



MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING 12 DECEMBER 2016
COMRADES HALL

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

ATTENDANCE: Helen Cudmore (Clerk).

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and was opened by the Chairman. There was one member of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Frampton and Councillor Knox and unanimously approved by the Council.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillors Hedditch and Leader declared an interest in Agenda item 6a. It was noted that this item made reference to the entire Council.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Councillor Sewell stated that Agenda item 21 should be amended to read Mr. Bob Wills. A copy of the minutes from the Meeting held on 14 November 2016 was then confirmed as a true record and signed by Councillor Hibbard and unanimously approved by the Council.

4. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk stated that she had a number of highways matters to report from the previous Meeting and would do so under Agenda item 15.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor Hibbard invited comments from the public, there were none.

a. Report from Councillor Knox

The Clerk reported that Councillor Knox was unable to join the Meeting and stated that she would be forwarding a report for Members which would be circulated. The Clerk stated that the report will include updates on locality meetings for the Clinical Commissioning Group consultation, a drop-in session in Beaminster Town Hall on 15 December regarding the installation of SMART meters for residents, potential alternative ways of delivering choice from the mobile library service and the Public Transport Concessionary Fare Scheme consultation.

b. Report from Councillor Sewell

Councillor Sewell reported that with regard to the loss of the mobile library service, discussions were taking place about alternative options including an online book lending service with books delivered to village halls. Councillor Sewell stated that an analysis of results from the Reshaping Your Councils consultation had indicated that a majority of respondents were in support of Option 2, to change from nine councils to two new unitary authorities. This would see Poole, Bournemouth and Purbeck with West, North and East Dorset forming part of a rural unitary. Councillor Sewell stated that all nine Leaders of the County and District Councils will meet on 15 December to consider the evidence from the three reports and propose a recommendation to put forward to all Councillors across Dorset. This recommendation will be available to the public on 16 December. On 23 December, a public report will be published for consideration by each Council to agree the best way forward. Councillor Sewell also informed of a bus service consultation which had just been launched, details would be forwarded to the Clerk for circulation. Councillor Sewell stated that a new calendar had been issued for refuse collection over the Christmas and New Year holiday and that an extra black bag was being allowed.

c. Report from Police Community Support Officer

The Clerk reported that there had been changes to the Beaminster Neighbourhood Policing Team and that PCSO Luke White and PCSO Pete Smith had joined the team. PCSO White had forwarded a short report which the Clerk read aloud. Over the past month there has only been one crime reported, on the evening of the 4 December a car windscreen was smashed at a property on the B3163, Crime number 55160181950.

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND NOTICES

a. Ms. Shirley Gibbs, Conduct of the Parish Council

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Ms. Gibbs and had been circulated to all Members prior to the Meeting. The Clerk stated that she had informed Ms. Gibbs that the correspondence would be on the agenda for the December Meeting. The Clerk reported that she had contacted the Monitoring Officer at West Dorset District Council and had been advised that Ms. Gibbs had made contact and had been advised by the Monitoring Officer of the options available to her to address her complaint. Councillor Smith stated that the Council did not know about the identity of the land in question until September, the Clerk reaffirmed this. Councillor Curtis stated that the Council had done nothing wrong with regard to this matter and was confused by the accusations. Councillor Hibbard with agreement of Members asked the Clerk to draft a reply to Ms. Gibbs stating that the Parish Council will await her response to the Monitoring Officer.

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

b. Mr. Andrew Martin, Invitation to Parish Council Workshop

The Clerk reported that an email had been received from Mr. Andrew Martin, Head of the Highways Authority inviting Parish Councils to a meeting in January to discuss issues which had been raised in the Annual Highways Service Survey 2016. Councillor Hibbard stated that it was essential that the Parish Council be represented at the meeting, Councillor Chubb stated that it would be important to discuss the devolution of services and potential cost to

the Council with Mr. Martin. Councillors Hibbard and Chubb expressed their interest in attending.

Action: The Clerk to register the Parish Council for the meeting and circulate to Members, the date when known.

The Clerk also reported the following correspondence which had not been circulated prior to the Meeting.

