



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 8 MAY 2018

BLACKDOWN VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllr. Rowland Hibbard (Chairman BGPC), Cllr. David Leader (Vice Chairman BGPC), Cllr. Steve Chubb, Cllr. David Chumbley, Cllr. Peter Hardwill, Cllr. Brian Hedditch, Cllr. Dorothy Rowe, Cllr. Jacqui Sewell, Cllr. Roger Smith, Cllr. Kevin Madder-Smith, Cllr. Lesley Tibballs, Cllr. Rebecca Knox (Dorset County Council), Councillor Tim Yarker (West Dorset District Council) and Mrs. Helen Cudmore (Clerk).

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and was opened by Councillor Hibbard. There were thirty-two people in attendance.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Rowland Hibbard, Chairman of Broadwindsor Group Parish Council welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Councillor Hibbard thanked Blackdown Village Hall for hosting the event and for providing refreshments. Councillor Hibbard outlined the agenda for the evening. Councillor Hedditch declared an interest in Agenda Item 10.

2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Tim Bassett, Councillor Andrew Frampton, PCSO Alex Bishop, Ms. Sheila Hawkins and Mrs. Angela Frampton.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

A copy of the minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15 May 2017 as previously circulated was confirmed as a true record, by a majority show of hands and duly signed by Councillor Hibbard. There were no matters arising.

4. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Hibbard, Chairman of the Broadwindsor Group Parish Council presented the Annual Report. *Report attached.*

5. DORSET COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Councillor Knox stated that it was good to see so many people attending the Annual Parish Meeting and that the Broadwindsor Grouped Parish was a very active community. Councillor Knox reported that local government reform would bring about change with the reduction in the number of Councillors and the opportunity to both simplify and improve the current system. Councillor Knox stated that others may see local government reform differently to her, but she very much believes that the community should be part of the process and have the opportunity to influence the decisions that will take place. Councillor Knox stated that

there are other ways of looking at local government services and used the example of rights of way which were once regarded as a difficult service area and which are now seen as a real asset in terms of health and wellbeing. Councillor Knox stated that she would ensure that communities through their Parish Councils are kept informed of the local government reform process. Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Knox for her report.

6. WEST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Councillor Sewell presented this report. Councillor Sewell stated that it had again been a busy year with her main workload being the provision of support to residents on issues relating to planning, rural transport and housing as well as being part of the Broadwindsor Group Parish Community Land Trust, Neighbourhood Plan Committee and more recently the Drimpton Speedwatch Group. Councillor Sewell stated that she still served on the Licensing Committee and is Vice Chairman of the Policy Scrutiny Committee and Chairman of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Councillor Sewell reported that she was part of a wider member engagement task and finish group and involved with the preparations for the proposed Unitary Council. Councillor Sewell stated that she wanted to ensure that the voice of the rural areas are listened to and stated that the new Unitary Councillors will be representing about four thousand residents and will need to be active in the area they represent. Councillor Sewell reported that the year had seen a £5.00 increase in Council Tax and stated that Council expenditure had risen, with changes to the minimum wage, increased utility bills etc. Councillor Sewell reported that the District Council had moved from an executive committee to a management committee with three additional new Liberal Democrat members, representing an extra £22,000 in member allowances plus travel expenses. Councillor Sewell reported that when the new Unitary Council is created, that a harmonisation of Council Tax would happen quite quickly. Councillor Chubb asked whether this would mean an increase or decrease for residents of the Grouped Parish area, Councillor Sewell stated that she did not know at this time. Councillor Smith stated that if money was being saved then why should Council tax increase. Councillor Sewell reported that Christchurch was now challenging the creation of the two new Unitary Councils although eight out of nine Councils voted in favour.

Councillor Knox stated that across the County, residents currently pay different rates of Council Tax, with West Dorset paying less than East Dorset as an example and there is a need to harmonise rates. Councillor Knox stated that there is currently a discussion as to when harmonisation will take place. Councillor Smith stated that it was difficult to judge whether services received were equal across the County and Councillor Chubb stated that it is important to know all of the facts about this matter. A member of the public asked whether the Council has bought property as an investment as other Councils across the region had done so, Councillor Sewell stated that there was a trading company already established. Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Sewell for her report.

7. COMMUNITY POLICING REPORT

The Clerk read aloud a report prepared by PCSO Alex Bishop. *Report attached.*

8. THE OPENING DOORS PROGRAMME

Councillor Tim Yarker, Portfolio Holder for Housing at West Dorset District Council presented this report. Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Yarker for his presentation. *Report attached.*

9. BROADWINDSOR GROUP PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Councillor Rowland Hibbard, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group presented this report. *Report attached.*

10. BROADWINDSOR GROUP PARISH COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

Councillor Leader presented the report for the Broadwindsor Community Land Trust (CLT). Councillor Leader stated that the catalyst to start the group came from the need for affordable housing for local people as identified in the 2012 Parish Plan. Councillor Leader reported that a group of people came together and a number of well-attended public meetings were held resulting in the majority of people stating that a Land Trust would be a good community asset. Councillor Leader reported that work to identify a suitable site within the Grouped Parish area had taken place and that a piece of land in Netherhay had been put forward and was the only site that would be able to meet the needs of the community. Councillor Leader stated that there had been many meetings and public consultation and the proposal had received substantial public support. Councillor Leader stated that the Community Land Trust can determine who lives in the houses and stated that it was proposed that a maximum of fifteen houses would be built for rental and would be a mix of one to three beds, built to a high standard. Councillor Leader stated that information could be found on the CLT website and the website of the Parish Council. Councillor Leader thanked the CLT Committee for their hard work. Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Leader for his report.

