



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 25 APRIL 2016

COMRADES HALL, BROADWINDSOR

PRESENT: Councillor Rebecca Knox (Dorset County Council), Cllr. Rowland Hibbard (Vice Chairman BGPC), Cllr. Tim Bassett, Cllr. Jenny Calverley, Cllr. David Chumbley, Cllr. Andrew Frampton, Cllr. Peter Hardwill, Cllr. Brian Hedditch, Cllr. David Leader, Cllr. Jacqui Sewell, Cllr. Roger Smith, Cllr. Lesley Tibballs, Mrs. Helen Cudmore (Clerk).

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

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Councillor Rowland Hibbard, Vice Chairman of Broadwindsor Group Parish Council welcomed everyone to Comrades Hall and thanked them for attending. Councillor Hibbard outlined the agenda for the evening and explained that due to ill health Chairman of the Council, Councillor Mike Saunders could not be there and sent his apologies.

2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Mike Saunders and Malcolm Wigglesworth and from Mr. Nigel Arnold.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

A copy of the minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held on 31 March 2015 was confirmed as a true record and duly signed by Councillor Hibbard.

4. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Councillor Hibbard read the Annual Report of the Parish Council as prepared by Councillor Saunders. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

5. DORSET COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Councillor Knox informed that supporting vulnerable groups is a priority for Dorset County Council and that of the Authority's £240m revenue budget, half of it is spent on adult social care, supporting the most vulnerable in the County. Just under half of the remaining budget is spent on childrens services, with prevention being a priority, as it is for the Parish Council. Councillor Knox stated that there are real demands for services and that the Council is looking at partnership working with the third and voluntary sectors to help deliver services better and at the most appropriate level. Councillor Knox made reference to Local Government Reform and reported that she is currently looking at what services can be devolved to a local level.

6. WEST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Councillor Jacqui Sewell presented this report and stated that this time last year she was extremely busy with the boundary review and was pleased to report that despite the area doubling in size, she managed to hand deliver all of her election leaflets and was delighted to be re-elected with an even bigger majority. Councillor Sewell paid thanks to all those who had voted for her. Councillor Sewell reported that the District Council is now made up of forty-two Councillors, representing twenty-four wards, thirty Conservatives and twelve Liberal Democrats and stated that it was a real shame that there were no Independent candidates at present. Councillor Sewell stated that she now serves on the Licensing Committee and Vice Chairman of the Policy Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Sewell made reference to information being circulated by the Public First Group recommending that the District Council change back to a Committee system, Councillor Sewell stated that anyone can attend Council Meetings to hear debates and any Councillor can attend and speak at the Executive Committee, by giving notice to the Chairman. Councillor Sewell stated that due to the fact that there were now fewer Councillors, it was decided to have six and not seven Councillors on the Executive. A member of the public asked whether the Executive has always been made up of a single party, Councillor Sewell stated that it had been as long as she had been a Councillor.

Councillor Sewell stated that the call for the referendum by less than 6% of the electorate will cost over £95k, plus additional staff costs and if the vote is for the District Council to revert to a committee system, it will take at least twelve to eighteen months to implement and by this time, the Council may have already started down the 'Shire Unitary' road.

Councillor Sewell reported that the Post Office Users Group continues to meet every Tuesday and Friday and stated that this valuable community service also brings people together and that several special events have taken place including a coffee and croissants morning and a Christmas party. Councillor Sewell reported that sadly there are now only two First Responders within the village. Councillor Sewell also stated that a defibrillator has been installed outside Drimpton Village Hall and that the Parish Council and First Responders had contributed funding towards the cost. Councillor Sewell stated that there should be one in Broadwindsor and Councillor Leader confirmed that he would be leading on the application to do this.

7. COMMUNITY POLICING REPORT

PCSO Alex Bishop presented the Community Policing Report and stated that he is part of the Beaminster Neighbourhood Police Team which covers the seven local voting wards. The team consists of Beat Manager PC Tim Poole and PCSOs Alex Bishop, David Ash and Cati Jervis. The team were originally based at Beaminster Police Station but this has been sold, as of 4 May they will be stationed at Beaminster Fire Station on Clay Lane. This move will have some impact on the way they work, most notably, it will not be an open Station to members of the public. The best means of contact is via the 101 non-emergency number, or through the Dorset Police website www.dorset.police.uk.

PCSO Bishop reported that the type of crime has changed over the past few years, the Police have delivered successful schemes to reduce traditional rural crimes such as oil and farm machinery theft, more recently there has been an emergence of cyber crimes and scams. PCSO Bishop stated that crime in the area still remains relatively low.