A letter of thanks had been received from Life Education Wessex for the grant of £290.00 to support the cost of bringing their mobile classroom to the Grouped Parish area.

Ms. Jackie Riley had emailed the Clerk to raise the issue of the removal of the mobile library facility. Ms. Riley stated that the service was essential for the elderly and non-drivers and asked the Parish Council for support to help save the service. The Clerk stated that she would inform Ms. Riley of the discussion taking place locally as reported by Councillor Sewell.

The Clerk also reported that an email had been received by Councillor Bassett from Mr. Ian James regarding the installation of dog bins in Drimpton. Mr. James was in attendance at the Meeting and the Chairman invited him to address the Council. Mr. James stated that he would like to see dog bins installed outside the Village Hall, by the Royal Oak pub and outside Netherhay Chapel, to encourage dog owners to clean up their mess. Councillor Sewell stated that this was a difficult issue and that bins can be installed and paid for by the Parish Council but disposal could be expensive as it is classed as hazardous waste. Councillor Bassett stated that he did not think that there was a significant problem in Drimpton and that most owners pick up and take the mess home. Mr. James stated that he had seen some dog mess when walking around the village. Councillor Chubb stated that the identified locations were well positioned for bins. Councillor Leader stated that he did not think dog bins would make those owners who do not currently pick up mess, change their behaviour. Councillor Sewell stated that there had been a problem of dog fouling near to the school, and suggested involving school children to design an information poster about the possible dangers. Councillor Tibballs suggested an article about the dangers, the Clerk confirmed that she had written two for the Broadwindsor Parish News already. Councillor Hibbard asked the Clerk to find out further information and report back at the next Council Meeting in January.

Action: The Clerk to contact Dorset County Council to enquire about the emptying of dog waste bins and associated costs and add this matter to the January agenda.

7. ACCOUNTS

a. Finance Report

The Clerk referred Members of the Council to a spreadsheet highlighting income and expenditure for the first, second and third (part) quarters of 2016/2017, which had previously been circulated. The current balance as of 5 December was £31,839.99. Councillor Chubb asked how much money should be in the bank account, Councillor Sewell stated that it was usual for there to be a year in hand. The Clerk stated that from the balance, just under £15,000 had been ringfenced for the Multi-Use Games Area and that for the new financial year, she would be presenting a budget report, highlighting actual against projected spend. Councillor Hardwill stated that the balance would change and settle down and Councillor Leader stated

that there was also uncertainty about the services that the Parish Council would take on from the Highways Authority.

b. Budget 2017/2018

The Clerk stated that the Precept request must be submitted by 31 January and that the budget must be agreed by the Council at the next Meeting. The Clerk reported that she will circulate papers for discussion prior to the Meeting once her budgetary work has been completed.

c. To approve £50.00 for Emergency Plan Working Group

d. To approve £82.22 for Clerk's Expenses

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

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. Applications Received and Circulated for Consultation

WD/D/16/002103 Cuckoo Farm, Cuckoo Lane, Winsham, Chard, TA20 4NX

The Clerk stated that the Council had been asked as an adjoining Parish to comment on the application which was seeking to convert an agricultural barn to a dwelling and that Councillor Hardwill had been asked to review the application. Councillor Hardwill stated that there were no objections to the application.

WD/D/16/002323, British Telecom (Notification of intention to remove public payphones)

The Clerk stated that she had circulated information regarding this application and noted that two of the telephones listed were located in the Grouped Parish area, Pound Lane in Burstock and Drimpton Road in Broadwindsor. The Clerk stated that communities can adopt a telephone box for as little as £1.00. Councillor Sewell stated that a telephone box would make an ideal place to house a defibrillator if power could be maintained. The Clerk was asked to find out further information.

Action: The Clerk to report back and add the matter to the January agenda.

b. Other Applications

None.

c. Results

The Clerk reported the following planning results.

WD/D/16/001864, Sandpits Chicken Farm, Broadwindsor, DT8 3RB: Approved

WD/D/16/002146, 4 South Dibberford Farm, South Dibberford, DT8 3HD: Approved

WD/D/16/002147, 4 South Dibberford Farm, South Dibberford, DT8 3HD: Approved

d. West Dorset District Council Local Searches

The Clerk made reference to the reply received from West Dorset District Council with regard to lead times for local searches. As of 4 December 2016 the backlog was down to 565 representing a reduction of approximately 23% since the recorded peak on 1 July 2016. The Clerk stated that Legal Services are hoping to upload data to their website so that it can be widely accessed. The Clerk was asked to report on this again in January.

