



**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING 11 JULY 2016**  
**DRIMPTON VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:** Cllr. Rowland Hibbard (Chairman), Cllr. David Leader (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Tim Bassett, Cllr. Jenny Calverley, Cllr. Brian Hedditch, Cllr. Andrew Frampton, Cllr. Peter Hardwill, Cllr. Jacqui Sewell.

**ATTENDANCE:** Helen Cudmore (Clerk).

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and was opened by the Chairman. There were three members of the public present.

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**1. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from PCSO Alex Bishop, Councillor Chumbley, Councillor Tibballs, Councillor Saunders and Councillor Smith and unanimously approved by the Council.

**2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

None.

**3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Councillor Sewell stated that Councillor Tibballs should not have seconded the payments at the last Meeting as she was a payee. This was duly noted by the Clerk. A copy of the minutes from the Meeting held on 13 June 2016 was then confirmed as a true record and signed by Councillor Hibbard.

**Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Leader, seconded by Councillor Bassett and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 June 2016.**

**4. MATTERS ARISING**

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter of resignation from Councillor Saunders who was standing down from his position with effect from 12 July 2016 due to ill health.

Councillor Hardwill asked if any dates had been agreed for the Parishes meeting as discussed at the previous Meeting, Councillor Hibbard stated that he had contacted Councillor Knox and was awaiting confirmation.

Councillor Sewell asked why the Clerk did not report that she was absent at the last Meeting because she had to attend statutory licensing training in Weymouth under Public Participation/Report from West Dorset District Councillor. The Clerk stated that she had reported this to Members under Apologies.

## **5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No questions were asked by members of the public.

### **a. Report from Councillor Knox**

No report.

### **b. Report from Councillor Sewell**

Councillor Sewell stated West Dorset District Council is exploring Tri Council Partnership and Unitary structure options with regard to the future governance structure for the County. Councillor Sewell reported that she had been asked to reside on the Shaping Dorset's Future Board along with Councillor Fred Horsington and Councillor Timothy Yarker and she will ensure that rural areas are not ignored. Councillor Hardwill asked about other members of the Board, Councillor Sewell stated that there would be representation from business and education as well as County Councillors.

Councillor Calverley stated that the time taken for the Planning Department at West Dorset District Council to complete searches, usually between ten and sixteen weeks is unacceptable, Councillor Sewell concurred. Councillor Calverley stated that at South Somerset District Council, searches only take approximately ten days and asked that this issue be placed upon the Parish Council's agenda for each Meeting. Members agreed that a letter should be sent to WDDC, Councillor Sewell stated that in addition to the letter being sent to Jean Marshall, it should also be copied to the Chief Executive Officer and Oliver Letwin MP.

**Action: The Clerk to draft a letter to WDDC to highlight these concerns.**

Councillor Sewell reported that on 11 May there had been a successful challenge in the High Court with regard to the social housing contribution and that previous Government policy which allowed builders developing sites of fewer than ten homes will no longer have to make an affordable homes contribution.

Councillor Sewell reported the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – the charge that local authorities can set on new development in order to raise funds to help fund infrastructure, facilities and services comes into force on 18 July. The charge for West Dorset will be £100 per square metre. Councillor Sewell stated that this will not be payable for those buildings which have been in use before 2007. Councillor Sewell stated that she would forward further information to Members.

**Action: Councillor Sewell to forward CIL information to Members of the Council.**

Councillor Hardwill stated that the current bus service 96/96A does not actually go through the village of Drimpton, but travels along Netherhay Lane which is not useful to local residents. Councillor Bassett stated that the bus cannot turn left into Crewkerne Road as the junction is too tight for the size of the vehicle. Councillor Bassett suggested an alternative route of the bus travelling down Netherhay Lane and then turning right into the village. Councillor Sewell stated the bus has to be that size to allow for disabled access and that buses were the responsibility of Dorset County Council and not the District Council.

