

Minutes of the Winterborne St Martin Annual Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Office, Winterborne St. Martin on Monday 24th May 2004. The meeting commenced immediately following the Democratic Period at 8.15 pm.

Present: Mr N.Marsh - Mr M.Clarke, , Mr A.King Mr P.Jeffery, Mr I.Gibson, Mr B.Thompson, Mr C.Taylor, Mr S.Slade, (Clerk), PC Mark Burgess (Community Policeman), Mr D.Crowhurst (County Councillor) Mr D.Chalmers, (Officer from DCC Highways Department) and 4 members of the parish.

Apologies tendered on behalf of Mrs M.Hearing and Mr D.Rickard.

Democratic period.

Community policeman.

PC Mark Burgess gave an update on the crime figures for the parish. He also reported on his efforts to find a site for the youngsters to carry out their skateboarding activities. He appreciated that obtaining a suitable area was difficult but would continue looking in the hope that a site could be found. He had visited various residents in the village and discussed with them the problem of the youngsters and their use of public highways for skateboarding. The think thief warnings painted on the highway at sites such as Hardy's Monument appeared to be of little benefit as they were ignored by owners of cars who parked near the signs and left valuables in their cars which were subsequently stolen. Road signs had been stolen in the area but the culprits had not been apprehended. He had asked his colleagues in the police traffic section to operate speed cameras in the village as often as possible in an effort to make drivers to reduce their speed.

Mr D.Crowhurst, County Councillor.

Mr Crowhurst reported that the DCC would be discussing the subject of sites for Travellers at their June meeting and urged those present to write to him and express their views prior to the meeting. He had already received several letters from concerned residents. He advised that consideration was being given to closing Penwithin School, a school for special needs children, and sending the children to other local schools. The Government considered that this was the best way for them to be integrated into society. He also reported that other Parishes in the area had problems with skateboarders and we were not alone in trying to solve the problem.

Mr Ian Shaw.

Mr Shaw again pointed out that the "T" Junction sign indicating Mallards Green service road had still not been erected. He asked if the road speed signs could be erected on a yellow backing board to make them more obvious.

Mr Doug Chalmers.

Mr Chalmers was asked if chicanes could be provided in an attempt to slow traffic using roads in the area especially the C53 near Mallards Green. He advised that such traffic calming measures were not generally used where there were no streetlights. Accidents could result if these features were not easily visible. He reported that the County Council had obtained four mobile speed indication devices which flashed when vehicles exceeded the speed limit. He would request his operations team at the DCC to install one of these devices on the C53 and B3159 for a temporary period. The long awaited "T" junction sign with associated road markings at Mallards Green had also been requested.

Mrs Ashworth.

Mrs Ashworth asked if a report of the Parish Council meetings could be placed in the village newsletter and also if the Village Directory was going to be up-dated.

Action.

Reports were often included but due to the timings for inclusion in the monthly newsletter these were out-of-date. Reports were included in the evening Echo. Editor of the village Newsletter and the Clerk would include a brief report of the main items considered in the next Newsletter after the meeting. The Village Directory was held on "disk" and will be reprinted in the autumn.

Mr Cramp.

Mr Cramp asked if the exuberances of the youngsters of the village could be channelled into a cycle club as they all appeared to own cycles. He was advised that such a club existed but was believed to be for older persons.

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr M.Clarke proposed that Mr N.Marsh be elected as chairman of the Parish Council for the period until the annual meeting in May 2005. Mr C.Taylor seconded the proposal which was duly carried. Mr Marsh took the chair and thanked members for electing him he would continue to do his best but pointed out that his business commitments might reduce his attendances at litter-picking and other similar events.

Declaration of interests.

There were no declarations of interest.

The clerk explained each planning application for clarification of members but took no part in the observations or comments made.

2. MINUTES.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Parish Office, Winterborne St Martin on Monday 22nd March 2004 having been circulated to all members were approved as a true and correct record and the minutes duly signed. Proposed by Mr A.King seconded by Mr M.Clarke.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES.

- a. The provision of a Display Board to be erected on the Village Green. This board was on display and thanks were extended to Mr Noel Marsh and Mr Michael Fry for making and arranging the galvanising of the stand for the sign.
- b. West Dorset Local Plan Review. Mr Rickard had not offered any comments from a Parish Council point of view on this document.
- c. Dorset Waste Forum. A meeting had been held at Ansty Village Hall and a verbal report was given. It was hoped that every member of the community, young and old, would help in the battle to reduce waste having to be confined to landfill sites.

4. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Mr A.King proposed that Mr P.Jeffery be elected as vice-chairman of the Parish Council until the annual meeting of the council in May 2005. Mr C.Taylor seconded the proposal which was duly carried. Mr Jeffery thanked members for electing him and would continue to do his best for the parish.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS.

Payments and Receipts.

