



MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING 11 MARCH 2019

COMRADES HALL

PRESENT: Cllr. Rowland Hibbard (Chairman), Cllr. David Leader (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Steve Chubb, Cllr. David Chumbley, Cllr. Lloyd Curtis, Cllr. Andrew Frampton, Cllr. Peter Hardwill, Cllr. Brian Hedditch, Cllr. Susanna Laurie, Cllr. Kevin Madder-Smith, 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 were nine members of the public present. Councillor Hibbard welcomed Councillors and members of the public to the Meeting. Councillor Hibbard proposed and it was agreed that those members of the public wishing to speak on matters relating to Agenda Item 8a may address the Council under Agenda Item 5.

1. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Bassett and Bodycombe and unanimously approved by the Parish Council.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS, DISPENSATIONS AND REGISTER OF INTERESTS UPDATES

a. To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors and employees on matters to be considered at the Meeting.

Councillor Hedditch declared an interest in Agenda Item 8a (WD/D/19/000314) and 17a. Councillor Hibbard declared an interest in Agenda Item 8a (WD/D/19/000314).

b. To receive requests for dispensations.

None.

c. To grant any requests for dispensation.

None.

d. To receive any updates to the Register of Interests from Councillors.

No updates were received.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes from the Meeting held on 11 February 2019 were confirmed as a true record and signed by Councillor Hibbard and unanimously approved by the Council.

4. MATTERS ARISING

None.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public were invited to address the Council by Councillor Hibbard.

With regard to Agenda Item 8a, WD/D/19/000476, a member of the public stated that he was concerned that the proposals would have a negative impact upon the value of his property and a negative visual impact. The member of the public stated that he had viewed plans but there was no reference to scale and it was difficult to understand the size of the proposed structure. Another member of the public stated that he was concerned about the height of the proposed garages and the loss of light and subsequent impact on property values. He stated that the plans showed a pitched roof and questioned whether a flat roof would be more suitable. The applicants were present at the Meeting and stated that they would take all comments on board and that their architect would be addressing all enquiries. Councillor Rowe reported that she and Councillor Madder-Smith had as part of the consultation process, visited the site, reviewed plans and spoken to neighbours. Councillor Rowe stated that there did not seem to be any objections in relation to the extension of the main house and that most concerns related to the construction of the garages, in terms of their proximity to neighbouring boundaries, increased noise levels from the proposed workshop, loss of light and an increased risk of flooding into neighbouring properties. Councillor Rowe confirmed that it was proposed to leave a 1.5m gap between the rear of the garages and the end of the garden. Councillor Rowe stated that she had advised that any concerns be sent independently to West Dorset District Council.

A member of the public asked whether it would be possible to add some form of screening behind the garages, both to visually shield the building and to soak up excess water. The applicants stated that this could be considered and stated that for the purpose of the application process, this level of information was not required. The applicants stated that it was proposed that the roof of the garages would be a cat-slide pitched roof, with height ranging from 1 metre to less than 4 metres.

Councillor Curtis stated that the application should include plans for water harvesting and stated that excess water should not be allowed to go into the main sewerage system. The applicants stated that there was going to be a soak away. The applicants stated that if approval was granted then further details would be produced for building consent. Councillor Chubb stated that it would perhaps be helpful if the applicants and those with any concerns get together with detailed plans and look at the proposals again. Councillor Hibbard thanked all those who had attended the Meeting and addressed the Council.

a. Report from Councillor Knox

No report. Councillor Hardwill stated that he had sent Councillor Knox an email raising the concerns that he had expressed at the February Meeting. Councillor Hardwill stated that he had received a reply and would forward to the Clerk.

b. Report from Councillor Sewell

Councillor Sewell reported that she had attended a meeting of the Shadow Executive that day and stated that although she had now resigned from the Conservative Group, she had been asked to remain and serve on the Communications Group and sit as an Independent. Councillor Sewell stated that she was pleased to report that with regard to safeguarding children as discussed at the Shadow Executive Meeting, that there will be Pan-Dorset department and that service users will be involved in a new working group and have a real input. Councillor Sewell also stated that Dorset had successfully been awarded £4.1 million for Highways patching work but stated that unfortunately, none of the money had been allocated for the Grouped Parish area.

c. Report from Dorset Police

No report.