PCSO Bishop reported that following a recent burglary at the Craft Centre, two young males have been voluntarily interviewed and deny any involvement. It would appear that there are no further lines of enquiry at this time. Overnight between 26 and 27 March, a shed was broken into in Blackdown and a Mitre Saw was stolen. PCSO Bishop also reported that there have been a few reports of suspicious door step traders in Broadwindsor around the end of March. One was discovered to be legitimate working on behalf of the British Heart Foundation. The other was believed to be selling house hold items and left when advised that the resident did not want anything. PCSO Bishop stated that if members of the community are worried about their security then the Police can offer advice and guidance.

8. BROADWINDSOR GROUP PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Councillor Hibbard presented this report and provided an overview of the role of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee and the importance of developing a Plan. Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. Councillor Hibbard reported that a series of scoping meetings had taken place to help select areas which need to be focussed upon. Councillor Hibbard stated that items brought up at the scoping sessions which cannot be influenced by the Neighbourhood Plan could be addressed by a revision of the Parish Plan. It was reported that a survey will be produced and this will be distributed to all households within the Grouped Parish area. Councillor Hibbard stated that mapping software will be purchased to support the process and that it is hoped that the Plan will be completed and ready for submission by August/September 2017.

9. BROADWINDSOR GROUP PARISH COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

Councillor Leader presented the report for the Broadwindsor Community Land Trust (CLT). Councillor Leader stated that the CLT had recently been formed by a group of local people to provide affordable housing in the Grouped Parish area. Councillor Leader reported that surveys will be carried out to establish suitable land and that certain criteria will be applied to those wishing to rent the houses, most notably the housing will be for those who currently live or work within the area. Councillor Leader stated that a major challenge will be identifying suitable land and that discussions were taking place in the community at the present time.

10. CHARITIES REPORT

a. The FMR Trust

The Clerk to the Council 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 2015/2016 the Trust has again supported a wide range of projects, awarding seven grants totalling £3954.59. These were as follows:

- Drimpton Village Hall, £224.02, for grass cutting
- Drimpton Village Hall, £90.00 for the annual play equipment inspection
- Drimpton, Comrades Hall and Broadwindsor play equipment projects, £2000
- Netherhay Methodist Chapel, £200.00 towards the cost of a noticeboard

- Comrades Hall, £370.00 for grass cutting
- Drimpton Football Club, £ 570.57 towards cost of new dugouts
- Broadwindsor Community Sportsfield, £500.00 was awarded to support ongoing maintenance works

The Trust has invested in an Equities Investment Fund and has shares with a current value of £71,795.20. The Trust receives a quarterly dividend which does fluctuate somewhere between £600 - £900. The balance as of 31 March 2016, the year end was £3826.57. The Parish Council is the sole Trustee and Trustees convene each quarter to consider applications. The Trust very much encourages the community to put forward their projects.

b. The Blackdown Educational Trust

Mrs. Angela Frampton presented the report for the Blackdown Educational Trust. The Trust provides small grants to support individuals commencing further education whose main family home is in either Broadwindsor, Blackdown, Burstock or Thorncombe. Mrs. Frampton reported that for this financial year the Trust had received four requests for funding and had awarded grants of £150.00 to each for books and pc equipment. Trustees meet once a year and a request for applications for 2016 will be advertised during June and July with a deadline in September for submission. The balance for the year end was reported as £255.30.

c. The Sick Poor Fund

Mr. John Hansford presented this report. The Sick Poor Fund was established to offer financial assistance to the residents of Mosterton, Broadwindsor, Drimpton and Stoke Abbott. In the last few years donations have been made to individuals and to charities who have assisted residents with health and medical needs. Mr. Hansford stated that applications can be made in writing to Mrs. K Penney, Manor Farm, Burstock, Dorset, DT8 3LH.

11. VILLAGE HALLS REPORT

a. Blackdown Village Hall

This report was presented by Councillor Hibbard, Chairman of the Blackdown Village Hall Committee. Councillor Hibbard reported that since his last report on the Village Hall a year ago, efforts on the fundraising front have been very successful, achieving the target for the refurbishment and modernisation of the kitchen and the toilet facilities. Councillor Hibbard paid thanks to all who supported the fundraising events and also to the Parish Council, Awards for All and West Dorset District Council, for their support with grants and lottery funding. It is hoped that works will commence after the EU Referendum as the Committee didn't want to miss out on the revenue they receive as a polling station. It is hoped that works will be completed in time for the Annual Flower Show at the beginning of September. Councillor Hibbard stated that the Hall still enjoys regular hirings and that the Committee is hopeful that the improvements to the facilities will increase the number of bookings. Councillor Hibbard paid thanks to all who help to keep this valuable community asset running especially to the Secretary and Treasurer and to friends and family who give freely of their time.