**Action: The Clerk to draft a letter to South West Coaches to propose an amendment to the current route.**

Councillor Hedditch reported that the signpost at the crossroads in Drimpton was broken. Councillor Hardwill stated that fingerposts are now the responsibility of the AONB and not

the County Council and they have to be paid for. Councillor Leader stated that he recalled Councillor Knox reporting that only signage on A and B roads would be paid for by the County Council and suggested that the Parish Council may have to take on responsibility for their repair. Councillor Hedditch stated that the signs can be repaired easily and at little cost. Mr. Steve Chubb stated that the bench sited near to the letterbox in Drimpton was broken and asked who was responsible for this. Members agreed to review this and report back.

**Action: The Clerk to contact Councillor Knox for an update on the repair of the Broadwindsor fingerpost as previously raised by Councillor Chumbley. Drimpton Councillors to report back on the broken bench.**

#### **c. Report from the PCSO Alex Bishop**

In the absence of PCSO Bishop, the Clerk read aloud a report which had been forwarded. In the last couple of weeks, there has been a small spate of non-dwelling burglaries around the Beaminster area, a few power tools and mowers have been stolen. The Police have a suspect who is outstanding as he has no fixed abode and moves around the area a lot. The Police advise anyone who has sheds/garages or other outbuildings in which they store similar items, or items of value, to consider their security and request a security advice visit if needed.

### **6. CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTICES**

The Clerk read aloud a letter sent by Councillor Saunders in which he thanked Members of the Council for their support and guidance during his period of service. Members of the Council expressed their gratitude to Councillor Saunders stating that he had been an excellent public servant.

**Action: The Clerk to write to Councillor Saunders to thank him for his period of service on the Council.**

### **7. ACCOUNTS**

#### **a. Finance Report**

The Clerk referred Members of the Council to a spreadsheet highlighting income and expenditure for the first quarter of 2016/2017, which had previously been circulated. The current balance as of 30 June was £26,765.61. There were no questions.

- b. To approve £35.00 for DAPTC (Chairman training event)
- c. To approve £27.59 for Community First (All risks cover for football goals at Hursey Common)
- d. To approve £3.94 for HMRC (PAYE)
- e. To approve £25.00 for Mr & Mrs Meakin (allotment deposit)
- f. To approve £624.37 for Clerk's Salary (Adjustment for April, May and June)
- g. To approve £22.49 for Clerk's Expenses (June)

The Clerk asked that item 7e be removed from the agenda as she had been informed by the Broadwindsor Allotment Group that the Plot had not been well maintained and had not been left tidy.

**Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Bassett, seconded by Councillor Sewell and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved payments b, c, d, f and g.**

## **8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

### **a. Applications Received and Circulated for Consultation**

#### **WD/D/16/000906, Unit 5 Horn Park Quarry Business Park, DT8 3PT**

The Clerk reported that this application is seeking retrospective approval for the erection of two advertising boards at the entrance to the business park and that Councillor Sewell had been asked to be the lead Councillor. Councillor Sewell stated that the signage has been in place for the last two years and that no complaints have been raised by the neighbouring property and that she could not see any reason for raising an objection.

#### **WD/D/16/000836, Sikas Valley, Broadwindsor, DT8 3QR**

The Clerk reported that this application is seeking approval for the erection of a mobile home for an equestrian worker and that Councillor Leader had been asked to be the lead Councillor. Councillor Leader welcomed the applicant Miss Wendy Southcombe to the Meeting and stated that she would be very happy to answer any questions. Councillor Leader stated that Miss Southcombe operates a successful equine physiotherapy business from this site and that there is a need for her to live onsite in order to provide twenty-four hour care and security for the race horses that she is working with. Councillor Leader stated that there is not existing housing on this site, just buildings relating to the business. Councillor Leader stated that a supporting document had been provided by Roger Sewill outlining the need for the mobile home.

