



MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING 10 OCTOBER 2016

COMRADES HALL

PRESENT: Cllr. Rowland Hibbard (Chairman), Cllr. David Leader (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Tim Bassett, Cllr. Jenny Calverley, Cllr. Steve Chubb, Cllr. Lloyd Curtis, Cllr. David Chumbley, Cllr. Brian Hedditch, Cllr. Peter Hardwill, Cllr. Richard Mouldsdale, Cllr. Dorothy Rowe, Cllr. Jacqui Sewell, Cllr. Roger Smith.

ATTENDANCE: Helen Cudmore (Clerk).

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and was opened by the Chairman. There was one members of the public present. The Chairman formally welcomed new Councillors Mouldsdale and Rowe and Mr. Steve Chubb to the Meeting.

1. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Frampton and Tibballs and unanimously approved by the Council.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillor Hedditch declared an interest in Agenda Item 16b.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

A copy of the minutes from the Meeting held on 12 September 2016 was confirmed as a true record and signed by Councillor Hibbard and unanimously approved by the Council.

Resolved: The Council unanimously approved the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 September 2016.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Smith asked the Clerk if she had received any correspondence from Dorset Highways Authority with regard to the letter sent by the Parish Council concerning Springfield Farm. The Clerk stated that she had not but would contact the Authority again.

Councillor Calverley informed that due to recently moving house and now residing outside of the Grouped Parish area, she has tendered her resignation from the Council. Councillor Calverley thanked Members for making her feel very welcome and stated that she had greatly enjoyed her time as Councillor. Councillor Hibbard, on behalf of the Council, thanked Councillor Calverley for her service, Councillor Leader concurred that Councillor Calverley had been a great advocate for Seaborough and Councillor Sewell agreed.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no questions from the public.

a. Report from Councillor Knox

No report.

b. Report from Councillor Sewell

Councillor Sewell reported that she had attended the Party Conference during the previous week and had greatly enjoyed it. Councillor Sewell had attended a briefing on West Dorset District Council constitutional changes which will see the Executive change to a Management Committee, with a possible seven Members, instead of five. Councillor Sewell stated that the increase in Members will not mean an increase in the monetary remuneration paid out, although there will be an increase in costs relating to travel and administration. Councillor Sewell stated that the remit for the new Committee should be known by November 2016.

Councillor Sewell reported that she had that day, attended an event for all the 111 Councillors in the Tri-Partnership to discuss the local government reform proposals. Councillor Sewell stated that Parish Councils could be asked to take on more responsibilities and they will have to ensure that they receive more funds for doing so. Councillor Leader asked in which areas could Parish Councils take on more responsibilities, Councillor Sewell stated that some larger Councils own buildings and land and that this will be one of the areas discussed at the meeting arranged by Councillor Knox on 11 October. Councillor Hardwill stated that Parish Councillors take on their role in a voluntary capacity, they are not paid and Councillors should not take on jobs that fall outside of this voluntary remit. Councillor Hardwill stated that he supported the joining of the District and County Councils.

With regard to planning application WD/D/16/001654, Councillor Smith asked whether the Parish Council could write to support this application again as it had been refused. Councillor Sewell stated that the decision was in accordance with planning policy and she believed that the application would go to appeal.

c. Report from PCSO Alex Bishop

No report. Councillor Curtis informed of the retirement of PC Poole and Members agreed that a letter should be sent to thank him for his service and wish him well in his retirement.

Action: The Clerk to draft a letter on behalf of the Council to PC Poole.

d. Co-option to the Broadwindsor Group Parish Council

The Clerk reported that one expression of interest had been received for the vacant position on the Council for the Drimpton ward, from Mr. Steve Chubb, whom was present at the Meeting. The Clerk had circulated the letter from Mr. Chubb to Members prior to the Meeting and stated that if there were any questions from Members or from Mr. Chubb, that they could be asked at this time. There were no questions asked. Members were asked to propose, second and agree the co-option

Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Bassett, seconded by Councillor Smith and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved the co-option of Steve Chubb as Councillor for the Drimpton ward.

