



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF EAST STOKE
HELD ON THURSDAY 7th JANUARY 2021

PRESENT Cllr Rebecca Cady (Chairman)
 Cllr Neill Child (Vice-Chairman)
 Cllr Barry Quinn
 Cllr Tessa Wiltshire
 Cllr Chris Evans
 Cllr David Purshouse
 Cllr Graeme Langley (Co-opted)

APOLOGIES None

IN ATTENDANCE 2 Member of the Public
 Liz Maidment (Parish Clerk)

1. Public Participation Time

A member of the public commented upon the off road motorbikes being driven around the quarry areas over the Christmas Holidays. A gate belonging to one of the businesses along the Puddletown Rd was open and it was questioned as to whether the bikes were stored there. The noise pollution it creates is part of the problem, however the main concern is the hazard of a bike suddenly appearing on the bridleway. It is hoped that with the current lockdown, the issue will temporarily be resolved. **Action:** The Clerk to write to the business.

2. Apologies

No apologies received

3. Granting of Dispensation

No applications for a dispensation had been made.

4. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were declared.

5. Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 3rd December 2020

It was resolved that after the the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd December were approved as a true account.

6. Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes

7. Planning Applications or Planning Information received

TPO/2020/143 - 4 The Coachouses, Farrer Estate, BH20 6AT. (T4) Sweet chestnut - Crown reduce by 6m, District of Purbeck (Binnegar Hall, East Stoke) TPO 2016 (Ref. TPO 469). **Noted.**

8. Update on Previous Applications or planning information

No updates

The Dorset County Councillor was delayed at another meeting, therefore Item 9 was discussed later.

10. Police issues to report or update on issues reported

There has been no response from the Police about the motorbikes.

11. Old St Mary's Church

Due to Covid, this project has been postponed.

12. Hethfelton Woods

- a) Due to the lockdown the amount of people using the area for recreation has increased.
- b) The majority of the timber has now been collected.
- c) The tape and homemade bollards have disintegrated and have not been replaced. This has resulted in the car park appearing to be now open.
- d) A big planting operation is currently underway in the southwestern part. A high deer fence has been erected down to where the field of sheep are kept.
- e) A pine tree is leaning precariously and has been reported to the Beat Officer.

13. Highways

- a) A pothole located near Courthouse in Binnegar Lane has been reported.
- b) Highways have informed the Parish Council that they will not put up warning signage about the new Hethfelton access as it is a private entrance. As double white lines have been added, motorists should be advised that they should not cross the lines to turn right, but instead should continue to the roundabout. **Action:** The Clerk to write to Hethfelton House to recommend that they navigate guests to go via the roundabout.

9. Report from Dorset Council Councillor

- a) There will be a 4.6% increase in budget, however there is still uncertainty if this is enough to cover all the covid costs, so it might still affect the council tax.
- b) Wareham Hospital will be the vaccination hub for Wool and Wareham (including East Stoke). It is aimed to start on 11th January. There has been a good uptake on people volunteering to help.
- c) Tourist Information, Leisure and Cultural centres and public facing offices will all be closed. The Household Recycling Centres, waste collections, toilets and car parks will all remain open.
- d) If there is an issue collecting the bins, the managers will contact Cllr Brooks who will then circulate the information to the relevant parish.
- e) It was discussed why Early Years are being kept open. During the last lockdown it was only for key worker parents, but this time it is open to everyone.
- f) There has not been any news on the deer signage for Puddletown Rd. Cllr Brooks will contact Highways for an update as to whether they can look into data of deer carcasses being collected.

14. Consultations for consideration or New Items for Discussion/Consideration

- a) Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy Consultation. Dorset Council has a key leadership role to play in tackling climate change and dealing with its consequences, but we can only hope to make a real impact by working closely with communities, organisations and individuals. Part of this is finding out what you think about our proposed Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy and Action Plan, which sets out exactly how we intend to help tackle climate change. The Consultation closes on 20th January.
Cllr Langley (Co-opted) will formulate a reply and will circulate his comments to the rest of the Parish Council before submitting the document.
- b) Dorset Council is consulting on the admissions arrangements for the academic year 2022 to 2023. The consultation runs from Thursday 12 November 2020 to Wednesday 23 December 2020. **Noted.**
- c) Consultation on Local Plan. It will open on 18th January and will run for 6 weeks. Cllr Langley (Co-Opted) will respond.