b. Comrades Hall

Mr. Chris Newall, Chair of the Village Hall Committee presented the report for Comrades Hall. Mr. Newall stated that the Hall remains an integral and busy part of the village infrastructure, attracting people from far and wide to share the facilities and events. Structurally the Hall is sound and has benefitted over the past year from some minor maintenance carried out by members of the Committee. Mr. Newall reported that after some heated emails with the stair

lift manufacturer, the stair lift has been upgraded with new software and a new battery system, this means that it now works on demand, rather than when it felt like it. Mr. Newall stated that the heating system has been cleaned out and the fans reset and is now working more effectively and is quieter. Mr. Newall reported that the new cinema is a great success, that the picture quality is wonderful and that the Committee is raising money to improve the sound quality. Mr. Newall reported that Bernards' Place is still a well-loved and well-used open space in the village and noted that the train has at last been removed. Mr. Newall stated that a new train is expected to be installed in May, after some ground work has completed. Mr. Newall thanked the Parish Council and the Jubilee Group for their help in purchasing the new play equipment. Mr. Newall reported that financially the Hall is sound, hiring fees have been set at a level which keeps the Hall viable, although higher utility bills have eaten into reduced revenue. Mr. Newall thanked members of the Committee without whom Broadwindsor would not have such a well-cared for outstanding asset.

c. Drimpton Village Hall

Mrs. Rosemary Shepherd, Chair of the Drimpton Village Hall and Recreational Trust presented this report. Mrs. Shepherd stated that the main aim of the Trustees is to ensure that the building remains fit for purpose and a safe venue for its many users and their various needs. Mrs. Shepherd stated that the Parish Council plays a vital part in this and in addition to the Council's help, this could not be achieved without a great deal of time and effort from a very supportive Committee. Mrs Shepherd stated that the Committee is now made up of six elected trustees and eight representatives of local organisations, the largest complement for several years.

Mrs. Shepherd stated that the Treasurer, Tim Bassett, keeps a tight rein on finances, ensures that spend is made wisely and that a healthy bank balance is maintained. Mrs. Shepherd stated that the Committee were very grateful for funding from Broadwindsor Group Parish Council without which they would struggle to maintain the premises and grounds to the standard which is expected. Mrs. Shepherd reported that the representatives of village organisation not only do a great job of promoting their groups and ensuring that their needs are met but also take an active part in all aspects of the Hall management and activities. The Committee is fortunate to have two members of Broadwindsor Group Parish Council on the Committee, Roger Smith and Tim Bassett. Mrs. Shepherd paid thanks to Mr. Neville Adams and Mr. Steve Chubb for producing a Health and Safety Policy, Risk Assessment documents and a format for the annual review of repair and maintenance of the building. It was reported that Mr. Adams has decided that other demands on his time must take priority and that he is standing down from the Committee, leaving behind a great legacy.

Mrs. Shepherd noted the new Solar Panels on the Hall roof and paid thanks to Mr. David Glossop and the team who put together the bid for the grant which made it possible and reported that the financial rewards are already apparent. Mrs. Shepherd reported that the Football Club had an excellent season last year and that they are now running two teams and have improved their facilities with the construction of a very smart dug-out and a new glazed door at the far end of the building giving access to the changing rooms. A note of thanks was made to Mr. Tony Francis and the teams for their work on the grounds. Mrs. Shepherd stated that on the outside of the building there is now a defibrillator for the use of the community, purchased jointly by the Parish Council and village organisations. This project was undertaken

by Roger Smith and was not without its stresses and problems. Mrs. Shepherd stated that a retired GP now resident in the village is helping with awareness raising and training.

Mrs. Shepherd reported that another service which is provided for the village is the storage of sandbags for emergency use and that the Parish Council has helped with funding for storage facilities. Ten tables have recently been purchased as a result of a legacy left by the late Joyce Martin. Mrs. Shepherd reported that Village Hall fundraising events have yet again proved popular and financially successful, including a Midsummer Dance, a Race Night, a Barn Dance, a Quiz and Supper Night, regular Community Coffee Mornings, an extravaganza of a drama production written, produced and directed by Andrew Pastor and the return of Artsreach to Drimpton.