Councillor Chubb signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form, witnessed by the Clerk and was formally welcomed to the Council by Councillor Hibbard.

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTICES

The Clerk reported that she had emailed all communications received to date to Members and stated that these had been listed on the Agenda. The Clerk stated that she had also received emails from Ms. Debbie Redding and Sir Oliver Letwin MP regarding land searches and WDDC Planning Department service delivery and that these had been circulated. The Clerk stated that some items were covered in other parts of the Agenda and asked that she report on these matters later in the Meeting if this was agreeable with the Council, Members agreed.

f. Members of the Council expressed their support for providing a grant of £290.00 to Life Education Wessex and asked the Clerk to add this to the accounts for the November agenda.

Action: The Clerk to add payment of £290.00 to Life Education Wessex to the November agenda.

7. BEAMINSTER AND VILLAGES RURAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Councillor Hibbard welcomed Mrs. Rosemary Beeny, Chair of Beaminster and Villages Local Area Partnership (BAVLAP) to the Meeting. Mrs. Beeny thanked Members for allowing her to attend and provided a brief background on the role of BAVLAP. Mrs. Beeny stated that BAVLAP had produced a Rural Business Directory in 2011 and that they are now looking to update and publish a new edition. Mrs. Beeny asked whether the Parish Council could help with the identification of local businesses, these businesses would be offered a free listing without charge. Mrs. Beeny stated that the Directory would be available online as well as being accessible from estate agents, community shops etc. Mrs. Beeny stated that BAVLAP is looking for sponsorship and funding for the publication. Councillor Chubb stated that the Neighbourhood Plan Committee had been looking at local businesses and how to identify them. Members concurred that they would contact Mrs. Beeny with any known contact details for local businesses.

8. ACCOUNTS

a. Finance Report

The Clerk referred Members of the Council to a spreadsheet highlighting income and expenditure for the first and second quarter of 2016/2017, which had previously been circulated. The current balance as of 4 October 2016 was £36,145.49. There were no questions.

- b. To approve £276.00 for BDO (external audit fee)
- c. To approve £35.00 for Information Commissioners Office (data registration renewal)
- d. To approve £25.00 for Mrs. Tessa Pettingel (return of allotment deposit)
- e. To approve £597.60 for Robbie Roskell (MUGA architects fee)
- f. To approve £750.00 for Comrades Hall (grant)
- g. To approve £750.00 for Drimpton Village Hall (grant)
- h. To approve £550.00 for Blackdown Village Hall (grant)
- i. To approve £67.84 for Clerk's expenses (July, August and September)
- j. To approve £456.27 for Clerk's salary (quarterly adjustment)
- k. To approve £35.00 for DAPTC (training event for Clerk)

Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Bassett, seconded by Councillor Hedditch and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved payments b to k.

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. Applications Received and Circulated for Consultation

WD/D/16/00186, Sandpits Chicken Farm, Drimpton Road, Broadwindsor, DT8 3RB

The Clerk stated that this application was seeking to vary a condition on a previous approved application to allow the dwelling to be occupied by persons engaged in commercial business activities at Sandpits Poultry Farm. Councillor Sewell had been nominated as the lead Councillor. Councillor Sewell stated that this condition dated back to 1972 and since that time the nature of the business at this location had changed, moving from agriculture to the manufacturing and retailing of calf jackets. Councillor Sewell stated that the application was seeking a broadening of the condition and she welcomed the opportunity to do so as there are currently many dwellings vacant due to imposed, outdated agricultural ties. No objections were raised from Members of the Council.

WD/D/16/001910, Broadwindsor Group Parish Council/Broadwindsor School, Broadwindsor, DT8 3QL

Councillor Leader stated that he will draft a letter of support from the Parish Council in respect of this application and the Clerk will submit the corporate view. Other Members of the Council stated that they will submit individual letters of support. The Clerk read aloud a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery outlining their concerns and questions with regard to the proposed MUGA. Councillor Leader stated that he would reply to Mr. and Mrs. Jefferies on behalf of the Council.

