

Stinsford Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 12 October 2015 at 7.00pm in The Old Library, Kingston Maurward College

Present: Dr Andy Stillman (Chairman), Mr George Armstrong, Mr Michael Clarke, Mr Chris Hext and Mr Richard Wheal

Also in attendance: Cllr Patrick Cooke (West Dorset District Councillor), Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

117. Chairman's Welcome

117.1 The Chairman welcomed all those present and opened the formal business meeting of the Parish Council.

118. Apologies for Absence

118.1 Apologies for absence were received from Mr Will Molland, Mr Kim Payne and Cllr Mrs Jill Haynes (County Councillor).

119. Declarations of Interest

119.1 There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

120. Dorset County Council Matters

120.1 The Clerk read out the report submitted by Cllr Mrs Haynes in her absence, which included the following:

- (i) Tricuro, the stand alone trading company for Adult Social Care was successfully launched on 1 July 2015. The services commissioned into this were in the region of £40M and the company would be able to trade up to 20% of this turnover. The three councils involved – Dorset County Council, Bournemouth Borough Council and the Borough of Poole – would continue to have input and scrutiny through their representatives on the Executive Shareholder Board.
- (ii) Children's Services were currently out to consultation on changes in the Youth Service, Currently less than 10% of 9 to 13 year olds attended youth clubs in Dorset and of these 10%, only 1% were young people that the Council needed to reach.
- (iii) The recent announcement that Bournemouth, Poole, Christchurch and East Dorset Councils had applied to become a unitary authority. This had promoted considerable discussion about what would happen to the rest of rural Dorset. This was an area which would continue to evolve and any changes would need to be in place for 2020.

121. West Dorset District Council Matters

121.1 Cllr Cooke added that it was necessary to consider how the majority of rural Dorset in the west and north of the County could best be served as part of the inevitable reorganisation of local government as whatever occurred in the conurbation would inevitably have an effect. He expressed his concern that the local aspect could be lost if one or more unitary authority was created and predicted that it might even be necessary to merge parish councils eventually to ensure that their voices continued to be heard.

121.2 The Parish Council discussed the implications of the formation of one or more unitary authorities and expressed their concern that rural Dorset should suffer as a result. It was agreed that it was important to remain informed about the process and it was hoped that parish and town councils would be consulted on any proposals.

122. Public Participation Time

122.1 Mr Grenville-Jones requested an update on the Charles Street development. Cllr Cooke explained that Simons, the developer, had now parted company with West Dorset District Council. He confirmed that the District Council owned the land and that problems had occurred when Historic England had moved the goalposts with regard to the scale of archaeological investigation and protection required as part of the development. Members of the Parish Council expressed their concerns that there had been a lack of transparency about this which had led to rumours and speculation. Cllr Cooke considered that there had been information in the public domain through the minutes published on dorsetforyou.com and explained that an all-party working party had been convened to consider the way forward for the site. He acknowledged that the development of a town centre site was difficult to achieve and was unable to predict what would happen next.

122.2 Mr Wills asked if the Parish Council had received any further information about the appeal against the refusal of planning application for the land next to his property, Homesclose, Stinsford Hill, to which the Council had objected. The Clerk confirmed that no information had been received following the initial confirmation that an appeal had been lodged.

122.3 Mr Grenville-Jones asked whether any further information had been received in respect of the legal basis for the introduction of charges for the disposal of non-household waste at household recycling centres. The Clerk explained that she understood the basis of this to be paragraph 3 of Section 51 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Members of the Parish Council expressed their concern that the introduction of charging would result in an increase in fly-tipping of which there was a history in certain locations within the parish.

123. Minutes

123.1 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2015 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

124. Finance

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

- HMRC (PAYE) – 1–31 July 2015 - £34.60
- HMRC (PAYE) – 1–31 August 2015 - £34.40
- HMRC (PAYE) – 1–30 September 2015 - £34.40
- Clerk's salary (Quarter 2 2015/16) (£413.38) plus operational expenses for 2015/16 (£50.00) - £463.38

124.2 It was also **noted** that the glass in the noticeboard at the Higher Kingston bus shelter had been shattered and would therefore need to be repaired, incurring expenditure for the Parish Council to approve in future.

