

Minutes of the Winterborne St Martin Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Office, Winterborne St. Martin on Monday 28th September 2015.

Democratic Period commenced at 7.28pm.

Present: - Four members of the public together with the under-mentioned members of the Parish Council: - Mr D. Read, Mr N. Hallett, Mrs A. Bennett, Mr D. Gargrave, Mr A. Whitty, Mr J. Walker, Mrs D. Wiltshire and Mr S. Slade (Clerk)

Mr D. Gargrave, vice-chairman in the chair and welcomed those present.

Matters raised were as follows:-

- a. Mr Hallett again raised a concern about concrete sleepers that had been erected on land adjacent to the B3159 road west of the bend approximately 1 mile south of Higher Ashton Farm. The vice-chairman informed that before he could make an appointment to discuss the matter with the landowner the landowner had sadly passed away. The matter was mulled over resulting in the vice-chairman agreeing to contact the estate manager to voice the concern of the Parish Council regarding the possible danger to road users should an accident occur at this corner.
- b. Mr R. Eversden asked what progress had been made regarding the possibility of a "concealed entrance" sign being erected on the A35 near the junction with north Rew Lane similar to those at other locations in the area. The clerk had written to Highways England and was awaiting a response.
- c. Mr Whitty and Mr Eversden asked if any further information was available concerning the possible improvement to the surface of North Rew Lane. No response had been received from DCC who had agreed to investigate. The matter will be chased-up.
- d. Mr Shaw drew attention to the Ridgeway path that had been ploughed over and not reinstated in the due time. He asked that appropriate action be taken to have the path reinstated.
- e. Mr M. Hinchelwood in response to a question concerning the front boundary wall of his property, "Fairfield", said that he would be making a vehicular access into the property and would be removing some of the wall to facilitate this work. The movement and root system of the large ash tree in the garden of the property near the front boundary wall was causing the wall to become weak. He did not want to remove the tree and he hoped to be able to keep it by pruning it to reduce the risk in this regard.

The Parish Council meeting commenced at 7.54 pm.

Present: - As recorded for the Democratic Period above.

Apologies tendered on behalf of Mr P. Jeffery, and Mrs A. Priddle.

Declaration of interests.

There were no declarations of interest.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Parish Office, Winterborne St Martin on Monday 27th July 2015 had been circulated to all members. Mr Hallett asked that the reference to timber sleepers, recorded under matters raised reference a, be corrected to read concrete sleepers. This was agreed. Proposed by Mr D. Read and seconded by Mrs D. Wiltshire

Resolved

That the minutes as corrected be signed as a true and correct record.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES.

- a. Some members had visited the recent "drop-in" session at the Brownsword Hall to view the proposals made by DCC for new Waste Transfer sites and Household Recycling sites in the area. Responses on the proposals could be made but had to be sent before the 21st September 2015. The vice-chairman had approved a response sent on behalf of the council. This stated that of the sites proposed for a recycling centre the one on land east of the industrial buildings at Poundbury would be the best option. The present site at St Georges Road in Dorchester would also be a reasonable site if improved access could be made from Kings Road. Members approved the response.
- b. Parking along the C53 near McDonald's restaurant. The clerk had written to the agent of land surrounding this facility and had met on site with him. It appeared that in the past some attempt to try to resolve the situation had been made but negotiations with the respective parties had failed to find a satisfactory outcome. The clerk will now contact McDonald's agent to see if the matter could be revisited.

P. J. Jeffery
23/11/15

3. FINANCIAL MATTERS.**a. Payments since the last meeting**

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|---------|---------------|----------|
| K.Damen | Grass cutting | £ 80.00 |
| HMRC | PAYE | £ 120.60 |
| S.Slade | Clerk fee | £ 482.10 |

b. Receipts since the last meeting: -

| | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| Beekeepers | Hire of premises | £ 20.00 |
| WDDC | 2 nd part of precept | £2166.00 |
| LCTS | Grant | £ 84.00 |

c. Approval of accounts for payment.

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| S. Slade | Reimbursement of seminar fee | £ 25.00. |
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d. Funds in the Parish Council Account.

The clerk reported that the balance of £15,082.36 was held in the Parish Council Account and reconciled to the bank statement Number 77 dated 9th September 2015. *Noted.*

e. External Auditor report.

BDO LLP had audited the Parish Council accounts for the year ended 31st March 2015 and reported that there were no matters that required issuing a separate issues report. *Noted.*

f. Application for a grant.

Life Education had written to ask if the Parish Council would consider making a grant to help towards its work. However there were no funds allocated in the Parish Council budget for the purpose of making grants.