WD/D/16/001044, Blackdown House, Coombe Water Lane, Blackdown, DT8 3LE (New Plans)

The Clerk explained that this application had been considered by the Council previously and that revised plans had been submitted by the applicant. The Clerk stated that Councillor Hardwill had been asked to review the application. Councillor Hardwill stated that the revised plans did not significantly change the application and that he could not see any reason to raise an objection. Councillor Hibbard stated that the applicant was an asset to Blackdown House.

WD/D/16/001940, Broadwindsor Craft and Design Centre, Redlands Lane, Broadwindsor, DT8 3PX

The Clerk stated that this application had only just been received and that she had asked for and been granted an extension to the deadline in order for the Council to carry out community wide consultation. Councillor Leader agreed to be the lead Councillor and stated that this was a new outline planning application and that no detailed scaled plans had been submitted. Councillor Leader provided a brief overview of the proposal which is seeking approval for up to five dwellings on the land which is currently used as a car park for the Broadwindsor Craft and Design Centre. Councillor Sewell stated that the application does not include social housing, which is allowed due to recent changes in legislation. Members of the Council stated that they found it difficult to make an informed judgement due to the lack of scaled drawings and not knowing the size of the proposed dwellings. Councillor Hardwill stated that selling land with outline planning approval is of great advantage to the land owner.

Councillor Leader stated that the Council had considered the previous application as an overdevelopment of the land and it was welcomed that this proposal had reduced the

number of dwellings. Councillor Curtis stated that five dwellings, whatever the exact size would be too many for the land in question and would like to see the number reduced to four, he also questioned the capacity of the current sewage infrastructure to cope. Councillor Mouldsdales stated that there was a need for social housing and it was regrettable that the new proposal had now removed this. Councillor Hardwill stated that he supported social housing if in keeping with the local area.

The Clerk was asked to contact West Dorset District Council Planning Department to seek further information on the likely size of the proposed dwellings and it was agreed that the application will be considered at the November Meeting.

Action: The Clerk to contact WDDC and add this application to the November agenda.

b. Other Applications

None.

c. Results

The Clerk reported the following planning results.

WD/D/16/000836, Sikas Valley, Broadwindsor, DT8 3QR: Approved

WD/D/16/001654, 1 Bridge Cottages, Greenham Lane, Greenham, Crewkerne, TA18 8QE:
Refused

WD/D/16/00298, Koppertre, Clanden Hill, Broadwindsor, DT8 3PX: Approved

Councillor Sewell stated that she welcomed the appointment of Mr. Darren Rogers, who will have responsibility for the Grouped Parish area as he has considerable planning experience and is local to the area.

d. West Dorset District Council Local Searches

The Clerk made reference to the replies received to the Parish Council letter regarding local searches, from West Dorset District Council and from Sir Oliver Letwin MP. Councillor Smith stated that the Parish Council should review lead times for local searches in a month's time.

Action: The Clerk to contact WDDC in November for an update on local searches.

10. CONSULTATIONS

a. Reshaping Your Councils

The Clerk reminded Members that the deadline for this consultation was 25 October and that an information event was being hosted by Councillor Knox on 11 October at Drimpton Village Hall. All Members were welcome to attend.

b. Clinical Services Review

The Clerk informed that this consultation had still not been launched and that she would keep the Council updated.

c. The Local Government Finance Settlement

The Clerk referred Members to an email previously circulated regarding the extension of council tax referendum principles to local parish and town councils. The Clerk stated that NALC is strongly opposed to this proposal namely as it would inhibit the freedom and

flexibility of councils to raise the money needed to invest in important local projects and services, especially at a time when town and parish councils are being asked to take on a greater role in the delivery of services. The Clerk stated that although the proposal was currently being considered for those councils with a much larger precept and income, smaller councils were also referred to in the Government's consultation paper. The Clerk stated that the deadline for the consultation was 28 October. Councillors Hibbard and Leader stated that it was very important to retain the ability to set the precept.