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

9. SEABOROUGH VACANCY

The Clerk reported that the deadline for the receipt of expressions of interest for the Seaborough vacancy is 14 December and that to date, she had not received any expressions. If interests are submitted, the co-option will take place at the January Meeting. The Clerk asked Members if they would like her to draft a note of thanks to Jenny Calverley for her service to the Parish Council. All Members agreed.

Action: The Clerk to draft a letter of thanks to Jenny Calverley.

10. DORSET PRIMARY CARE COMMISSIONING STRATEGY

Councillor Hibbard reported that he had attended a consultation event on 8 December in Dorchester. Councillor Hibbard stated that the document entitled 'Improving Dorset's Healthcare' was circulated and discussed. The consultation document sets out proposals to improve health and care services in Dorset as part of a Clinical Services Review. Councillor Hibbard stated that the proposals were sensible in theory, Bournemouth would become the main Accident and Emergency Department and Poole, the main planned hospital. However in theory, the proposals could put rural communities such as the Grouped Parish area at risk. Councillor Hibbard reported that there was no mention of GP surgery closures at the meeting, Councillor Chubb stated that a copy of the document should be provided to Mr. Fraser Hughes. Councillor Curtis stated that he opposed measures that would remove services away from Dorchester. Councillor Mouldsdales reported that an ambulance had taken an hour and a half to attend the scene after a recent 999 call from Broadwindsor and that this was totally unacceptable. Councillor Hardwill stated that no consideration had been given when writing the document to the time taken to get to these further afield hospitals and the impact on patients and their families. Councillor Hibbard handed out copies of the document to Members and reiterated the importance of getting people to view the document and respond to the consultation. The Clerk stated that she would post the link on the website and facebook page. The Clerk stated that she had circulated information on the public consultation launch.

11. WEBSITE UPDATE

No report provided.

12. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Councillor Hibbard stated that the questionnaire results had now been collated and put on the website, the business results would be added shortly. The Neighbourhood Plan Committee would now be moving on with the development of visions and objectives and a public meeting is planned. Councillor Hibbard stated that there had been a 60% response rate to the questionnaire, which was an excellent result.

13. EMERGENCY PLAN

Councillor Tibballs reported that the first Working Group had recently convened and as there were only three members, it was decided that a formal Chair was not needed. At the meeting, the Group looked at a number of documents and began to draft a risk assessment. It was decided that there was no need to subdivide the Grouped Parish area but to highlight any specific risks relating to a village or part of the Grouped Parish area. Councillor Tibballs stated

that the most difficult challenge will be putting the right people in position and stated that she would be sending a letter to farmers with regard to lending a tractor in an emergency situation. Councillor Curtis stated that agricultural insurance was difficult. The matter of insurance and liability was discussed and the Clerk was asked to contact the Parish Council's insurance company. Councillor Mouldsdale stated that the pub could be used in an emergency as a point of contact. Councillor Smith stated that it would be difficult for village halls to be central contact points without a telephone line and wifi. Councillor Bassett agreed to find out further information about grants to village halls. Councillor Rowe asked where the Emergency Plan would be available from once completed and how people would be made aware of its content. Councillor Tibballs stated that it would be a published document which would be widely distributed, available in the shop, pub and also online.

Action: The Clerk to contact the Parish Council's insurance company to enquire about public liability in emergency situations.

14. ALLOTMENTS

Councillor Chumbley asked the Clerk if a reply had been received from the owner of the dogs that were seen off the lead on the Allotments. The Clerk stated that no reply had been received and that no further complaints had been received. Councillor Chumbley with agreement from Members, asked the Clerk to write to the owner of the dogs again.

Action: The Clerk to send a second letter to the owner of the dogs.

15 HIGHWAYS

a. Review of Safety of Entry/Exit Points into Broadwindsor

This item was deferred until the next Meeting.

