

# Stinsford Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8 October 2018 at 7.00pm in  
The Old Library, Kingston Maurward College**

**Present:** Mr Will Molland (Chairman), Mr George Armstrong, Mr Michael Clarke, Mr Chris Hext, Dr Andy Stillman and Mr Richard Wheal.

**Also in attendance:** Cllr Mrs Jill Haynes (Dorset County Council), Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk) and three members of the public.

## **140. Apologies for Absence**

140.1 No apologies for absence were received.

## **141. Resignation of Parish Councillor**

141.1 Mr Chris Hext informed the Parish Council that he would be moving out of the parish and resigned from the Council with effect from 31 October 2018. However, he was content to continue to offer his expertise on highways matters to the Parish Council.

141.2 On behalf of the Parish Council, the Chairman thanked Mr Hext for all of his efforts and input during the past three years, particularly on highways matters, and wished him well for his move.

## **142. Declarations of Interest**

142.1 There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interest.

## **143. Dorset County Council Matters**

143.1 Cllr Mrs Haynes reports that:

- (i) the focus of Members and officers had shifted to preparing for the creation of the new Dorset Council on 1 April 2019;
- (ii) work was underway to use resources from the one public estate to create care villages to control some of the costs to the County Council of looking after older people and those with a learning disability;
- (iii) in Bridport, it was intended to replace a care home and provide some element of housing for key workers;
- (iv) in Wareham, the County Council was working with partners including the District Council, the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group and the Healthcare Trust to provide a health hub including a new GP surgery and some social housing;
- (v) a lot of work was being carried out in relation to the disaggregation of staff and services in Christchurch that would be transferring to the new Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council and how to deal with the resulting 'stranded costs'; and
- (vi) there was a lot of national interest in the health integration work being carried out and NHS England had awarded Dorset with £600,000 for a pilot scheme which would focus on diabetes and cardio-vascular disease.

143.2 Members of the Parish Council welcomed the aspirations for the provision of care villages but expressed some concern that the sort of issues that these would address would be considered favourably through the planning process. Cllr Mrs Haynes explained that it was hoped that the health and wellbeing aspect of every proposal would be set out in all reports in the future.

143.3 In response to a question about the harmonisation of council tax, Cllr Mrs Haynes explained how this would operate and that the impact would vary across the Dorset area, as the current sovereign councils set their council tax at different levels. Only the level currently charged by the district/borough councils would change.

143.4 In response to a question, Cllr Mrs Haynes explained that no decision had yet been made as to where the location of the main office of Dorset Council. She considered that flexible working for staff would be further encouraged but there was likely to be a rationalisation of the estate at some stage. In terms of the location of committee meetings, this was likely to be South Walks House.

143.5 In response to a question, Cllr Mrs Haynes explained that West Dorset District Council had reserves but if it proposed to spend over £500,000 this had to go to the Shadow Executive Committee and be supported. The District Council had recently taken its proposals to refurbish and fund the upkeep of public toilets in some of the towns to the Shadow Executive Committee and this was not supported due to the cost and the impact on the budget of the new unitary authority.

#### **144. West Dorset District Council Matters**

144.1 In the absence of Cllr Cooke, the Chairman moved to the next item.

#### **145. Public Participation Time**

145.1 Mr and Mrs Kirby of Pigeon House Farm asked the Parish Council about its views on the DOR15 proposals for development north of Dorchester in the Local Plan Review preferred options consultation. They explained that a small amount of their land was included in the plans for the area but they had had no negotiations with any other party about this. The Parish Council outlined its objections to the proposals and urged Mr and Mrs Kirby to submit a response before the deadline.

#### **146. Minutes**

146.1 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 September 2018 be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

#### **147. Finance**

##### 147.1 Expenditure

The following items of expenditure were **resolved**:-

- Mr P Boyesen – repair of Lower Bockhampton noticeboard - £130.00
- HMRC (PAYE) (Quarter 2 18/19) - £112.00
- Miss K Riglar – Clerk's salary and expenses (Quarter 2 18/19) - £484.46

##### 147.2 Income

The following income was noted:-

- West Dorset District Council – 50% of precept for 2018/19 - £2,500.00

#### **148. West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland Joint Local Plan Review: Preferred Options consultation**

148.1 The Parish Council **resolved** to:

- (i) ratify its objection to the North Dorchester Preferred Option (DOR15), as drafted by the Chairman, agreed in principle by email and submitted to West Dorset District Council; and
- (ii) that this now be published on the Parish Council's website.

*Action by: Clerk*

#### **149. Kingston Maurward College Masterplan**

149.1 The Parish Council considered its response to the emerging Kingston Maurward College Masterplan. It was noted that the College was required to generate its own funding for capital projects and that the enabling developments were proposed for this reason. Receipt of correspondence from residents of Lower Bockhampton and concerns expressed by residents of Higher Bockhampton in relation to the relocation of the dairy were noted.