11. WEBSITE UPDATE

The Clerk reported that she is continuing to add content to the website and will shortly be taking a selection of new images for the site to reflect the changing season. The Clerk stated that she was aware that the site was still slow to load and would try and resolve this. Councillor Chubb asked whether the CLT could have a page on the Council website, the Clerk agreed to action.

Action: The Clerk to create a page for the CLT on the Council website.

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Councillor Hibbard reported that the questionnaire has now been distributed within the Grouped Parish area and that local collections are taking place at different, agreed times. Collation will take place and the results will be discussed at the next meeting on 28 November.

13. EMERGENCY PLAN

Although absent from the Meeting, Councillor Tibballs had provided an update and had stated that she was still arranging the first meeting of an Emergency Plan Working Group. Councillor Hibbard stated he would contact Councillor Tibballs to offer support with this and that the item would be discussed at the November Meeting.

14. ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk stated that she had identified the owner of the dog that had been seen on the Allotments and would shortly be writing to them. Councillor Chubb stated that the hedge at the rear of the allotments required cutting, Councillor Curtis stated that this had recently been done by Councillor Frampton. Councillor Hardwill stated that the Council had agreed at a previous Meeting that Mr. Colin Penney would be contracted to cut the hedge on an annual basis. Councillor Hardwill stated that the bottom hedge was looking untidy and should also be maintained. It was agreed to review this at the next Meeting.

Action: The Clerk to add this matter to the November agenda.

15. HIGHWAYS

a. Review and update of existing reported highways problems

The Clerk referred Members to a spreadsheet as previously circulated highlighting all known reported highways problems and asked if there were any additions or updates.

Action: The Clerk to send spreadsheet to Mr. Blair Turner and Councillor Knox.

b. Review of safety of entry/exit points into Broadwindsor

Councillor Curtis stated that the post close to the school is still missing and as part of the Safe Route to School scheme, should be installed and a priority sign should be erected as the safety of children is being put at risk. Councillor Leader stated that this had been requested on several occasions and that a strongly worded letter should be sent stating that if this is not actioned then the Parish Council will do it. Members of the Council were asked to review entrance and exits points to the village and report back at the next Meeting in November. Councillor Curtis and Councillor Rowe stated that they had seen cars overtaking by the School and that this was unacceptable. Councillor Sewell suggested that Speedwatch be contacted and the Clerk agreed to do this.

Action: The Clerk to write a letter to Highways to raise the issues as outlined above. Members of the Council to review exit/entrance points. The Clerk to contact Susannah Newall with regard to an update from the Speedwatch Team.

c. Repair of village road signs

Councillor Leader stated that the Highways Authority does not have the budget to repair road signs that are not located on a major highway and stated that the Parish Council should consider taking on this responsibility. Councillor Hibbard stated that these signs were important to local cultural heritage and were very much needed. Councillor Hedditch asked the Council whether he could have permission for his son to repair a broken Drimpton sign, all Members agreed.

Councillor Curtis asked if it would be possible to have additional grit bags delivered to himself and Councillor Hardwill as had been done in previous years to ensure that the Grouped Parish area had extra grit on hand if required this Winter. It was agreed that four bags would be needed. The Clerk agreed to contact Dorset Highways Authority to arrange this.

Action: The Clerk to contact Dorset Highways to order four extra grit bags.

The Clerk stated that she had received an email from Dorset Waste Partnership with regard to an enquiry that they had received from Michele Sweetman reporting that a bin had been removed from the top of Trusthams. The Clerk asked Members whether they could recall whether it had been installed by the Parish Council, Members could not. The Clerk stated that she would speak with Dorset County Council in order to progress a reply for Michele Sweetman.

Action: The Clerk to contact Dorset County Council to confirm ownership of bin.