125. Planning Matters

125.1 WD/D/15/001992 – Greenwood Grange, Higher Bockhampton – Single storey extension and construction of dormer windows to Henchard Holiday Cottage

It was **resolved** to **NOT OBJECT** to this application but to request that West Dorset District Council consider the cumulative impact of the significant number of recent planning applications to extend the buildings on the site when determining this application in terms of whether this site in a famously rural setting is becoming over-developed and the impact upon traffic and noise in the area.

125.2WD/D/15/001946 – Birkin House, Stinsford – Reinstate an internal wall and form a garage within existing extension to east wing (Listed Building Consent)

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

125.3WD/D/15/002124 – Telecommunications Mast 22093, Higher Kingston Farm Lane, Stinsford – Extension of lattice mast from 20.4m to 25.9m, replacement of 2 no. existing antennas with 6 no. proposed antennas, installation of 2 no. 300mm dia. Dish antennas and 1 no. 600mm dia. Dish antenna, installation of 1 no. equipment cabinet with cabin; plus minor ancillary works (Full)

It was **resolved** to **NOT OBJECT** to this application but to inform West Dorset District Council that the Parish Council were concerned that the operation of 4G transmission may interfere adversely with television reception in the areas and would like to be assured that a risk assessment had been carried out by the providers and request a copy of the list of individual properties within the parish to be affected stating how this would be remedied. It was understood that this assessment was a legal requirement in relation to such developments but this information has not been published as part of the application

126. Consultations

126.1 The Parish Council considered their responses to the following consultations:-

(i) Draft Waste Plan for Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole

It was noted that this set out a list of site options for a range of waste management facilities and it was **resolved** to submit the following comments in respect of the single site within Stinsford Parish – **WD05 – Land at Stinsford Hill** – which was being considered as a possible site for a Household Recycling Centre, a Waste Transfer Facility or a Waste Management Centre:-

Stinsford Parish Council opposes the development of this site for any of the three waste facilities for the following reasons:-

Risk of water contamination – there is a Grade 1 chalk stream and a Chalk Major Aquifer of Principal designation under the site.

Risk of flooding – the site is covered by Flood Zones 2 and 3 and has been flooded on a number of occasions.

Insufficient transport infrastructure – the Stinsford Hill roundabout is heavily used and, due to the current lane structure, is a site at which there are many ‘near misses’ in addition to a number of collisions. It is very difficult for vehicles to cross the roundabout and the traffic flow on the A35 when travelling between the Kingston Maurward College roundabout and the B3150 and Slyer’s Lane. This would make access to the proposed site not only difficult but potentially dangerous. Additionally,

movements by private vehicles out of Dorchester would also place increased pressure on Grey's Bridge, a Grade II Listed Building, and generate greater congestion along the B3150. This stretch of road is heavily used and slow moving during rush hour periods, and at weekends, particularly in the summer. A new access to a waste site off of the A3150 would further exacerbate this.

Impact on landscape – This site is part of an unspoilt, undeveloped agricultural landscape which forms a key part of the landscape and visual setting for Dorchester. The development of any waste facility on this greenfield site would irreparably damage this setting and context. The uninterrupted view across the water meadows towards Dorchester also has cultural significance as this was described in detail by Thomas Hardy in 'The Mayor of Casterbridge' and attracts visitors to the area as part of the Hardy Trail.

- (ii) Draft Minerals Plan for Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole
It was **resolved** not to submit a response on this Plan, as there were no sites listed that lay within Stinsford Parish.
- (iii) Working Together Project Report
It was **resolved** to defer consideration of any response to this report to the next meeting.
- (iv) The Thomas Hardy School – Admission Arrangements 2017/18
It was **resolved** to support the proposal for the admission number for The Thomas Hardy School to be reduced to 450.