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTICES

a. Beaminster Museum, Receipt of Grant and Thanks

The Clerk reported that a letter of thanks for the grant had been received from Beaminster Museum and read aloud the letter to Members of the Council.

7. ACCOUNTS

a. The Finance Report

The Clerk referred Members of the Council to a spreadsheet highlighting income and expenditure for the first, second, third and fourth (part) quarters of 2018/2019, which had previously been circulated. The current balance as of the 28 February 2019 was £68,414.03 which included £52,823.00 of ring-fenced funds for the MUGA project and Fingerpost restoration programme. There were no questions.

b. To approve payment of £100.00 for Bridport & District CAB (Grant)

c. To approve payment of £613.20 for Dorset Planning Consultant (Neighbourhood Plan)

d. To approve payment of £718.72 for Broadwindsor Cricket Club (£106 Grant)

e. To approve payment of £363.16 for Broadwindsor Speedwatch Equipment

f. To approve payment of £40.00 for DAPTC (Training Event)

g. To approve payment of £118.80 for Total Web Solutions (Website Hosting)

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

The Clerk reported that Councillor Leader had received a request from the Broadwindsor Speedwatch Group for additional equipment. Councillor Leader stated that it was becoming difficult and ineffective for the Broadwindsor and Drimpton Groups to share resources.

Resolved: Proposed by Councillor Chubb, seconded by Councillor Rowe and agreed by a show of hands, the Council unanimously approved payment e.

Councillor Chubb asked if the Speedwatch device could be used in a 20mph area, Councillor Sewell confirmed that it could be.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. Applications Received and Circulated for Consultation

WD/D/19/000383, Southdene, West Swillets Road, Seaborough, DT8 3QY

Councillor Laurie stated that she had visited the applicants and reported that the planned extension would have very little visual impact. Councillor Laurie stated that the existing ground floor front extension had to be demolished as the foundations would not be sufficient for the new extension which would be two-storey. Councillor Laurie stated that the applicants had considerably improved the property since moving there and that they were not overlooking or overlooked by other properties. Councillor Laurie stated that she could see no reason to raise any objections to the application and that it should be supported by the Parish Council.

WD/D/19/000314, Silverhay Farm, Netherhay, Drimpton, DT8 3RHn

Councillor Hedditch left the Meeting Room. Councillor Chumbley stated that he had been appointed as the lead Councillor in the consultation process and as such had visited the site and spoken with the applicants. Councillor Chumbley stated that the proposed dwelling would be the last property on the Lane and as such only impacted upon Silverhay itself. Councillor Chumbley stated that the proposed dwelling would not present an increase in existing traffic using the access road. Councillor Chumbley stated that he could not see any reason to raise an objection to this application.

WD/D/18/000053, Hillside, Stony Knaps, Winsham, Chard, TA20 4NY

Councillor Hibbard stated that the Parish Council had consulted on this application previously and were now being asked to provide its corporate view again due to a proposed decrease in the size of the extension. Councillor Hibbard stated that there had not been any concerns from neighbours and that he could see no reason for the Parish Council to raise any objections.

WD/D/19/000476, Nethercroft, West Street, Broadwindsor, DT8 3QQ

Councillor Rowe asked for clarification of the role of the Parish Council in the planning consultation process. Councillor Hibbard stated that the Council in its response will raise the matters as brought forward by members of the community. Councillor Hibbard stated that in the case of this application, the height of the roof of the garages, the loss of light and potential flooding risk would all be included within the Council's corporate view. Councillor Curtis stated that that the size of the proposed garages caused concern and wondered whether further development and conversion into a dwelling would be applied for. Councillor Curtis reiterated the need for a suitable water harvesting system to be included. Councillor Chubb stated that the Parish Council can use its local knowledge and highlight issues such as flooding

to the District Council. Councillor Leader stated that permission is required to fell trees located within a conservation area.

b. Other Applications

None.

c. Results

The Clerk reported the following results:

WD/D/18/001860, Land at Old Village Hall, Seaborough, DT8 3QY: Certificate of Lawful Use or Development Granted

WD/D/18/002598, Bridge Farm, Chard Road, Drimpton, DT8 3RF: Approved

WD/D/18/002105, Broadwindsor Craft and Design Centre, Redlands Lane, Broadwindsor, DT8 3PX: Approved (Reserved Matters)

d. Land Searches

The Clerk reported that following on from the article that she had forwarded regarding land searches, she had received information from West Dorset Council which confirmed that there is now no longer a back log. The Clerk stated that the current turnaround time for searches to be completed was currently between three and five working days with a maximum of ten working days. Councillor Hibbard stated that the significant improvement in service was to be welcomed and asked the Council whether a letter of congratulations should be sent to the District Council. All Members concurred.