The Clerk stated that she had a number of highways matters to report. The Clerk reported that additional bags of grit had now been delivered to Councillor Hardwill and Councillor Curtis and that grit bins had been filled.

With regard to the renovation of finger post signs, the Clerk stated that she had contacted Netherbury Parish Council and spoken with Councillor Peter Bailey who had provided very useful information regarding where to source materials. Councillor Bailey had offered his support and assistance to the Council. The Clerk also stated that she had contacted Dorset AONB and spoken with Katherine Wright who had informed that funding may be available in the new financial. The Clerk stated that it would be useful to make a list of all of the finger post signs in the Grouped Parish area and take a photograph of each. The Council could then assess how many are in need of repair and budget accordingly.

The Clerk stated that she had received an email from Mr. Paul Eastwood at Dorset County Council regarding the Parish Council's letter asking for a review of and additional safety measures to be installed on the Salway Ash to Broadwindsor Road. This matter was originally raised by local residents, Mr and Mrs Chubb and Miss Baggott from Folly Cottage and Shepherds Cottage. Mr. Eastwood stated that he has authorised a 600mm 'road narrows' warning triangle sign on the approach to the village (B3162) where the road narrows

accompanied by a 'SLOW' marking at the same location. The Clerk stated that she had informed Mr and Mrs Chubb and Miss Baggott of this update.

The Clerk stated that she had contacted Mr. Blair Turner again with regard to Springfield Farm. At the last point of communication, BT had admitted liability and had agreed to carry out the repair work. The Clerk reported that from correspondence seen, works could commence shortly. The Clerk stated that following on from last month's Meeting she had emailed Mr. Turner with details of the resurfacing issue outside of Comrades Hall and sent him the images as forwarded by Councillor Sewell. The Clerk stated that she had also asked him to look into the matter of the resurfacing of Crewkerne Road.

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Mr. Alaric Little with regard to the missing cat's eyes on the B3615. Mr. Little had replied stating that they are only replaced when resurfacing takes place and that if a rubber cat's eye is missing that this would not be classified as a safety defect under their Code of Practice. Mr. Little also stated that he had requested that a section of the B3165 from approximately Turners Lane junction through to Fox Down Farm be resurfaced and the white lines and cat's eyes refreshed.

The Clerk reported that she had received an official Public Path Diversion Order from Dorset County Council for Bridleway 47 Broadwindsor and part of Bridleway 10, Thorncombe. Objections should be received by 6 January 2017.

The Clerk reported that in response to the letter of 21 September to Jean Marshall regarding public safety in Seaborough, Mr. Andrew Martin had no comment to make.

16. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

a. Report from Broadwindsor Group Parish Community Land Trust

Councillor Leader reported that the Trust is moving forward and progressing well, they had recently appointed architects to look at the proposed site and a site survey will be carried out in January. Councillor Hibbard stated that this was good news.

17. LEISURE

a. MUGA

Councillor Leader reported that he was still awaiting the formal granting of the lease from the County Council and that this is required before any application for funding is made. Councillor Leader stated that he expects that the lease will be for a period of twenty years.

18. MATTERS OF INTEREST AND INFORMATION

a. Items for Next Agenda from Members of the Council

Councillor Sewell stated that the tree at Koppertre in Broadwindsor had now been removed and that this now removes the potential for damage to be caused.

Councillor Hardwill gave his apologies for the January Meeting and stated that he is opposed to the cuts that the Highways Authority is making and stated that he does not believe that money will be saved. Councillor Hardwill stated that mobile phone coverage in this area is extremely poor, Councillor Bassett stated that from the business results of the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire, between 65 and 75 percent of respondents stated that better mobile telephone signal was essential for the survival of their business.

Councillor Hibbard thanked Councillor Chubb for attending the DAPTC Meeting on 24 November and read aloud his report. The date of the next meeting is 23 February 2017.

b. Items for Next Agenda from Members of the Public

None.

19. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor Hibbard invited comments from the public, there were none.

20. CLOSE

Councillor Hibbard thanked the member of the public for attending the Meeting, thanked Members for their continued service and wished all present good wishes for Christmas. The Council Meeting was formally closed at 9.03 pm.