11. BROADWINDSOR SCHOOL

Mrs. Diana Coltart, School Governor presented the report for Broadwindsor School. Councillor Hibbard thanked Mrs. Coltart for her report. *Report attached.*

12. CHARITIES REPORT

a. The FMR Trust

The Clerk presented the FMR Trust Report. The FMR Trust was established in 1962 to support charitable activities for the benefit of the local community, specifically it provides grants for active recreational projects. For the period 2017/2018 the Trust supported two projects with grants totalling £1500.00 These were as follows:

- A grant of £200.00 for Drimpton & Netherhay Youth Club to support the cost of a new pool table for the Club.
- A grant of £1300.00 for Broadwindsor Cricket Club to support the cost of a new shower block in the Pavilion.

The Trust has invested in an Equities Investment Fund and has shares with a current value of £84,647.30, (as of December 2017). The Trust receives a quarterly dividend which does fluctuate somewhere between £600.00 - £900.00. The balance as of 31 March 2018, the year end was £6408.72. The Parish Council is the sole trustee of the Trust and Trustees convene each quarter to consider applications. Councillor Hibbard thanked the Clerk for her report.

b. The Blackdown Educational Trust

The Clerk presented this report on behalf of Mrs. Angela Frampton, Treasurer of the Blackdown Educational Trust who had sent her apologies. The Clerk reported that the Blackdown Educational Trust is a fund accessible to any young person going into further education living in the church parishes of Broadwindsor, Thorncombe and Blackdown. In October 2017 the Blackdown Educational Trust received seven requests for financial assistance. The committee awarded each young person a grant of £100.00. A total of £700.00 was distributed leaving a total of £82.07 in the nationwide treasurers account. Any monies earned on the capital investment will be added to the total for allocation in October 2018.

c. The Sick Poor Fund

Mr. John Hansford presented this report. Mr. Hansford reported that The Sick Poor Fund was established to offer financial assistance to the residents of Mosterton, Broadwindsor, Drimpton and Stoke Abbott. Mr. Hansford stated that the Fund was still active and although no personal applications had been received in the past year, the Fund had been able to donate to other organisations. Councillor Hibbard thanked Mr. Hansford for his report.

13. VILLAGE HALLS REPORT

a. Blackdown Village Hall

This report was presented by Councillor Hibbard, Chairman of the Blackdown Village Hall Committee. **Report attached.**

b. Comrades Hall

Mr. Andrew Hookings, Chair of the Village Hall Committee presented the report for Comrades Hall. Councillor Hibbard thanked Mr. Hookings for his report. **Report attached.**

c. Drimpton Village Hall

Mrs. Rosemary Shepherd presented this report. Councillor Hibbard thanked Mrs. Shepherd for her report. **Report attached.**

14. BROADWINDSOR ALLOTMENT GROUP

This report was presented by the Clerk on behalf of Ms. Sheila Hawkins. **Report attached.**

15. BROADWINDSOR COMMUNITY STORES

Mr. Andrew Hookings presented the report for Broadwindsor Community Stores. Councillor Hibbard thanked Mr. Hookings for his report. **Report attached.**

16. BROADWINDSOR JUBILEE GROUP

Mr. Ken Bodycombe presented the report for the Broadwindsor Jubilee Group. Councillor Hibbard thanked Mr. Bodycombe for his report. *Report attached.*

17. DRIMPTON & NETHERHAY YOUTH CLUB

Councillor Steve Chubb presented the report for the Drimpton & Netherhay Youth Club. Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Chubb for his report. *Report attached.*

18. CLAPTON, WAYFORD & DRIMPTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Mrs. Diana Leake presented the report for the Clapton, Wayford & Drimpton Horticultural Society. Councillor Hibbard thanked Mrs. Leake for her report. *Report attached.*

19. BROADWINDSOR CRICKET CLUB

The Clerk presented this report on behalf of Councillor Andrew Frampton for Broadwindsor Cricket Club. The report stated that the Club continues to develop with a healthy league team on a Sunday and friendly Saturday team. The Club is delighted to be hosting Broadwindsor Primary School every Friday afternoon in June and they have a Dorset junior cricket coach coming to help coach the boys and girls. The report stated that the Pavilion is almost complete and that the Club now needs to raise funds for road side nets to protect traffic. The report stated that all fixtures will be put on village notice boards and in the shop and encouraged villagers to come and support the team. The report concluded by stating that they are looking for a very fast bowler and brilliant batsmen if anyone is available!

20. BROADWINDSOR COMMUNITY SPORTSFIELD

Councillor David Leader presented the report for the Broadwindsor Community Sportsfield. Councillor Leader stated that Hursey Common provides recreational opportunities for playing football and for dog walking and is a real community asset. Councillor Leader thanked Mr. Rob Hedditch for repairing the football goals on many occasions, without charge saving the Parish Council a great deal of money. Councillor Leader thanked Charlie Reeder who as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award had taken on the responsibility of grass cutting for the last two years and had worked extremely hard. Councillor Leader stated that a number of working parties also convened during the year to help with maintenance and thanked all those who had taken part. Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Leader for his report.

21. CLOSE

Councillor Hibbard thanked all those for attending, presenting and exhibiting and stated that the Broadwindsor Grouped Parish area was a thriving community with so many exciting things happening. The Annual Parish Meeting was formally closed at 9.05 pm.