4. PLANNING MATTERS**A. Comments made on Planning Applications during the interim period since the last meeting.**

Change use of buildings at Limbury Farm. Concern at the possible increase of traffic using the access lane to the site from the junction with the B3159 road might lead to damage to the surface and who would be responsible for the up-keep of the lane.

B. Matters considered at the meeting.

A report was given that the Planning Inspectorate had approved the extension to Holly Lodge that had been refused by WDDC although this had not been confirmed in writing to the clerk.

C. Matters considered by WDDC/DCC

None reported.

5. CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MATTERS RAISED.

a. Notification that the AGM of the local CAB branch will be held at Digby Hall, Sherborne on 1st October 2015. All interested persons invited.

b. An information leaflet from the Dorset Police detailed their responsibility if problems arose relating to Badger culling in Dorset. This would be a peace keeping role only. Further information can be obtained by telephoning 101.

c. BT had provided some leaflets concerning Broadband in the area. These will be distributed locally and a copy hand to the Editor of the Parish Newsletter for inclusion in a future issue.

d. A resident of Cowleaze had written to ask if the Parish Council would accept a bench seat to be placed in the village as a memorial to his late father. The matter was discussed and it was suggested that a site for a seat might be difficult to find as there are already several seats in the village. An alternative might be to provide a tree as a memorial. The clerk will contact the author of the letter and report back.

e. The clerk reported on a seminar arranged by DCC for Parish Council clerk's. The main speaker was from the DCC and he expressed concern at the reduction in funds available to DCC and other councils. This would likely lead to a reduction in services throughout the County Council. He asked that Parish and Town Councils give consideration to suggesting ways in which savings might be made. Possibly this might include tasks such as sign cleaning and grass cutting being carried out by Parish Councils. Members would forward suggestions in this regard to the Clerk who would then make a formal response.

f. Mrs Wiltshire asked if any progress had been made to implement the proposed speed camera exercise that had been planned to take place in the village. She offered to take on the responsibility for organising the project and moving it forward. Members accepted her offer and asked her to take action to bring the scheme to fruition.

g. Mr Read reported that the Waste Watch newspaper collection was suffering because people were disposing of their newspapers via the local authority Waste Collection Service. Members suggested that a note be included in a future issue of the Parish Newsletter asking residents to revert to using the village waste paper collection service.

P. J. Jeffers
23/11/15

6. FOOTPATH REPORT.

Mr Read had no major concerns about the condition of the footpaths although some were still overgrown. Part of the path from Bats Lane to Stevens Farm Lane had been ploughed over and was difficult to walk across. It was hoped that this would be reinstated or the correct route through the trees cleared. The position would be monitored.

The oak finger post signs erected sometime ago by DCC to mark footpaths were in a poor condition and should be repaired or replaced. Investigation will be made with a view to having these signs repaired or replaced.

7. AMENITY MATTERS.

a. The vice-chairman had carried out minor repairs to the Well near "Fairfield". This was adequate to keep the structure safe and tidy.

b. The clerk read text that he had compiled concerning the history of the sheep-wash. Members were satisfied and the clerk would now take action to have it erected on the site to inform interested visitors.

c. The fence at Mallards Green bus stop lay-by will be cleared by a Parish Council working party on Sunday 4th October 2015 starting at 10.00am.

d. The lay-by south of St Martins Field needs clearing and the boundary hedge cutting-back. This will be programmed in.

e. Mr Read had attended the 2015 Tidy Village Competition presentation evening on behalf of the Council. He reported that the village was entered into the previous winners class but had been unsuccessful.

f. Mrs Wiltshire informed members that there was a poll to nominate the best village taking place via the Dorset Magazine. People could cast their vote in this regard and she urged members to nominate Martinstown.

g. A sign will be erected on land near the Parish Office to indicate that parking is restricted to users of the Parish Office only.

8. FLOOD WARDEN MATTERS.

The clerk gave a further up-date on the SWCFAG meetings. A task force had met on 2nd August 2015 and had cleared some areas of the stream in Winterborne St Martin. The second planned work-force for clearing the stream in Winterbourne Steepleton had to be cancelled due to very inclement weather. A mechanical clearing will take place shortly. Members were reminded that there was funding in the budget for this work.

9. NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

This will be held on 23rd November 2015 in the Parish Office starting at 7.30pm.
(Mrs Bennett would be unable to attend this meeting)

10. CLOSURE OF MEETING.

The meeting was closed at 9.30 pm.

P.J. Jett Chairman

Date... 23rd NOV '15