

MILBORNE ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL - MEETING MINUTES



Held on: 17/06/2015 at: 19:30

Location: Milborne St Andrew Village Hall

Present: Cllr Jenny Balcon (Chairman)
Cllr Sarah Fox (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Karen Park
Cllr Joy Robinson
Cllr Philip Smith
Cllr Simon Thompson

Simon Thompson signed his Acceptance of Office form, which was duly counter-signed by the Clerk, after which Cllr Thompson took his seat on the Parish Council. Sue Cherry, the co-opted member not present will sign her Acceptance of Office form at the next meeting attended.

In attendance: Cllr Jane Somper NDDC
Mr Colin Hampton (Parish Clerk)
6 members of the public

022 Apologies

Mrs Sue Cherry

023 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Fox declared an interest as a Village Hall trustee in agenda item 14 – the Clerk gave dispensation to speak but not vote until May 2019.
Cllr Robinson requested clarification on her position as a council representative to the Allotment Society – the Clerk advised that no dispensation was required as there was currently no conflict of interest.

024 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 20th May 2015

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

025 County & District Councillors' Reports

Cllr Somper read a joint report from her and Cllr Parker to the meeting, a copy of which appears as Appendix A of the Minute Book.

026 Parish Council Representatives' Reports

Cllr Robinson reported on:-

- a. Homewatch – an article has appeared in this month's Reporter encouraging residents to join the Homewatch group and promoting its benefits.
- b. Allotments Society – the recent open gardens event held in the village proved very successful.

Cllr Balcon reported that the Sports Club had agreed to a request from the Allotment Society to allow dogs on to the allotment site, with the proviso that they be restricted solely to the dog owner's plot and are not allowed in the Sports Club grounds. It was also announced that a new Treasurer would be taking over at the club in September.

Mr Michael Hopper, Chairman of the Neighbourhood Planning Group updated the meeting on progress being made by the group at their meeting held in June. The next phase of the consultation process will get underway with a questionnaire which is currently being compiled. There was some discussion with Cllr Somper concerning NDDC's Local Plan and its effect on the group's work in producing a Neighbourhood Plan, Cllr Somper urged Mr Hopper to forge ahead with the excellent work his group was doing. Milborne St Andrew is currently the only parish in the Abbey Ward producing a Neighbourhood Plan.



027 Public Session Feedback

Feedback was provided to the meeting on the following points raised by members of the public at last month's meeting:-

- a. Provision of superfast broadband to the village – concern had been expressed that the village was not going to receive fibre broadband. The Clerk assured the meeting that the superfast broadband project is to provide fibre optic cable to the cabinet (FTTC), with the final connection to the property being over existing copper cable. Broadband speeds will be higher than currently experienced but will vary depending on the distance of the property to the cabinet. The EFM (Ethernet over the First Mile) system mentioned by the enquirer is for business use and is separate to the superfast project.
- b. Closure of wards and services provided by Dorchester County Hospital – Cllr Park said that she had looked into this and the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group is currently conducting a consultation on the provision of health services throughout the county. No firm decisions have yet been taken on closures or re-provisioning of services. However, it is thought that the closure of paediatric wards at DCH has been suspended.

028 Correspondence

A report by the Clerk, a copy of which appears as Appendix B of the Minute Book, was noted. The Clerk was asked to write a letter to the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group in support of a letter received by the council objecting to the proposed closure of paediatric wards at Dorchester County Hospital. It was agreed this should be sent despite the possible withdrawal of the threat to these services.

029 Planning Applications

2/2015/0436/HOUSE

Proposal: erect 2 storey side extension and single storey rear extension (demolish existing single storey extension).

Location: 16 Homefield, Milborne St Andrew.

RESOLVED that the Council has no objection to the application.

030 Financial Risk Assessment

Due to the delayed arrival of the report from the internal auditor this item has been deferred until the July meeting.

031 Review of Statutory Documents

The following statutory documents were subjected to annual review:

- a. Complaints Procedure
- b. Habitual & Vexatious Complaints
- c. Data Protection & Information Security
- d. Health & Safety

RESOLVED that the above policies have been approved and accepted for 12 months.

032 Asset Register

A review of the Asset Register was conducted and it was agreed to delete the covered seat at the Village Hall as this item does not belong to the Parish Council and add the Parish noticeboard at Milton Road and the Homewatch noticeboard at The Square, both with a nil value. It was also agreed that the noticeboard at the Causeway would be dismantled for Health & Safety reasons.

The Clerk undertook to amend the register and present it for approval at the July meeting.

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033 Grass Cutting 2015-16

A review of the grass cutting carried out by Ian Rogers for the year 2014-15 was carried out and it was agreed to confirm the 2nd year of his 3 year contract with no change.

A general discussion ensued concerning the poor state of the grass verge cutting carried out by Dorset Highways. The Chairman agreed to raise this at the Winterbourne Division summer meeting 1st July 2015 in Milton Abbas.

034 Electoral Review of Dorset

The draft recommendations of the Boundary Commission's electoral review of Dorset were considered and it was agreed that despite some concerns in the way the Winterbourne Division boundaries have been redrawn there was little for the Parish Council to comment on at this stage. However, further consideration may be given to the recommendations after discussions at the Winterbourne Division meeting 1st July, when a final decision on formally responding to the draft recommendations will be made. A copy of the draft appears at Appendix C of the Minutes.

035 S106 Developer Fund

The Clerk's report on the availability of a developer's fund of £8910 from the Gould's Farm development, currently held by NDDC for release to the village, was discussed. A copy of the report appears as Appendix D of the Minute Book.

There is currently one proposal for applying to the fund, but Cllr Somper undertook to investigate further because this was the first she had heard of the fund and she was concerned that the Parish Council may not be in possession of the full facts. Therefore no further action will be taken until Cllr Somper reports back to the council.

036 Cheque Schedule

The Cheque Schedule for June was circulated, a copy of which appears as Appendix E of the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the Cheque Schedule for June totalling £289.70 be approved and the cheques signed.

The meeting closed at 21:10 hrs.

Signed :

Chairman of the Council

Dated : 15. 4. 15

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTES

Action

Concern was raised once more by a resident regarding the dangers posed by the dead oak adjacent to Coffin Path. The owner of the land has agreed in the past to deal with it and will be contacted by the Clerk to make him aware that this has been raised once more and that the safety of property and persons is at stake.

Clerk

A query was raised regarding the minutes of the May meeting and the status of 3 co-opted councillors who had been unable to attend their first meeting.

The Clerk explained that their absence had been recorded in this manner as

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*they are not
members of the
council until they
have signed
Acceptance of
Office which must
be done in person
at the meeting. If
no proper record
is made then the
seat is declared
absent and new
elections held for
the vacancies.*