no coaches’ sign.

*Action by: Clerk*

- 70.3 It was noted that it had previously been suggested that the Chairman meet with the Principal of Kingston Maurward College, the new Chair of the College’s Trustees and a representative from the Dorset Studio School to discuss the local road safety issues. It was **resolved** to raise this with the Chairman.

**71. Correspondence**

- 71.1 No matters were raised under this item.

**72. Items for future Agenda**

- 72.1 The Clerk reported that the Principal of Kingston Maurward College would attend the next meeting to update the Parish Council on the College’s plans for a refreshed heritage and strategic plan.

**73. Date of next meeting**

- 73.1 It was noted that the next full meeting would be held on Monday 8 May 2017 (Annual Meeting, preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting of Electors).

The meeting concluded at 9:05pm.

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