Councillor Sewell stated that if approval was granted, West Dorset District Council may impose a time restriction and a business tie and stated that she would be happy to attend any meetings to support the application. Councillor Frampton stated that the application supports good animal husbandry. Councillor Calverley asked Miss Southcombe if living onsite would increase the volume of horses using the public highway. Miss Southcombe stated that the proposal should not have any impact at all on the number of horses on the road but would reduce the amount of travelling for herself

Councillor Leader stated that he could not see any reason for raising an objection to this application. Councillor Leader reported that there are two neighbouring properties, and that he had not managed at this time, to speak to them about the application. Councillor Leader stated that he would do so before submitting final comments to the Clerk for submission to West Dorset District Council.

### **b. Other applications**

#### **WD/CA/16/00221, St. Albans Cottage, West Street, Broadwindsor DT8 3QQ**

The Clerk reported that this application is seeking approval to fell a Cypress which is subject to a tree preservation order and that Councillor Leader had been asked to be the lead Councillor. Councillor Leader reported that the tree is long established and attractive but according to the owner of the property is causing damage to drains on the land. Councillor Leader had spoken with the neighbouring property and although they believed that it would be a shame to lose the tree, understood why the application was being made and raised no formal objections.

### **c. Results**

The Clerk reported the following result.

#### **WD/D/16/001005, Seaborough Manor Farm, Seaborough, DT8 3QY: Approved**

Councillor Leader stated that the Council has spent a great deal of time and effort discussing this particular application and the wider issues relating to the growing equestrian industry in and around Seaborough and that he was appalled that West Dorset District Council has not taken any of the Council's comments into consideration when approving this application. Councillor Hibbard read aloud the comments submitted to West Dorset District Council from the Parish Council which clearly outlined areas of concern. Councillor Leader questioned the value of providing a corporate view for the Planning Department if such comments are ignored or not addressed. Councillor Calverley expressed her concerns for public safety. Members of the Council agreed that a letter should be drafted and sent to the Head of Planning and Councillor Sewell stated that it should be sent to Mr. Martin Underhill, Police and Crime Commissioner for Dorset.

**Action: The Clerk to draft a letter to West Dorset District Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dorset outlining concerns as cited above.**

### **9. CO-OPTION UPDATE**

The Clerk reported that the deadline for expressions of interest for the two Broadwindsor ward vacancies was the 12 July and to date she had received three applications from Ms. Dorothy Rowe, Mr. Malcolm Heaver and Mr. Richard Mouldsdale. The Clerk stated that all applications will be discussed at the Meeting on 12 September and that all candidates have been invited to attend. The Clerk stated that she will circulate letters and CVs after the formal deadline has passed.

**Action: The Clerk to circulate all expressions of interest received to Members of the Council.**

### **10. WEBSITE UPDATE**

The Clerk reported that she is continuing to add content to the website and hopes to complete population of the site over the summer. The Clerk encouraged Members to look at the site and also visit the Council's Facebook page.

### **11. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Councillor Hibbard reported that progress is being made and that the Committee has now been operating for a year. Councillor Hibbard stated that the questionnaire is now ready and awaiting final approval from the consultant. Councillor Bassett stated that he has been tasked with compiling a list of local businesses operating within the grouped parish area and that this was proving quite difficult. Councillor Bassett asked Members to email him with business contacts and stated that the questionnaire will be delivered through letterboxes and available online.

### **12. PARTNERING AGREEMENTS**

No report, this item will be added to the September agenda.

### **13. EMERGENCY PLAN**

No report, this item will be added to the September agenda.

### **14. ALLOTMENTS**

The Clerk reported that there have been changes to tenancies and that an updated Plotholder list will be available soon.

### **15. HIGHWAYS**

#### **a. DAPTC West Meeting 28 July 2016**

The Clerk reported that as previously circulated to Members, a DAPTC West Area Meeting will be held on 28 July and at that meeting important changes to Highways service provision will be discussed. The Clerk stated that the Council can send two representatives to attend and that the meeting has been flagged as important to Parish Councils. It was agreed that the Clerk should email the date and details of the Meeting again.

