

Stinsford Parish Council

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 12 May 2025
at 8:15pm in The Old Library, Kingston Maurward College**

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

Also in attendance: Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk).

35. Election of Chair

35.1 **Resolved** (unanimously) that, there being no other nominations, Mrs Sarah Pattison be elected Chair for the year 2025/26. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed and Mrs Pattison took the Chair.

35.2 The Parish Council thanked the outgoing Chair, Mr Clarke, for his contribution whilst in the role over the past year.

36. Appointment of Vice-Chair

36.1 **Resolved** (unanimously) that, there being no other nominations, Mr Edd Maynard be appointed Vice-Chair for the year 2025/26 and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

37. Apologies for Absence

37.1 Apologies for absence were received from Mr Kevin Henville, Mr Justin Morris and Dorset Councillor David Taylor.

38. Declarations of Interest

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

39. Public Participation Time

39.1 There being no items raised, the Chair moved to the next item.

40. Minutes

40.1 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meetings held on 10 March and 14 April 2025 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

40.2 Further to minute 27, the Parish Council noted that Dorset Council's Greenspace Manager had informed Cllr Taylor that there was no funding available to purchase a replacement bench but had offered to assist with the installation if one was purchased. Mr Clarke undertook to update the member of the public and ascertain how much they might be willing to contribute to the purchase of a bench.

40.3 Further to minute 28.1, Mr Armstrong reported that the play area had been made accessible again. The Parish Council expressed their gratitude to Graham from Kingston Maurward College's Grounds Team for this.

40.4 Further to minute 28.2, the Clerk reported that Dorset Council had confirmed that a defibrillator could be located at the Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre subject to some conditions. Costings of a unit would now be investigated.

40.5 Further to minute 40.1, the Parish Council noted the response received to the request for clarification submitted in respect of P/HOU/2025/01789 and welcomed these. It was **resolved** to submit a further comment supporting the application based on this information but expressing a preference for the render to be painted Cornish Cream.

40.6 Further to minute 44.2, Mrs Escott reported that warning signage stating no fires and no barbecues were permitted in Thorncombe Woods had been placed in the area.

41. Weymouth and Kingston Maurward College – update on development of strategic plan

41.1 This item having been covered during the preceding Annual Parish Meeting for Electors, the Chair moved to the next item.

42. Finance

42.1 Income

The following income was noted:

Dorset Council – 50% of precept for 2025/26 - £2,750.00

Expenditure

42.2 The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's insurance was due for renewal on 1 June 2025. The following quotes had been received:

- Zurich Municipal - £280.00
- Clear Councils - £680.00 (approx.)

42.3 The invoice not having been received from the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils Ltd, the following item of expenditure was **resolved**:

- Zurich Municipal – Insurance cover 2025/26 - £280.00

42.4 The following payments made by Direct Debit were **noted**:

- HugoFox – Website – April 2025 – £11.99
- HSBC – Bank Charges – April 2025 - £8.00

43. Planning matter

43.1 Rainbarrow Farm Anaerobic Digester Plant Application P/VOC/2024/03497 – Delivery and Service Plan

The Parish Council **resolved** to retrospectively approve the submission of the following comments on the document submitted by the applicant in response to concerns from parish councils:

The only real change to the approach outlined in the DSP comes in covering letter to councillors. Paragraph 2 concludes 'We take the Welfare of our Communities seriously'. Under the section Aims of the DSP, bullet 4 offers ongoing communication with local communities over concerns'. The final paragraph suggests that they are prepared to meet with community, arrange a site visit and meet with councillors at any venue of their choosing.

The overall outcome is that:

1) the offer to meet is welcome;

2) the plan offers little more detail on what will happen on roads within Stinsford parish (Slyers Lane/ Cuckoo Lane / Lower Bockhampton) ; and

3) there is no offer to actually change anything.

*In the Parish Council's initial response to the Delivery and Servicing Plan (attached above) 5 questions were posed. Three of these remain unanswered, namely:
Q.1 evidence that vehicle movement can be comfortable accosted on local roads
Q.4 developer contributions toward tisd upkeep. I think we should also have added riad improvement to the original question but without this the question remains in answered.*

Q.5 The issue if updating councils has not been specified. The intention may be that this is covered by consultation but the two things are different. The proposal requires residents to bring forward issues. This is not regular updating from the company.

In conclusion Stinsford Parish Council does not believe that the amended information provides confidence that existing issues will be addressed and that the expansion of trips will not create further issues. The Parish Council therefore continues to object to the proposals.

44. Stinsford Neighbourhood Plan

44.1 The Parish Council considered whether to commence a review of the Neighbourhood Plan, taking into account the advice provided by the Dorset Planning Consultant, particularly in relation to the North of Dorchester Garden Community proposals. It was also considered whether the Neighbourhood Plan website should be re-published following the previous decision to not renew the website plan and to publish all of the documents on the Parish Council's website.

44.2 It was resolved that:

- (i) a review of the Neighbourhood Plan not be progressed at the present time; and
- (ii) the Neighbourhood Plan website not be re-published.

45. North of Dorchester Garden Community

45.1 The Clerk reported that she had approached the Clerk to Dorchester Town Council to ascertain whether an update in relation to the proposed garden community had been provided to the Town Council by the Leader of Dorset Council. The Town Clerk had confirmed that no further information had been shared.

45.2 It was also noted that no response had yet been received to the request for information from Dorset Council submitted via Cllr Taylor or to the Freedom of Information request submitted by Mr Clarke. However the disappointing response received from the Environment Agency via Edward Morello MP was noted.

45.3 It was noted that more information was being shared about the next steps in the development of the Dorset Local Plan and it was agreed that it would be beneficial to consider the Parish Council's strategy in relation to the North of Dorchester proposals within this.

46. Road Safety, Traffic Management and Rights of Way

46.1 The Parish Council noted the most recent update from Cllr Taylor in relation to the issue of diversion of traffic off the A35 onto the unsuitable rural roads. It was suggested that there was a need to liaise with National Highways about safety of road users on the A35 to try and reduce the number of incidents and collisions.

47. Correspondence

- 47.1 The Parish Council noted an email from a resident about the continued blocking of one of the arches of Bockhampton Bridge by a large log. It was agreed to contact Dorset Council's bridge engineers about the potential damage to the structure arising from this.

48. Items for next agenda

- (i) Approval of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return.
- (ii) Dorset Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation.
- (iii) North of Dorchester Garden Community strategy.
- (iv) Communications approach.

49. Date of next meeting

- 49.1 It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled to be held on Monday 9 June 2025.

The meeting concluded at 9:02pm.

Chairman..... Date.....