Action: The Clerk to draft a letter to West Dorset District Council.

9. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Clerk reported that the date for the Annual Parish Meeting had been set for Tuesday 7 May at Comrades Hall and stated that she had sent an email to all those organisations which had presented at last year's meeting informing them of the date. The Clerk asked for suggestions for a key speaker, the Dog Warden and a representative from the new Dorset Council were put forward. The Clerk agreed to approach the Dog Warden and issue an invitation.

10. DORSET ELECTIONS

The Clerk reported that the election for the new Dorset Council and all parish and town councils will take place on 2 May and stated that she had forwarded information on the nomination process and key dates to all Councillors by email. The Clerk stated that she would be adding content to the website informing the public of the role of a councillor and the process should they wish to stand. Councillor Hibbard stated that Councillor Smith had made it known that he would not be putting himself forward for the next term. Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Smith for his hard work and commitment to the Council, all Members concurred.

11. GROUP PARISH WELCOME PACK

Councillor Rowe stated that she had been in contact with Mr. Hookings and obtained the full set of quotations for the printing of the welcome pack. Councillor Chubb asked whether information should just be made available online as most people moving to a new area seem to carry out their own research online. Councillor Rowe stated that she had spoken to some members of the community who welcomed the production of the pack. Councillor Hibbard stated that if the information was online, it could be updated easily and printed off for those requiring a hard copy. Councillor Rowe stated that there was much to consider and that the Working Group would take these points on board.

12. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM UPDATE

The Clerk reported that a special meeting of the Dorset Shadow Council would be held on 14 March and that the main item of business would be a Motion with Notice, which relates to the way in which town and parish councils have been involved and engaged by the Dorset Shadow Council. The Clerk informed that Beaminster Town Council had offered to use their Community Bus to transport Councillors and Clerks wishing to attend.

13. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS

a. Future Support Arrangements

The Clerk reported that the contract with Ben Malley as Data Protection Officer was due to expire and that a three-year contract only had been offered at a total cost of £750.00. The Clerk stated that although the legal requirement for a Data Protection Officer had now been removed, she still required some support. Councillor Hibbard stated that it was his opinion that the three-year contract should be agreed, stating that with changes to local government and potential new roles for parish councils, it was important that the Clerk was supported. Members of the Council were in agreement and the Clerk was asked to add this to the agenda for April.

14. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

a. Report from the Broadwindsor Group Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee

Councillor Hibbard stated that the Independent Examiner had made an initial appraisal of the Broadwindsor submission and had confirmed that he was satisfied that he had received the necessary documentation to enable him to begin the examination and that there appears to be nothing in the documentation that suggests that the examination should not proceed. Councillor Hibbard stated that the Examiner had also undertaken an unaccompanied visit to the area. Councillor Hibbard stated that the Examiner was still considering whether he may need to call a hearing in light of the representations received. Councillor Hibbard confirmed that it was still likely that the Plan would be taken to Committee in June.

15. ALLOTMENTS

a. Allotment Contract

The Clerk reported that she had consulted the Broadwindsor Allotment Group (BAG) on the proposal to increase the deposit from £25.00 to £40.00 and stated that they would prefer that it remain at the current level as an increase may deter new tenants. Councillor Smith asked if such an increase would encourage all tenants to leave their plot in an acceptable way. Councillor Curtis stated that the Parish Council has to have these funds to pay to clear plots which are left in a poor condition. Councillor Laurie stated that the deposit should be much higher if it was to be used as an incentive. The Clerk stated that BAG had suggested increasing the fees for plots from next year, rather than a steep increase in the deposit. There was general consensus that plot fees should remain the same and that the proposed increase in the deposit to £40.00 should be introduced for new tenants only.