15. Correspondence Received

- a) Temporary road closure - C80, Bovington. It will come into operation on Friday 11th December 2020. It is anticipated that the works will be completed by Friday 18th December 2020. The road will be closed between 09.00hrs and 16.00hrs, weekdays only. It will be open outside of these times and also over the weekend. **Noted.**
- b) Confirm Report: Road works report - Purbeck. December works included the Hethfelton House entrance, BT works along the A352 and the closure of the East Stoke level crossing. **Noted.**
- c) News release - Help keep children cosy this Christmas. Families can drop-in and pick-up free children's coats and pyjamas from Monday (14th) no forms or pre-booking, just drop-in and grab what you need. **Noted.**
- d) Statutory Consultees in the planning process. The understanding at Dorset Council is that Town and Parish Councils are Statutory Consultees. **Noted.**
- e) Regulating geological disposal. This is a joint Environment Agency and Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) publication that summarises their work relating to the geological disposal of radioactive waste. **Noted.**
- f) DAPTC AGM 2020 - post event news. The 2020 DAPTC AGM was well attended by over 80 delegates and for the first time was held online with polling during the meeting on key agenda items. **Noted.**
- g) Temporary closure of East Stoke Level Crossing. It will come into operation on Saturday 12th December 2020 and will remain in force for five days. However it is anticipated that the works will be carried out between 08.00hrs, Saturday 12th December and 23.59hrs, Sunday 13th December 2020. **Noted.**
- h) 2021/22 Precept Request. The Final Precept Notification form will need to be returned by 31st January 2020. **Noted.**
- i) Wessex Flood Warden Winter Preparedness Newsletter - December 2020. The Resilience event for Dorset Flood Wardens and Community Emergency Volunteers is scheduled for February 2021 (date to be confirmed) and it will be held online over a couple of days.
No local news was mentioned in this issue.
- j) COVID19 Vaccination Message Campaign. The simple messaging is: The NHS will get in touch when it's your turn to be vaccinated. **Noted.**

- k) Purbeck Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule proposed further modifications 15 January 2020 TPC. This has been extended until 15th January.
- l) Purbeck Citizens Advice Grant Request. Letter requesting donation to the Purbeck Citizens Advice.
No donations were made in April, therefore it was agreed to donate £100. Cllr Cady proposed and Cllr Evans seconded.
Action: The Clerk to include it on next month's agenda.
- m) Proposed temporary closure of East Stoke Level Crossing. These works are programmed to take place between 00.01hrs and 08.00hrs on Sunday 21st March 2021. **Noted.**

16. Finance

- a) The following payments were duly approved.

Number	Amount	Chq
Miss E Maidment December Salary	£226.26	000784
Dorset County Pension Fund	£65.84	000785
T. Lee Landscaping	£802.50	000786
Re-imburse E Maidment for ink cartridge and A4 paper	£23.07	000787

Cllr Cady signed the cheque at the meeting and Cllr Quinn to sign afterwards.

- i) It was questioned whether it was phased 3 work being carried out at the Churchyard as there has been some work on the hedge between the graveyard and the Old School House and by the boundary line by the conifers. This hasn't been done as part of the that project and instead it may have been of the neighbours. The boundary divide between the churchyard and the properties is still very untidy as people have been using it as a compost heap. It was agreed that the Parish Council needs clarification as to where the boundary line is. It was agreed to approach the Diocese via Geoff Edwardes.
 - ii) It was also discussed that there has been a bonfire nearby.
 - iii) The bus shelter is currently on its side. The intention was to dismantle it but due to covid this has been delayed. A question was put in the newsletter asking if people would like it restored/repared and no one locally responded. It is currently only used by the school children and it is not now recognised as an official bus stop.
 - iv) It was agreed that there is enough money to buy the Zoom profession package for approximately £100.
- b) To receive the Third Quarter Bank Reconciliation
The cashbook and bank reconciliation were circulated via email prior to the meeting. The Receipts and Payments Cashbook balance of £37154.60 agreed with the reconciled bank balance of 8th December 2020. The third quarter budget report was noted and £6260.65 has been spent in this financial year.
 - c) To agree the Budget for 2021/22 and to agree Precept
The draft budget for 2020/21 was formally agreed. It was questioned why so much money had been budgeted for items such as I.T. and elections. If the precept was reduced dramatically and the next year more purchases had to be made it would be exceptionally difficult to raise the precept again. It is important to have a contingency fund for various items. The subject of empty homes was discussed as empty properties could decrease the precept and there could also be more people who are now eligible for a reduction in their Council Tax. It was acknowledged that these factors would only affect a small percentage. It was proposed by Cllr Cady and seconded by Cllr Child to keep the precept at £9000.

- i) The name of Rowan Cottage at Binnegar is currently being changed as there is already a property of that name in East Stoke.
- d) To agree and approve the new Financial Regulations and Electronic Banking Policy. The documents were circulated prior to the meeting. There are certain elements that need tailoring to East Stoke and these would be altered by the Clerk. The policy does not demonstrate how the mechanics of the Lloyds online banking works. It was agreed to seek advice from other Parish Councils. **Action:** The Clerk to alter the documents and to obtain information from other Parish Councils.
- e) To agree and approve for two Parish Councillors and the Clerk to have access to internet banking. To be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

16. Items for Information or next agenda

- a) Internet speed was discussed as some properties in the Binnegar area are very slow. East Stoke is scheduled to have Fibre to Fibre in 2022 and Cllr Brooks will find out a more exact date. Other possibilities are to use Wessex or to register interest with Openreach.

17. Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting will be held via Zoom on Thursday 4th February at 7pm.

With no further business to transact the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.58.

Chairman: Date.....