

# Stinsford Parish Council

## Planning Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10 February 2020 at 7.00pm in  
The Pengelly Room, Kingston Maurward College

**Present:** Mr George Armstrong (Chairman), Mr Michael Clarke, Ms Liz Crocker and Dr Andy Stillman

**Also in attendance:** Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk)

**1. Apologies for Absence**

- 1.1 There were no apologies for absence.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

- 2.1 There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interest.

**3. Public Participation Time**

- 3.1 There being no members of the public present, the Chairman moved to the next item.

**4. Minutes**

- 4.1 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2019 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**5. Planning Application**

- 5.1 WD/D/19/003106 – Spring Glen, Bockhampton Lane, Lower Bockhampton DT2 8PZ – Erection of single storey side extension

It was noted that this property had been built after the designation of the Conservation Area and was therefore not within the boundary set in 1990. This demonstrated the need for the boundaries of the Conservation Area to be reviewed to consider the inclusion of properties built after 1990.

**Resolved** that the application be supported but the comments submitted include the need for the boundaries of the Conservation Area to be reviewed and a request that this be progressed as soon as possible.

**6. Dorset Council Local Plan – Engagement with parish councils**

- 6.1 The Chairman reported that he had attended the engagement event held on 3 February 2020 which had set out Dorset Council's intention to harmonise the criteria for development across its area. The first stage of this was to define a settlement hierarchy and it was proposed that population and level of provision of facilities should be used as the building blocks of this. Parish Councils were now being asked to respond to a series of questions raised at the event.
- 6.2 The Parish Council reviewed the presentation slides used at the engagement event and resolved to submit the following responses to the questions:

Question 1 – Agree in principle.

Question 2 – Smaller areas which have greatest potential for sustainable growth due to existing transport links and opportunities for employment growth.

Question 3 – It should be a requirement that the village facilities analysis only take into account those facilities which are currently functional and used by the community. Priority should be given to a shop and meeting place in the first instance, with children's play area / recreation ground given lowest priority. This would ensure that the analysis provided a qualitative assessment of cultural and social infrastructure. Additionally, careful thought needs to be given to the types of school which may be present within a village as these may not serve local children. For example, the Dorset Studio School lies within Stinsford parish but educates children from across Dorset, offering only 40% of its published admission number to pupils who live within the Thomas Hardy School catchment area; the remaining 60% of places are offered to pupils living anywhere in Dorset. The village facilities analysis should ensure that any reference to a school should be specifically a school serving the local catchment area.

Question 4 – Agree in principle. However, this should be revised to specify that acceptable journey time to nearby towns is considered to be up to 30 minutes by regular public transport to be available to enable traditional commuting at peak time and at the start and end of school days. It is important that journey times matter most in relation to access to employment and education, in addition to recreation. It is also felt important that sustainable means of transport should be taken into consideration with an acceptable journey time being within 30 minutes cycling on a safe network and include well maintained walking routes into settlements.

Question 5 – Both Rural Exception Sites and Community Land Trusts would enable delivery of affordable housing requirements as identified in the emerging Stinsford Parish Neighbourhood Plan. The most important aspect is that the delivery responds to the local community's needs.

## **7. Other issues raised at the meeting**

- 7.1 The Chairman thanked Dr Stillman for drafting a letter to Ms Hilary Jordan, Service Manager for Spatial Planning, Dorset Council regarding the Garden Village Bid relating to the site north of Dorchester. A response was now awaited.
- 7.2 Dr Stillman referred to the invitation from Mr Alistair Chisholm, representing the campaign to save the area north of Dorchester (STAND), to the Parish Council to co-sign a letter regarding the perceived misrepresentations included in the Garden Village Bid. Whilst supporting some of the issues raised in this letter, members of the Parish Council noted that some of these echoed questions asked in the letter to Ms Jordan and it was considered more appropriate to await a response and enter into dialogue as necessary. It was therefore **resolved** to not accept the invitation to co-sign this letter but to ensure that STAND were aware that the Parish Council was also asking questions about the Bid.
- 7.3 Mr Clarke drew attention to a recent article in The Pilot about the emerging plans for a solar farm at land south west of Home Farm, Slyers Lane, Waterston. No mention was made that this lay within Stinsford parish. It was therefore suggested that an article clarifying this point be submitted to The Pilot.
- 7.4 In respect of the proposed public meeting on climate change, on the theme of 'think global, act local' it was suggested that this be held on the revised reserve date of 20 April 2020 with invitations to speak extended to the Principal of Kingston Maurward College and a representative from Dorset Council. It was agreed to progress this suggestion.

- 7.5 The Parish Council considered an email received from Ms Sally Cooke alerting it to the Rural Community Energy Fund to which parish councils were eligible to bid to apply. It was agreed that this be shared with the Principal of Kingston Maurward College to see whether there was any interest in the development of a joint project.

The meeting concluded at 8:14pm.

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