The action in paying the following items since the last meeting was confirmed: -

WDDC rates	£ 456.00
K.Damen grass cutting	£ 60.00

The following account was approved for payment: -

Insurance to Allianz Cornhill	£ 537.01
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The following sums had been received since the last meeting: -

Car Park fee from owner of Stone Cottage	£ 50.00
Half-year precept from WDDC	£2050.00
Sale of Book of Martinstown	£ 10.00

A sum of £9,794.10 in the Parish Council account.

HLB AV Audit.

The clerk reported that the accounts for the year ended March 2004 would have to be prepared for audit on 18th October 2004.

Risk Assessment.

Parish Council property had been inspected and the seats and notice boards whilst in need of cleaning and painting were sound. The surface of the village green was uneven in places and could represent a risk. It was agreed that this be reported to the insurers together with the fact that action is being taken to carry out repairs in the near future. The insurance company to be advised that the Display Board when erected will become the responsibility of the Parish Council and be insured for a sum of £500.00.

Grants to charities.

The following grants were approved: -

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|-----------------------------|--------|
| a. Dorchester CAB | £50.00 |
| b. Martinstown Village Hall | £50.00 |

6. PLANNING MATTERS.

- a. Erect extension at Rose Cottage. Now approved by WDDC.
- b. Erect extension at Wylie Croft. Now approved by WDDC.
- c. Extension at Shepherds Cottage. No objection to an extension but the proposal as submitted not in keeping with the cottage and should not be approved.
- d. Extension to No2 Barton Cottages. No objections.
- e. Extension to 27, Grove Cottage. Extension should be thatched.
- f. A letter to be sent to WDDC and the members of the appropriate committee expressing concern at the advice given in the matter of extensions to listed buildings as it appeared that the advice being given was "a load of old cock" and make extensions look unsympathetic on the original structures.
- g. Permission had been given to the owners of trees at The Old Brewery House, The Manor House and West End House to carry out work to these trees and in some instances to fell them completely due to their present size and location.

7. CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. Changes in the times of the visit of the Mobile Library Van to the village were reported and a notice will be erected on the notice board.
- b. Ironman Triathlon Event – Sunday 22nd August 2004. This event was centred on Sherborne Castle and was unlikely to be a problem to residents in the Dorchester area.
- c. Magna Housing Association had changed their allocation policy. This was noted.
- d. Postwatch. Members felt that the proposal for pricing mail based upon size would not be of concern to the Parish Council.
- e. A temporary road closure of the B3159 will be necessary at the end of June & will be for one day to permit unloading of equipment onto the Pumping Plant at Weymouth Road.

8. FOOTPATH REPORT.

Path from the B3159 near the Brewers Arms northwards to the A35 required cutting. The clerk and Mr Taylor had reported this to the DCC who had advised that an order to cut the path had been given to the contractors.

9. REPORT ON AMENITIES.

- a. Best Kept Village Competition. It was agreed that litter pick up's will take place every two weeks on Thursday evenings starting at the village green at 7.00pm. Litter found strewn around in between these dates to be picked up on an ad-hoc basis. The first date to be 27th May 2004.

- b.** The area of land known as the "pond" at the east end of the village. The clerk had visited the Land Registry at Weymouth in an attempt to find the owner of this land but had been advised to return in two or three weeks time as a new owner of the land was being registered. Mr G.Duke had also been investigating the possibility of claiming ownership of the land and if his claim were successful he proposed to transfer the land directly to the Parish Council. He asked that the Parish Council indicate their confirmation of this proposal. Members having been warned of the implications and responsibilities involved none-the-less agreed to accept the proposal of Mr Duke. The Enviroment Agency and WDDC had met at the site and had been asked by a third party if the area could be piped and then filled in around. Mr Marsh who happened along at the time reported that this had been forcefully rejected.
- c.** Village Green. The Clerk reported that a grant had been promised to help towards the cost of the refurbishment and improvement of the village green but further approval of the scheme and approval by SWEET and Entrust had to first be obtained. This was in hand.

10. REPORT FROM ORGANISATIONS.

Mr Jeffery reported on the Blanchard Charity. The scope of the Charity had been widened so that funds could be awarded to groups in need as well as individuals. The number of individuals in need had reduced over the years. Fund raising activities were being organised to add capital monies to the Trust fund.

11. APPOINTMENT OF SUB-GROUPS.

Members resolved that these remain as at present.

12. ATTENDANCES AT MEETINGS MAY 2003 – MARCH 2004.

The clerk reported that six scheduled meetings of the Parish Council had been held and the attendance by Parish Councillors had been as follows: -

Mr Marsh 5, Mr Jeffery 4, Mr Taylor 4, Mrs Hearing 6, Mr Gibson 5, Mr Thompson 5, Mr Rickard 5, Mr King 5, Mr Clarke 6.

13. CLOSURE OF MEETING.

The meeting was closed at 9.48 pm.

14. NEXT MEETING.

This will be held on the fourth Monday in July 2004.

.....Chairman

Date.....