127. Annual Inspection of Lower Bockhampton Play Area

127.1 The Parish Council considered the report of the annual inspection of the play area at Lower Bockhampton conducted by the Play Inspection Company on behalf of the National Playing Fields Association. The findings were noted and it was **resolved** that these should be addressed.

127.2 It was also **resolved** that a letter should be written to Kingston Maurward College to thank them for the ongoing low level maintenance of the play area provided on a voluntary basis and to ask whether the College would like to consider addressing some of the findings within the report.

Action by: Clerk to write to College.

127.3 Mr Armstrong explained that he undertook weekly inspections of the play area but would be happy to hand over to anyone else who was willing to do this in the New Year.

128. Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre

128.1 The Clerk reported that she had submitted the scenario to the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils (DAPTC). However, upon consideration of this, it had been confirmed that the Parish Council would be unable to access legal advice from the National Association of Local Councils, as this was only available in relation to the role and responsibilities of parish and town councils. The Officer Manager of the DAPTC had apologised that she had not understood fully the nature of the advice that the

Parish Council was seeking when she had initially explained the process to the Chairman.

128.2 Mr Armstrong explained that he was still working on the draft letter to the Auditors of the Heritage Lottery Fund and would present this to a future meeting.

129. Superfast Broadband

129.1 The Chairman reported that he had met with Dugald Lockhart, who headed up the Superfast Dorset Team, earlier in the day to discuss the Parish Council's ongoing concerns about the lack of clarity and consistency in the information provided about the rationale for not providing superfast broadband to areas of the parish. He did not consider that this had been a successful meeting and no further clarity had been provided. He therefore proposed that the Parish Council should raise their concerns with Oliver Letwin MP, the Leader of the County Council and Cllr Mrs Haynes. It was **resolved** that this was an appropriate next step.

Action by: Chairman to write to Oliver Letwin MP, the Leader of the County Council and Cllr Mrs Haynes.

130. Correspondence

130.1 The Parish Council noted the email recently received regarding the light pollution created by the lighting on the Dorset Studio School at night. It was resolved that a letter be written to Kingston Maurward College or the Studio School (whichever was most appropriate) to request that this be addressed and consideration be given to reducing the light pollution created.

Action by: Clerk to contact College or School.

130.2 Mr Armstrong reported that he had been contacted by a local resident who was extremely concerned about the lack of weight limit signs at either end of Bockhampton Lane. She had been informed that these would be reinstated soon. The Parish Council noted this.

130.3 Mr Clarke suggested that the Parish Council should write to the Duchy of Cornwall about the state of the length of fencing along Stinsford Hill to Greys Bridge as this was becoming increasingly unsafe and it was hoped that the footpath would be included within an extended cycleway. It was **resolved** that a letter should be sent.

Action by: Clerk to write letter.

131. Urgent Item – Challenge Weymouth Triathlon

131.1 It was **resolved** that this item should be added to the agenda in order to ensure that the Parish Council's comments could be passed to the organisers in good time for the wash-up meeting about the event which had taken place on 12 September 2015.

131.2 It was **resolved** that the following comments should be submitted to the organisers of the Challenge Weymouth Triathlon:

- there was a need for more detailed briefings for stewards who did not know the area.
- organisation at checkpoints was poor with cars backed up and reaching out into the road, creating potential hazards.

- if it was necessary to restrict traffic, consideration should be given to one-way traffic flow systems to enable access and egress.
- there should be liaison with Kingston Maurward College about the opening of the back gate to the campus and making local residents aware of this through signage.
- the company tasked with traffic management should take note of local intelligence in relation to possible accident spots arising from high speeds and the sudden need to stop once a checkpoint is reached, eg road from main entrance to the College to Bockhampton Cross.

132. Items for next Agenda

132.1 No specific items were proposed for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting.

133. Date of next meeting

133.1 It was **noted** that the next full meeting would be held on Monday 9 November 2015.

The meeting concluded at 9:15pm.

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