**Action: The Clerk to re-circulate DAPTC meeting information to Members of the Council.**

Councillor Hardwill commented on the efficient service delivery of Dorset Highways.

The Clerk reported that a meeting between Dorset Highways and Mr. Mark Vickery will be taking place in Dorchester and that it was now not necessary for a Member of the Parish Council to attend. Dorset Highways has agreed to report back to the Clerk.

Councillor Frampton stated that a road sign had fallen into a hedge at the junction of Pound Lane and Grange Lane which needs to be reinstated. Councillor Hibbard asked that this be reported using the online system. Councillor Sewell stated the Birdsmoorgate/Lyme Regis sign at Grange Lodge/Mains Cross was now difficult to read.

### **16. AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

In respect of the Community Land Trust, Councillor Leader reported that legal matters were still being progressed between the Trust and the land owner, an agreement was in place but had not yet been signed. Councillor Leader stated that there will be a public meeting.

Councillor Hardwill asked if Members were aware of any issues facing the development industry, Councillor Sewell stated that she had not heard anything and that West Dorset is not dependent upon any grants from the European Union.

### **17. LEISURE**

#### **a. MUGA Presentation 5 July 2016**

Councillor Leader reported that the MUGA meeting had gone well and was attended by approximately a hundred people. Councillor Leader stated that there had been a good question and answer session and that there was a sense of overriding support for the project. Councillor Leader stated that the next step would be for the Council to submit a planning application and there would of course be the opportunity for people to comment independently. Councillor Leader also stated that he had a general discussion with Sport England and that the position with grants looks positive.

**Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Leader, seconded by Councillor Bassett and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously agreed to move forward with a planning application for the MUGA project.**

Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Leader for organising the meeting and for his efforts with the project.

## **18. MATTERS OF INTEREST AND INFORMATION**

### **a. Items for Next Agenda from Members of the Council**

Councillor Calverley asked that planning searches be added to each Council agenda, Councillor Sewell asked that the Christmas social also be added.

### **b. Items for Next Agenda from Members of the Public**

No comments were made by members of the public.

## **19. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No comments were made by members of the public.

**Members of the public and Councillors Calverley and Frampton left the Meeting.**

## **20. THE FMR TRUST**

### **a. To receive the Finance Report**

The Clerk referred Trustees to a spreadsheet highlighting income and expenditure for the first quarter of 2016/2017, which had previously been circulated. The current balance as of 30 June was £4310.71. The Clerk highlighted the value of shares as of 31 March 2016 as £72,921.13. There were no questions.

b. To consider an application from Broadwindsor School for £400.00 towards a drama specialist

c. To consider an application from Drimpton and Netherhay Youth Club for £120.00 for a visit to Axe Valley Wildlife Park

d. To approve payment of £192.94 for Broadwindsor Group Parish Council (% of Clerk's salary for administration of the Trust)

**Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Hibbard, seconded by Councillor Sewell and agreed by a show of hands, the FMR Trust unanimously approved payments b, c and d.**

Councillor Leader stated that if planning permission was granted for the MUGA project then its core objectives would very much fall within the remit of the FMR Trust and asked whether funds should be set aside on an ongoing basis to support the project going forward. Councillor Hardwill stated that the application does need to be approved in the first instance before funding from the FMR Trust is discussed and expressed his concern that ring-fencing funds may restrict other projects from coming forward in the future. Councillor Sewell asked how much the FMR Trust had paid to projects over the last five years, the Clerk agreed to find out and report back to Members.

**Action: The Clerk to report back on FMR Trust expenditure for the last five years.**

## **21. CLOSE**

The Council Meeting was formally closed at 8.40 pm and the FMR Trust Meeting closed at 8.57 pm.