Mrs. Shepherd stated that the Committee is grateful to the regular users of the Hall and stated that their rent helps to keep the Hall solvent. Mrs. Shepherd stated that the Hall is also dependent on other bookings and prices are competitive. In the past year there has been a wedding reception and numerous parties and reported that children's parties are frequent as the Hall has enough height to take a substantial bouncy castle and the enclosed play area is a great attraction. In terms of the coming year, Mrs. Shepherd stated that the Committee will continue to seek funding for an extension to the car park and that a major inspection of all wiring, electrical installations and equipment will need to take place. Mrs. Shepherd reported that Mr. Mike Saunders who had run the Film Club for a number of years will be stepping down and the Club will be run by the Village Hall with a designate Committee Member taking on the role of organiser. Mrs. Shepherd thanked the many volunteers who make themselves available for special events and reported that for 2016/17 a formal list of volunteers will be created.

12 BROADWINDSOR COMMUNITY STORES

Mr. Stewart Urry presented this report on behalf of Mr. Fraser Hughes. Mr. Urry stated that as reported at its AGM in December, the turnover for the financial year was £227k which was consistent with previous years. There was a 21% gross margin, reserves of £43k and a profit of £3k. Mr. Urry stated that there was work to be done in terms of increasing this. A new manager Mr. Steve Jarvis had been recruited and there was a good number of volunteers in place. Mr. Urry reported that the shop stocked 1600 different items. Mr. Urry also reported that the premise was sound and secure. Mr. Urry reported that the Community Store was being seen as a good practice model with interest being shown from other villages. Looking ahead, Mr. Urry stated that current identified issues included a lack of a secure tenure and limited space as well as looking at ways to maintain turnover. Councillor Hibbard thanked Mr. Urry for the report and stated that the village was very lucky to have such an invaluable asset which provided much benefit to the community.

13. BROADWINDSOR SCHOOL

Councillor Leader reported that Mr. Nigel Arnold, Head Teacher of Broadwindsor School sent his apologies for not being able to attend and had sent a report for the Meeting. The report was read aloud by Councillor Leader. It was reported that the School's Football Team had won the Cluster Kenway Cup Tournament and had moved into the quarter finals where they beat Salway Ash, losing then to Bridport Primary in the semi-finals. Mrs. Emma Killick took over twenty children to the Young Voices concert in January 2015 which was very much enjoyed by all. The Tag Rugby Team coached by Mrs. Sue Boakes took part in the West Dorset Tournament and played very well, just losing to Parrett and Axe. It was also reported that the

High 5 Netball team entered into the County finals in Bournemouth for the very first time and came fourth in their group of six. The first term ended with a Leavers Service at the Church which was very much enjoyed.

In the second part of the year, Year 2 attended swimming lessons at Bridport Leisure Centre for five weeks, using Beaminster School minibus to travel there. The lessons were free for children, paid for by the School's sports funding budget. A new Chess Club started at the School, organised by Dr. Maurice Yarham and Mr. Coltart. A visit to Montacute House was made by William Barnes Class as part of their Tudor topic. Funds were raised from an art and crafts sale night held at School, organised by Mrs. Russell, Ms. Peterson and Mrs, Jones. Profits were donated to the Air Ambulance and the School.

Also this year, the School's Netball Team won the Beaminster Tournament and went through to the West Dorset finals, which they subsequently won and are now West Dorset Champions. They represented West Dorset at the County Finals in Weymouth, just losing out by one goal to get to the semi-finals. It was reported that Christmas activities were enjoyed by all which included a Christmas Fayre, Christmas Lunch and a Christmas Party. The whole School went to the Octagon Theatre to see the pantomime Sleeping Beauty. The School ran two shows for the Christmas Play, it was held at Comrades Hall and over two hundred parents, grandparents and friends attended. The School Choir attended Broadwindsor House to sing Christmas songs. Mrs. Killick also took twenty-two children to the Young Voices concert in January 2016 in Birmingham, singing in a 6,000 strong choir to 6,000 adults. Broadwindsor was the only school from Dorset in attendance.

14. DRIMPTON & NETHERHAY YOUTH CLUB

Mr. Steve Chubb presented the report for the Drimpton & Netherhay Youth Club. Mr. Chubb stated that in recent years the Youth Club has grown with the help of a small dedicated team and provides a safe and caring environment for children aged 7-15 living in Drimpton and the surrounding local area. Mr. Chubb paid thanks to all those involved. Mr. Chubb reported that the Club meets twice a month on a Friday evening at Drimpton Village Hall and that an average of 20 children attend. Mr. Chubb stated that unlike a lot of local youth clubs they are entirely self-funded, this year they applied to the FMR Trust for money to enable the children to visit local attractions. The Club were awaiting confirmation of this. Mr. Chubb stated that all helpers are DBS checked and that they have trained first aiders at each event. The costs for attending are kept low (currently £1.00 per child) so nobody is excluded, and even with this low cost they manage to pay for the hall hire and other attractions. Mr. Chubb reported that so far this year they have been ten pin bowling at Freshwater, arranged a visit from a local reptile company, children were allowed to handle reptiles ranging from a giant snail to a ten foot snake, they also explained how they live and what environments they come from. The Club has also taken part in football training and practical first aid training using the new defibrillator equipment. Planned events for the remaining year include a visit to a local farm zoo, a fundraising barbecue and a guided walk of the Drimpton Greenway Walk around the village and countryside. Mr. Chubb concluded that this was a successful Youth Club which does not cost the tax payer any money and which contributes revenue to local facilities.

