

Stinsford Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 August 2017 at 7.00pm in
The Old Library, Kingston Maurward College**

Present: Mr Will Molland (Vice-Chairman – in the Chair), Mr George Armstrong, Mr Michael Clarke and Dr Andy Stillman.

Also in attendance: Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk), Cllr Patrick Cooke (West Dorset District Councillor) and one member of the public, Mr Chris Byrne.

120. Apologies for Absence

120.1 Apologies for absence were received from Mr Chris Hext (Chairman, Mr Richard Wheal and Cllr Mrs Jill Haynes (Dorset County Councillor).

121. Declarations of Interest

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

122. Dorset County Council Matters

122.1 In the absence of Cllr Mrs Haynes, the Chairman noted that she had submitted an update to the Parish Council via email and moved to the next item.

123. Public Participation Time

123.1 On behalf of the residents of Stinsford Cottages, Mr Byrne raised concerns about the activities at the In Situ Concrete site at the entrance to Birkin House in terms of the noise and the increasing number of large HGVs travelling to and from the site.

123.2 It was explained that the Parish Council shared these concerns and had taken this up with both the Planning Enforcement Officer and Environmental Health Team of West Dorset District Council. The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter that day informing the Parish Council that In Situ Concrete Ltd had applied to the District Council for a permit to operate an installation for a blending, packing, loading, unloading and use of bulk cement process at the site. Comments on this application were invited. Mr Byrne confirmed that local residents had also received this letter.

123.3 Cllr Cooke encouraged residents to comment on this application and raise their concerns. He anticipated that this would ensure that activity at the site would be monitored in a more regulated manner. He asked that he be copied in to any submissions made. The Parish Council would consider its corporate response at the meeting in September.

123.4 It was also noted that there were trees on the site which were due to be cut down which appeared to be within the Conservation Area but there had been no notification of a treeworks application. It was suggested that the District Council's Trees Officer be contacted about this.

123.5 Mr Byrne also raised concerns in relation to:

- (i) the siting of the road hazard sign at the exit to the College campus which blocked the view of any oncoming traffic;
- (ii) the lack of a sign to Hardy's Cottage from the A35 or any sign to indicate that visitors were entering the parish; and

(iii) the misuse of the gateway on the eastbound side of the A35 as an informal toilet and the need for a sign to inform road users that public toilets were available a mile further on.

124. West Dorset District Council Matters

124.1 Cllr Cooke reiterated that there had been no further progress on local government reorganisation, as a decision was still awaited from the Secretary of State.

125. Minutes

125.1 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2017 be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

125.2 Further to minute 114, it was noted that confirmation had not yet been received of the date of the proposed local liaison meeting.

125.3 Further to minute 116.2, the Clerk reported that the new Community Highways Officer for the Dorchester area, Mr Jack Daniels, had confirmed that he would attend the Parish Council's meeting in September to discuss highways issues within Stinsford.

126. Finance

126.1 Expenditure

The following item of expenditure was **resolved**:-

- Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils – Annual subscription - £137.75

127. Governance Documents

127.1 As recommended by the Internal Auditor, the Parish Council undertook a periodic review of its Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, which had been adopted in September 2015.

127.2 It was **resolved** that:

- (a) the Standing Orders be confirmed without amendment; and
- (b) the Financial Regulations be confirmed subject to the amendment of Regulation 11.1(h) to read ... *“where the value is below £3,000 and above £500 the RFO shall strive to obtain 3 estimates. Otherwise Regulation 10 (3) above shall apply.”*

128. Lower Bockhampton Play Area Inspection

128.1 The Parish Council received the report of the annual inspection of the Lower Bockhampton Play Area undertaken by The Play Inspection Company. It was noted that the overall assessment was of low risk but that a number of recommendations had been made to address the findings where maintenance was necessary to ensure that the level of risk did not increase from low or very low.

128.2 It was **resolved** that:

- (i) Mr Armstrong and Mr Molland would undertake an inspection to assess what work needed to be undertaken to address the recommendations;
- (ii) clarification be sought about the inspection requirements set out in the Parish Council's insurance policy; and
- (iii) the outcomes of this action be considered by the Parish Council at its meeting in October.

Action by: Clerk to seek clarification about insurance; Mr Armstrong and Mr Molland to develop plan of work.

129. Affordable Housing Policy

129.1 The Parish Council considered the final draft Affordable Housing Policy circulated by Mr Molland and Dr Stillman. This version gave further clarification to the identification of housing need within the parish and included size alongside shape and style.

129.2 It was **resolved** that the draft Affordable Housing Policy be adopted.

129.3 Mr Molland and Dr Stillman were thanked for their work on this document.

130. Neighbourhood Plan for Stinsford

130.1 The Clerk reported that the consultation on the designation of the Neighbourhood Plan area had now ended and a decision would be made by West Dorset District Council's Strategy Committee on 12 September 2017. It was not known whether any objections had been submitted in response to the consultation. The Clerk would make the report available to the Parish Council as soon as it was published.

130.2 It was **resolved** that consideration of the establishment of a steering group to include stakeholders (residents, landowners, businesses, etc) within the parish would be deferred until after this decision was known.

131. Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre

131.1 The Parish Council noted that confirmation of the date of a local liaison meeting during September was awaited.

132. Superfast Broadband

132.1 There were no current matters to be discussed.

132.2 Mr Molland provided an update on the private broadband solution to Lower Bockhampton. He undertook to provide details of this to other residents once it was operational.

133. Road Safety and Traffic Management

133.1 Further to the matters raised during public participation time, it was **resolved** to:-
(i) contact Highways England to request that the issues relating to the impact of the Stinsford Hill roundabout on the A35 and the surrounding roads be addressed and to request that a sign be installed to deter the use of the lay-by opposite Stinsford Cottages; and
(ii) contact Dorset County Council, as Highways Authority, about the siting of the hazard sign at the exit from Church Lane.

134. Correspondence

134.1 The Parish Council welcomed the receipt of a letter from the Clerk to Dorchester Town Council regarding the establishment of the Dorchester Area Community Land Trust.

135. Items for future Agenda

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

- Corporate response to application under the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 – In Situ Concrete Ltd (September)
- Neighbourhood Plan: next steps (October)
- Lower Bockhampton Play Area (October)

136. Date of next meeting

136.1 It was noted that the next full meeting would be held on Monday 4 September 2017.

The meeting concluded at 8:30pm.

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