

Stinsford Parish Council

**Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Monday 15 June 2026
at 7:00pm in The Old Library, Coastland College, Kingston Maurward Campus**

Present: Mr George Armstrong (Chair), Mr Michael Clarke (Vice-Chair), Mr Kevin Henville, Mr Edd Maynard and Mrs Sarah Pattison

Also in attendance: Ms Kate Wills, Principal, and Mr Mark Burgess, Director of Estates and Capital Projects - Coastland College, Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk) and 5 members of the public

74. Apologies for Absence

74.1 No apologies for absence were received.

75. Declarations of Interest

75.1 There were no declarations of interest.

76. Public Participation Time

76.1 Residents of Stinsford House and Church Lane, Stinsford expressed their concerns that following Coastland College's Dragon Quest event at Easter, access to the Kingston Maurward lake continued to be prevented by locked gates. Whilst it was understood that access for local residents to the estate would be limited during special events, this continued to be the case as access was now only permitted via the shop and therefore restricted to the shop's opening times. It was also acknowledged that health and safety and safeguarding issues were priorities for the College as an educational establishment. However local residents were keen to find a solution that would enable them to resume walking their dogs around the lake. It was suggested that a lock on a gate to which residents could have the code would allow access for them but not leave the estate open to everyone. The Chair added that the Parish Council had also received correspondence and phone calls from local residents about this issue, in addition to the issue of access to the estate for those with limited mobility.

76.2 The Principal and Director of Estates and Major Capital Projects of the College explained that they did not wish to prevent access to the lake but needed to prioritise the safeguarding of pupils and staff, the requirements of the new Martyn's Law, the implications in relation to the College's public liability insurance and prevention of crime on the estate. By providing access only via the shop where there was CCTV coverage, this helped to mitigate these issues. Going forwards all perimeter gates would have Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras and more pedestrian gates – which were not on public rights of way – would be kept locked. The priority was to look at the whole to ensure that the estate was functional, safe and secure. However they considered that a solution such as the proposed single point of entry to which local residents could have the access code could be explored. If the access closest to the properties in Stinsford was to be used from the memorial garden, it would be necessary to liaise with the Church about this. In relation to the issue of access for those with limited mobility, it was explained that disabled access for students was provided via the animal park and staff worked with students to ensure that they could access what they needed.

76.3 Residents also raised the impact of loud music during the Dragon Quest event and currently at weekends from the live music at The Dragonfly bar. Whilst it was understood there was a need for the College to attract as much income as possible, it

was requested that the volume and impact of such music be reduced for future events. Mr Burgess explained that adjustments to the PA system for events could be made to reduce impact to local properties. In relation to the music from the bar, he acknowledged that there needed to be acoustic improvements. Whilst the level of noise was within licensing guidelines, the College wanted to be a good neighbour whilst balancing its needs to attract visitors and income.

- 76.4 Ms Wills and Mr Burgess took the opportunity to remind the Parish Council of the horse trials and country fair taking place at the College on 27 and 28 June and that a road closure would be in place on Hollow Hill on these dates.
- 76.5 In response to a question from the Parish Council, Mr Burgess explained that the remedial removal of loose branches from the conifers on Church Lane would be completed shortly with more work to be undertaken to the trees after September.
- 76.6 The Chair thanked Ms Wills and Mr Burgess and the residents of Stinsford House and Church Lane for their attendance. They then left the meeting.

77. Finance

77.1 Income

The receipt of the following income was noted:
HMRC – VAT return 2025/26 - £82.98

Expenditure

- 77.2 The following items of expenditure were **resolved**:
- Lantern Accounting Ltd – Internal Audit 2025/26 – £125.00
 - Graham's Garden Services – Play area grounds maintenance - £75.00
 - Mr George Armstrong – Reimbursement for play area signage - £20.00
- 77.3 The following payments made by Direct Debit were noted:
- HugoFox – Website – May 2026 – £11.99
 - HSBC – Bank Charges – May 2026 - £1.00
 - HugoFox – Email accounts – May 2026 - £11.99

78. Approval of Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26

- 78.1 The Clerk introduced the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2025/26 for approval before it was published to comply with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The Parish Council also considered the report of the Internal Auditor which set out a conclusion of reasonable assurance and made ten recommendations. It was noted that there were gaps around the new requirements for Assertion 10 relating to IT and data management.
- 78.2 The Clerk reported that recommendations 3 and 4 had already been actioned and confirmed that the VAT return had included the relevant amounts.
- 78.3 It was **resolved** that:
- (i) the report and recommendations of the Internal Auditor be received and progressed;
 - (ii) the Certificate of Exemption be signed by the Chairman and submitted to the External Auditor;
 - (iii) the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) be approved;
 - (iv) the Accounting Statements (Section 2) be approved; and

- (v) the period of public rights commence on 22 June 2026 and end on 31 July 2026 and notice of this be published on the parish noticeboards and the Parish Council's website.

79. Lower Bockhampton play area

79.1 The Chair reported that the play area had been mowed and strimmed recently. As there were very few students currently at the College, there had been no instances of vandalism or anti-social behaviour but more usage by families staying in the local area.

79.2 He added that he had undertaken an inspection of the play area on the previous day and the rot on the swingset frame had increased due to the recent wet weather. He had looked at this with a local fencing contractor with a view to receiving a quote for remedial works. He would bring this to the next meeting.

80. North Dorchester Garden Community

80.1 The Parish Council noted the recent communications from the North Dorchester Consortium stating that the first planning application for the North Dorchester Garden Community would be submitted shortly. It was also noted that a statement of community involvement had still not been published.

80.2 It was considered that it would be useful to approach the Consortium to send a representative to a future meeting to enable the Parish Council to seek a direct update.

81. Parish Clerk recruitment

81.1 The Clerk reported that five expressions of interest had been received to date. Once the deadline of 17 June had passed, she and the Chair would consider these and agree a shortlist to be interviewed.

81.2 It was **resolved** that interviews be held during the first week of July if at all possible with a view to an appointment being made with effect from 1 September 2026.

82. Correspondence

82.1 The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received from the Department for Education team regarding the progress of the Dorset Studio School new building project. A public awareness drop-in event was due to be held at the College on 14 July 2026 and the team had requested that they attend the Parish Council's meeting on 13 July to provide an update. The Parish Council welcomed this offer.

83. Communications

83.1 It was **resolved** to defer consideration of the content of an article for the September edition of The Pilot to the next meeting but it was considered useful to include the Chair's annual report at this time.

84. Item for next meeting

- Update from Department for Education on Dorset Studio School capital project

85. Date of next meeting

84.1 It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled to be held on Monday 13 July 2026.

The meeting concluded at 8:18pm.

Chair **Date.....**