The Clerk also informed Members of a new information portal established by Dorset Highways Authority to provide Parish Councils with improved access to Highways documents. The Clerk asked Members if they wished to have individual access to this resource or would prefer the Clerk to review and pass on relevant information, the latter was agreed. Councillor Hibbard stated that he had been contacted by Mr. Stewart Urry with regard to repairing a road sign in Hursey, Councillor Chumbley stated that this was already being done and that he would contact Mr. Urry to update him.

16. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

a. CLT Public Meeting 13 September 2016

Councillor Hedditch abstained from this agenda item.

Councillor Leader stated that the public meeting held on 13 September at Drimpton Village Hall was well attended and that the majority of people were in support of the identified site in Netherhay.

Councillor Bassett stated that he found the information presented at the meeting misleading and that many residents in Drimpton feel that the Community Land Trust is moving forward without a mandate. Councillor Bassett stated that he found the plan which was not to scale difficult to understand and he questioned why open market housing was now being discussed. Councillor Leader stated that the plan was indicative and did not show how houses would be configured as this was a matter for further discussion. Councillor Leader stated that open market housing would only be considered if there were insufficient Government funds to allow the project to go ahead. Councillor Smith stated that he noted that many of the people attending the meeting were not from Drimpton and that residents did not know beforehand that a vote would take place and were not sure what the vote was actually for.

Councillor Bassett stated that he did not believe that all of the affordable housing need for the Grouped Parish area should be placed in one location and asked Councillor Leader whether affordable housing is planned for other villages. Councillor Leader stated that he agreed that a site in Broadwindsor would be preferential but unfortunately at this point in time, only one land owner is prepared to sell land at a rate which will allow affordable housing to be developed. Councillor Bassett asked whether the allotment land had been considered as an option, Councillor Chubb stated that many options had been looked at but the slope of the terrain made the site economically unviable. Councillor Chubb stated that the people who would live in these houses would be local working people and families.

Councillor Bassett stated that there was much ill feeling in Drimpton with regard to the CLT proposal. Councillor Leader stated that he understands that there is a difference of views, that there will be further discussions and that the development would only go ahead if the community wants it to.

The Clerk read aloud the letters from Mr. Robert and Mrs. Ann Harris to West Dorset District Council, copied to the Chairman of the Broadwindsor Group Parish Council, dated 21 September 2016. The letters outlined their concerns about the identified site in Netherhay.

Councillor Hibbard read aloud a letter from Ms. Shirley Gibbs received on 19 September outlining her concerns on the way in which the CLT meeting was held and questioning whether the Parish Council had executed its duties appropriately. Councillor Leader stated that he had written to Ms. Gibbs to address the parts of the letter relating to the CLT Meeting. Councillor Hedditch asked the Chairman if he could address the Council, this was agreed. Councillor Hedditch stated that he rebuked the claims set out in this letter and stated that he had declared an interest when it was required. The Clerk stated that the Parish Council had never been asked to vote or take a decision relating to the CLT and the selection of a site for development and that reports were provided for information only. It was agreed that the Clerk and Chairman would reply to Ms. Gibbs.

Action: The Clerk and Chairman to draft a reply to Ms. Gibbs.

17. LEISURE

a. MUGA Planning Application

This item was discussed under Agenda item 9a.

18. MATTERS OF INTEREST AND INFORMATION

a. Items for Next Agenda from Members of the Council

b. Items for Next Agenda from Members of the Public

None.

19. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no questions.

20. THE FMR TRUST

a. To receive the Finance Report

The Clerk referred Trustees to a spreadsheet highlighting income and expenditure for the first and second quarter of 2016/2017, which had previously been circulated. The current balance as of 4 October 2016 was £4,448.02. There were no questions.

b. To approve payment of £176.13 for Broadwindsor Group Parish Council (quarterly % of Clerk's salary for administration of the Trust)

Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Sewell, seconded by Councillor Chumbley and agreed by a show of hands, the FMR Trust unanimously approved payment b.

21. CLOSE

The Council Meeting was formally closed at 10.10 pm and the FMR Trust Meeting was formally closed at 10.15 pm.