15. BROADWINDSOR CRICKET CLUB

Councillor Andrew Frampton presented a report from the Broadwindsor Cricket Club. Councillor Frampton stated that the Club finished fourth in the League in the current season due to best players heading off to university and some retirements of stalwarts. Financially the Club is on a firm footing with all fund raising currently aimed towards buying a generator to provide electricity for the showers and lighting. Councillor Frampton reported that the Club has been awarded a grant of £500.00 from Dorset County Council to support the costs of children's cricket equipment and stated that Somerset Cricket Club were bringing it out in June to coincide with Broadwindsor Primary School's cricket training on Friday afternoons. Councillor Frampton also reported that the Club will be hosting local Primary Schools in a Tri Series Tournament.

16. BROADWINDSOR COMMUNITY SPORTSFIELD

Councillor David Leader presented the report for the Broadwindsor Community Sportsfield. Councillor Leader stated that Hursey Common was the only level field in Broadwindsor and provides recreational opportunities for playing football and for dog walking. Councillor Leader stated that problems of dog fouling on the Common had reduced. Councillor Leader also reported that the maintenance of the Common is carried out by a group of volunteers, who help with jobs such as grass cutting. Councillor Leader thanked the volunteers and stated that Hursey Common was an invaluable asset to the community.

17. LAUNCH OF THE NEW BROADWINDSOR GROUP PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Mrs. Helen Cudmore, Clerk to the Council presented this report. Mrs. Cudmore stated that she was pleased to formally launch the new Parish Council website at the Annual Parish Meeting and apologised that technical difficulties prevented her from showing the website on screen. Mrs. Cudmore stated that it was now a legal requirement for the Parish Council to publish certain information online to ensure that it is open and accountable. Parallel to this requirement was a commitment by the Council to improve its communication and active engagement and the website was a good starting point to achieve this. Mrs. Cudmore reported that the new website will provide full contact details for all Councillors, the agenda and approved minutes for each Meeting, information on planning applications being considered, the Council's budget and audit procedures as well as all the latest news and events. Mrs. Cudmore stated that the website was not fully populated and that this would be an ongoing process. Mrs. Cudmore provided the weblink and encouraged members of the community to go online and take a look at the site and also the new Facebook page which has been set up.

18. GUEST PRESENTATION, LIFE EDUCATION WESSEX

Jeanette Mcphail, General Manager of Life Education Wessex provided an overview of the role and work of the organisation. Life Education Wessex is an independent charity and delivers the UK's leading health, well-being and drug prevention education programme to children (aged 3 – 13) attending schools in Dorset, Somerset, Devon and Hampshire. Life Education delivers vital health messages to around 50,000 children annually, of which around 25,000 attend schools in Dorset, including Broadwindsor Primary. Programmes have achieved the Department of Health's Information Standard, a quality mark designed to recognise reliable sources of evidence based information.

The organisation's strap line is 'Helping Children Make Healthy Choices' and the programmes address many of the topical issues, including obesity, drugs, alcohol, smoking and emotional health and well-being. Programmes are delivered to children in mobile classrooms by specialist Educators, ably assisted by Harold the Giraffe (puppet)! Life education Wessex also have programmes for KS3 pupils (Years 7 & 8) which are delivered in the school classroom and focus on either alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs. In terms of funding, Life Education Wessex charges schools £335 per day, which is roughly half the actual cost. They have to raise the shortfall of just over £300 per day. Ms. Mcphail stated that they are very grateful for the support from Broadwindsor Group Parish Council. Councillor Hibbard thanked Ms. Mcphail for attending the Meeting and for providing such an informative presentation.

19. CLOSE

Councillor Hibbard stated that the Broadwindsor Grouped Parish area was a thriving community with so many wonderful people and assets working so well together. Councillor Hibbard encouraged members of the community to attend Parish Council Meetings and stated that he hoped to see more people. Councillor Hibbard thanked speakers, exhibitors and members of the public for attending the Meeting. The Annual Parish Meeting was formally closed at 9.25 pm.