149.2 The Parish Council **resolved** the following points be included in its response:

- (i) support for the plans for the Animal Park;
- (ii) support for the replacement teaching building;
- (iii) support for the proposed sports facilities;
- (iv) support for the new teaching block on the current dairy site;
- (v) support for the relocation of the stables and creation of workshops on current stables site;
- (vi) support for the development of business units at the Stinsford site but concerns about the impact on traffic and the sensitive use of Church Lane, particularly as this was a tourist route;
- (vii) impact on the view and traffic of the proposed relocation of the dairy to Higher Bockhampton;
- (viii) some concerns about the proposed enabling development, in particular access/egress implications of the proposed properties near Knapwater and whether these could be addressed by use of a different entrance to the campus; and
- (ix) consultation should be ongoing as the masterplan was developed and implemented.

149.3 It was **resolved** that the Chairman draft a response incorporating these points for agreement at the next meeting.

#### **150. Neighbourhood Plan for Stinsford**

150.1 The Parish Council noted that progress being made through the Steering Group and commended the response submitted to the Local Plan Review consultation. It was noted that training to provide insights into design would be arranged and it was felt that this would be best in January/February 2019 and delivered jointly for members of the Parish Council, the Steering Group and Dorchester Town Council.

150.2 The Clerk sought confirmation of the approach that the Parish Council wished to take to approving expenditure on the development of the Neighbourhood Plan from the Groundworks UK grant and, where appropriate, the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan reserve. It was **resolved** that all expenditure and the signing of cheques be approved by the Parish Council, as the accountable body, but that those parish councillors who sat on the Steering Group could approve in principle spend up to a threshold of £100.

#### **151. Lower Bockhampton Play Area – Annual Inspection**

151.1 Further to the deferral of consideration of the annual inspection report at the last meeting, the Parish Council considered this report. It was noted that this identified moderate risk arising from the assessment relating to the flat seat swing set.

151.2 In considering what action should be taken, the Parish Council acknowledged that generally there was little use of play area and very rarely was it used by local residents and their families. It was also acknowledged that in order to refurbish the play area, a considerable amount of investment would be required and this would exceed the Parish Council's play area reserve. Whilst there may be opportunities to attract grant funding for this, it was questioned whether it was worthwhile doing so in view of the

limited use of the play area. It was suggested that the area could be re-designated as a picnic area only.

151.3 Following discussion, it was **resolved** to seek a quote for the remedial maintenance works required to address the assessment of risk identified in the annual inspection report and to discuss the future of the play area further in the light of this.

*Action by: Mr Armstrong*

#### **152. Lower Bockhampton Phone Box**

152.1 It was noted that the phone box was beginning to need some basic maintenance, predominantly a refresh of the paint. The Clerk explained that advice was available from BT about the specification of the paint to be used on such kiosks. It was **resolved** to seek this advice before making a further decision about maintenance.

*Action by: Clerk*

#### **153. Road Safety, Traffic Management and Rights of Way**

153.1 The Parish Council considered recent correspondence with the Countryside Rangers based at the Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre about the need for replacement of the white fingerpost at Higher Bockhampton and refurbishment of the fingerpost at Bockhampton Cross. The Clerk explained that she had sought a quote for this work from the Dorchester Men's Shed and the Countryside Rangers had also sought a quote from the County Council's preferred supplier for works to fingerposts. As no quotes had yet been received, the Parish Council **resolved** to defer further consideration pending receipt.

153.2 Mr Clarke drew attention to notices posted on certain rights of way in the parish referring to landowner deposits made by the Hon. Charlotte Townshend. As the Parish Council had received no information about this, so it was **resolved** to investigate the detail of this.

*Action by: Clerk*

#### **154. Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre**

154.1 No matters were raised under this item.

#### **154. Correspondence**

154.1 The Clerk reported that concerns had been raised by a resident about the use of Cuckoo Lane and Bockhampton Lane by a bus heading to the Dorset Studio School. As no pick-ups were made on this route, this was in contravention of the coach restriction order, he requested that the Parish Council take action. It was **resolved** to write to the bus company to draw their attention to this and request that their drivers be made aware of the restriction.

*Action by: Clerk*

#### **155. Items for next/future Agenda**

- (i) Maintenance of Lower Bockhampton play area
- (ii) Maintenance of Lower Bockhampton phone box
- (iii) Refurbishment/replacement of white fingerposts

#### **157. Date of next meeting**

157.1 It was noted that the next full meeting would be held on Monday 12 November 2018.

The meeting concluded at 8:50pm.

**Chairman**..... **Date**.....