16. HIGHWAYS

a. Report from the Footpaths Officer

Councillor Rowe stated that she was in discussion with Councillor Curtis regarding a footpath sign on the Hursey Road and that she was reviewing the Footpath Notice in order to make it more succinct. Councillor Hedditch stated that he did not believe that the installation of the new gate at Netherhay had been completed to a good enough standard and stated that there was a gap left, which was sufficient enough in size for a sheep to go through.

b. Verge Management in the Grouped Parish Area

Councillor Rowe reported that she had now had a meeting with Mr. Goff on 26 February and sites, costings and size of the planned wildflower verge were being reviewed. Councillor Rowe stated that she looked forward to reporting further at the April meeting.

c. Dog Fouling

Councillor Leader stated that he had spoken with Comrades Hall and permission to site a new bin by the entrance to the car park had been granted. Councillor Leader stated that he had contacted Dorset Waste Partnership but no reply had yet been received. Councillor Sewell stated that she would make enquiries. Councillor Laurie stated that she had carried out research on dog fouling with a view to establishing an online campaign. Councillor Laurie stated that it would be impossible to present all the facts and stated that the tone of such a campaign should not be one of preaching. Councillor Laurie stated that with support from her son, she will aim to produce a simple poster, with an image and short text which will send a powerful message. Councillor Chubb stated that it could be launched at the Annual Parish Meeting. Councillor Rowe stated that this could be taken into schools as a means to educating parents. Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Laurie for her work on this.

d. Speed Indicator Device

Councillor Chubb stated that despite several requests, it did seem unlikely that the speed indicator device would return to the Grouped Parish area. The Clerk concurred and stated that she had also requested the use of the device but had not been successful.

e. Redlands Lane

Councillor Rowe reported that she had sent an email to Councillor Knox regarding the concerns of residents in Redlands Lane but had not yet received a reply. Councillor Rowe stated that the Clerk had informed that Councillor Knox had been away on leave. Councillor Hibbard suggested that Councillor Rowe send a further email.

Councillor Chubb reported that there still had not been any progress on the drains in Crewkerne Road. Councillor Curtis stated that the road surface on Crewkerne Road was not acceptable and that he was disgusted that resurfacing had still not taken place. The Clerk was asked to enquire again about this matter and the resurfacing of Broadwindsor Square.

Action: The Clerk to contact the Highways Authority regarding the resurfacing of Crewkerne Road and Broadwindsor Square.

17. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

a. Report from the Broadwindsor Group Parish Community Land Trust

Councillor Leader stated that he had nothing further to report at this time.

18. LEISURE

a. Update of the Multi-Use Games Area Project

Councillor Leader was pleased to report that the lease from Dorset County Council had finally been received and had duly been signed. Councillor Leader stated that works were due to commence on 18 March and would take between three and four weeks to complete. It was suggested that photographs of each stage of the build be taken, all Members thought this to be a good idea.

19. MATTERS OF INTEREST AND INFORMATION

a. Items for next Agenda from Members of the Council

Councillor Rowe stated that she had been approached by members of the community asking whether the order of agenda items could be changed to allow for later items to be discussed first. Councillor Hibbard stated that often items are brought forward if members of the public are present and interested in specific issues. Councillor Sewell reported that the defibrillator training had been organised for 14 April.

b. Items for next Agenda from Members of the Public

None.

20. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public were invited to address the Council by Councillor Hibbard. A member of the public reported that there had recently been an incident outside his house and a cyclist had been injured. The cyclist had been approaching at a great speed and came off his bike at the sharp bend of West Street. The member of public stated that he was very concerned about the speed of cyclists through the village and after talking to near neighbours, it had been confirmed that there was on average an accident every month on this corner, including motor bikes. The member of public also stated that he was concerned about the state of West Street Road, the corner in question has barely of any grip, with the surrounding areas sinking

resulting in the camber of the corner becoming dangerous to both cyclists, motor bikes and motorised vehicles. Councillor Chubb stated that the Community Highways Officer should be contacted and a site visit made. Councillor Smith encouraged the member of the public to report the incidents online and Councillor Sewell suggested contacting PCSO Bishop.

Action: The Clerk to refer the issues raised to the Community Highways Officer and contact PCSO Bishop.

A member of the public asked whether it would be possible to incorporate the White Lion in any new signage in Broadwindsor. Councillor Leader stated that the name could be included within the new Fingerpost sign and the Clerk stated that she would review guidance relating to brown signs. Councillor Chubb asked if there had been any developments regarding the mobile food van in Broadwindsor. Councillor Sewell stated that it was still being reviewed and the Clerk was asked to add the matter to the Agenda for April.

21. CLOSE

The Council Meeting was formally closed at 9.23 pm. Councillor Hibbard thanked everyone for attending.