

Stinsford Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 12 December 2016 at 7.00pm in The Old Library,
Kingston Maurward College**

Present: Mr Richard Wheal (Chairman), Mr George Armstrong (Vice-Chairman), Mr Chris Hext, Mr Will Molland and Dr A Stillman

Also in attendance: Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk)

160. Apologies for Absence

160.1 Apologies for absence were received from Mr Michael Clarke and County Councillor Mrs Jill Haynes.

161. Declarations of Interest

161.1 There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

162. Dorset County Council Matters

162.1 In the absence of Cllr Mrs Haynes, the Chairman moved to the next agenda item.

163. West Dorset District Council Matters

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

164. Public Participation Time

164.1 No members of the public were present.

165. Minutes

165.1 It was **resolved** that the minutes of meeting held on 14 November 2016 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record, subject to the amendment of minute 150.2(ii) to read "*write to Dorset County Council to request that the management of coaches bringing visitors to Hardy's Birthplace be improved as a matter of urgency*".

165.2 Further to minute 146.2, the Chairman reported that he had attended one of the launch events for the NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group's consultation on its Clinical Services Review and tabled copies of the consultation document. The Parish Council expressed concerns that the proposals represented a process of slow decline and did not address the issue of an ageing population.

165.3 Further to minute 149.3, the Parish Council noted that planning permission had been granted for the formation of a new entrance drive to Birkin House. Concerns were expressed that this decision had been delegated to officers and not referred to West Dorset District Council's Planning Committee, despite the Parish Council's objection. It was agreed that clarity should be sought as to the current scheme of delegation for planning decisions.

Action by: Clerk.

165.4 Further to minute 149.4, Mr Armstrong reported that he had contacted the Environmental Health Officer, who was now collecting further information from local residents. The Clerk added that she had contacted the Enforcement Officer to request that the operation of the cement works be reviewed to ascertain whether there was any breach of planning conditions.

166. Planning Matters

166.1 WD/D/16/002360 - 2 Maurward Close, Stinsford – Erect two storey and single storey rear extensions and extend existing utility room and change flat roof to a pitch roof (Full)

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

166.2 WD/CA/16/00461 – 4 Maurward Close, Stinsford – Treeworks: 1 No. Beech – 25% crown reduction

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

167. Neighbourhood Planning

167.1 The Parish Council considered whether to progress the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for Stinsford.

167.2 It was noted that no response had yet been received from Charminster Parish Council regarding the proposal to hold a joint meeting to discuss planning issues.

167.3 It was **resolved** that:

- (i) a Neighbourhood Plan for Stinsford be developed;
- (ii) an informal meeting be held on Monday 9 January at 10:00am to discuss the Parish Council's aspirations for a Neighbourhood Plan and an initial roadmap for developing this;
- (iii) planning consultant Jo Witherden be invited to attend this meeting; and
- (iv) the process for designating a Neighbourhood Plan area be investigated.

Action by: Clerk

168. Community Land Trusts

168.1 The Parish Council received a report from Dr Stillman regarding Community Land Trusts (CLTs) and a proposal by Dorchester Town Council to establish a CLT to provide genuinely affordable housing in the town to benefit the local community. The initial proposal was for a CLT to develop affordable flats on the tennis courts at the rear of the Co-op car park.

168.2 Dr Stillman explained that he had volunteered to participate in the steering group to establish a CLT and that a Dorchester CLT could include an area wider than the Town Council's boundaries.

168.3 The Parish Council welcomed Dr Stillman's report and considered that the role of a CLT to provide affordable housing for local people should be included within a Neighbourhood Plan for Stinsford. Dr Stillman agreed to provide updates on the establishment of a Dorchester CLT as this progressed.

169. Consultations

169.1 Removal of Payphones by BT

The Parish Council noted that BT proposed to remove the payphone at Lower Bockhampton, as no calls had been made from this in the last twelve months. It was also noted that the Parish Council could adopt the phone box itself to be used as a community asset; examples elsewhere included use as public noticeboards or book exchanges.

Resolved that the Parish Council:

- (i) support the removal of the payphone at Lower Bockhampton;
- (ii) adopt the phone box at Lower Bockhampton for £1 as a community asset;

- (iii) local residents be invited to comment upon the use of the phone box.

169.2 Concessionary Pass Scheme

The Parish Council noted the proposal by Dorset County Council to change the current Concessionary Pass Scheme by removing free travel before 09:30 on routes that had no other services until after 10:30.

Resolved that the proposal not be supported as this would restrict the services available for use by older people in more rural areas and contribute to their isolation.

169.3 NHS Dorset Clinical commissioning Group Clinical Services Review

Resolved to defer consideration of a corporate response to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

170. **Lower Bockhampton Play Area Maintenance**

170.1 Mr Armstrong reported that, together with Mr Molland, he had looked at the issues raised during the annual inspection. It was considered that the most efficient way of carrying out the required maintenance was to have a contractor on site to address as many of the issues as possible at the same time.

170.2 **Resolved** that Mr Armstrong and Mr Molland be authorised to develop a programme of work and seek quotes from contractors with a view to the work being undertaken during the Spring.

171. **Flood Warden Seminar**

171.1 Dr Stillman provided feedback on the Flood Warden seminar he had recently attended and explained that this was within the context of the community resilience agenda.

171.2 **Resolved** that:

- (i) Mr Molland be appointed as the Flood Warden for the parish; and
- (ii) the Parish Council consider whether to establish a community resilience plan for the parish.

172. **Road Safety and Traffic Management**

172.1 No matters were raised under this item.

173. **Superfast Broadband**

173.1 The Parish Council noted that no further communication had been received following the meeting with Sir Oliver Letwin MP. However, it was noted that there had been further press releases recently regarding funding of alternatives to superfast broadband to improve speed and accessibility.

174. **Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre**

174.1 The Parish Council noted the receipt of a letter from the National Trust's General Manager, North and West Dorset setting out the plans for opening in 2017. This would see Hardy's Cottage open to visitors seven days a week from March to October and, as a trial, Thursdays – Sundays from November to February.

174.2 Members of the Parish Council expressed their dismay at these plans, as it would exacerbate the current issues relating to traffic, parking and the state of the bridleway.

174.3 **Resolved** that:

- (i) the National Trust be made aware of the Parish Council's concerns about the plans to extend the opening of Hardy's Cottage; and

(ii) Dorset County Council be requested to improve the surface of the bridleway from the Visitor Centre to the parish noticeboard.

Action by: Clerk

175. Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Waste Plan

175.1 There were no updates to note.

176. Correspondence

176.1 The Clerk reported that it was likely that the Parish Council's email address would need to be changed in order to respond to West Dorset District Council's Planning Department intention to only consult with local councils electronically and using a .gov or .org email address.

176.2 Concerns were expressed that by not making hard copies of planning applications and associated documents available, the District Council were reducing accessibility and inclusivity, particularly as the management of documents on the online planning portal was poor with a lack of coherent labelling and piecemeal uploading.

177. Items for future Agenda

177.1 No items were raised for inclusion in future agenda.

178. Date of next meeting

178.1 It was **noted** that the next full meeting would be held on Monday 9 January 2017.

The meeting concluded at 9:10pm.

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