

**VALE OF ALLEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES**

**of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, held at 7.30 pm in Hinton Martell Village Hall on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

**PRESENT**

**Cllr Mr J. Campbell - Chairman**

**Cllr Mr S. Wathen – Vice Chairman**

**Cllr Mrs S. Gilchrist, Cllr Ms D. White, Cllr Mrs P. Hill,**

**Also present were District Councillor Mr S. Tong, and the Parish Clerk Mrs K. Bradbury**

**17/96. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from: Cllr Mrs M. Cook and Cllr Mr R. Hill.

**17/97. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no declarations of interest to report.

**17/98. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING**

There were no requests for dispensations to report.

**17/99. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

There were no members of the public present.

**17/100. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017 (pages (1218- 1221) were approved and signed as a true record

**17/101. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

**17/102. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

There was no report this month.

**17/103. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

**Cllr Mr S. Tong:**

- a. **Ward Budget Allocations:** To date, only one completed form has been received .Cllr Mr J. Campbell agreed to chase up the Witchampton First School and the Drovers Inn to get their forms completed in good time.
- b. **Local Government Re-organisation:** The Secretary of State is due to make an announcement by the end of the month and the lead Civil Servant on this project has been contacting Council Leaders and Chief Executives asking how much progress they have made in their discussions. The County and District Council's finance officers have made it clear that it is

already too late to do any forward financial planning for a changeover in April 2019. If the Secretary of State agrees to the proposal it would be January 2018 at the earliest before a final agreement between Districts and Boroughs could be in place which allows just 12 months for a complete makeover of the system of local government within Dorset. If the Secretary of State decides not to go ahead with the re-organisation and to retain the status quo then the whole process will be null and void and the district and borough councils will have to come to individual arrangements for joint working between themselves, leaving the County Council to continue with its current functions.

#### **17/104. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT**

- a. **Standing Orders:** It was unanimously resolved to reduce the number of Councillors required to make a quorum to four and to amend the Standing Orders appropriately. Proposed Cllr Mr S. Wathen and seconded by Cllr Mrs P. Hill.
- b. **Affordable Housing:** It was noted that an e-mail received from Savills had stated that the agents for the Crichel Estate were prepared to go ahead with their own housing needs survey. . It was argued that a survey sponsored by the Parish Council would carry more weight and would give some control over the content and layout of the survey whereas a survey carried out by Savills would tend to be biased in their favour and would cover Witchampton and not necessarily cover the whole of the parish. Cllr Mrs S. Gilchrist proposed and Cllr Mr J. Campbell seconded that the Parish Council should conduct a Housing Needs Survey within the Vale of Allen according to a questionnaire drawn up with the approval of the Parish Council. The proposal was defeated by three votes to two and therefore it was resolved not to go ahead with a Parish Council sponsored survey.
- c. **C2 Road at Stanbridge Pumping Station:** The members noted the report of the meeting held with Dorset County Highway Engineers, see attached page 1226 of the minutes. A photograph of the propose advance warning sign was discussed and though the position was approved it was not considered to be a strong enough warning. "Oncoming traffic in middle of the road" was suggested. It was also reported that the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October discussed the C2 road around Horton and Wigbeth. At the meeting it was agreed to carry out a traffic survey in this area only. The Clerk was requested to ask for a survey at Stanbridge Pumping Station as a lot of traffic coming from Wimborne turns onto the C2 road at the Horton Inn Junction.
- d. **Ward Budget Allocation:** Cllr Mr J. Campbell attended a meeting with Cllr Mr S. Tong to discuss the allocation of the ward budget. The Vale of Allen had three proposals: 1) A community sign for the Witchampton First School, 2) A contribution towards new disabled toilets at the Drovers Inn Community Pub in Gussage all Saints, 3) a contribution towards the buying of seeds for the wildflower verges project in the vale of Allen. It was noted that applications had not yet been received by District Councillor Mr S. Tong and Cllr J. Campbell agreed to chase this up.
- e. **Lime Trees, Witchampton:** At a meeting with the EDDC Tree Officer about the state of health of the Lime trees next to the Club Bus Shelter, Witchampton it was agreed that the middle tree of the group was suffering from severe die back and needed crown cleaning as a matter of urgency. The Tree Officer indicated that a request to fell the tree would be given serious consideration. However there appears to be some dispute over ownership of the trees. The Crichel Estate has maintained the trees for many years but has now stopped this work as it is stated that they belong to the County Council. The Clerk reported that she had sent a request to the County Council Tree

Officer for urgent crown cleaning / felling of the middle tree of the group to be carried out as it was a hazard and located in an area in constant use by members of the public.

- f. Local Government Review:** The Boundary Commission is consulting on the redrawing of boundaries – mainly in the Witchampton area to clear up some anomalies. The document and maps have gone into circulation amongst members.
- g. DAPTC Annual General Meeting:** The Council decided on their vote for the various motions being put at the AGM as follows:
- i. Beaminster – support
  - ii. Blandford Forum – Support
  - iii. Chideock – Support
  - iv. Hurn - Support
- h. Annual Meeting of FWG to set the Budget:** It was agreed to hold the meeting at 5.30pm on the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017,. The meeting to be hosted by Cllr Mr J. Campbell.
- i. DAPTC Training**

Date	Time	Course	Venue	Cost
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	9.30 – 1.00pm	DAPTC AGM	Council Chamber – DCC	N/A
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	7.00 – 9.00	Essentials for Councillors Part 2	Leigh Village Hall	£65 for both sessions

#### **17/105. PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

Application No:	Location	Proposal	Type
3/17/2669	Manor Farm Buildings, Gussage All Saints	Relief of condition 3 of planning application 3/16/1350/FUL. Conversion of building from residential to live/work unit	COND R

#### **Parish Council comments on Planning Applications**

- a. **Planning Application 3/17/2669/CONDR. Manor Farm Buildings, Gussage All Saints.** Parish Council comment – NO OBJECTION.

#### **17/106. EAST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS**

Application No:	Location	Proposal	Decision
3/17/1497/ FUL	Adj. Vicarage Cottage, Harley Lane, Gussage All Saints	Erect 4 bed dwelling as amended by plans received 15/9/17 (garage deleted)	Permit

#### **17/107. OTHER PLANNING MATTERS**

- a. **3/17/2890/TCA, Application for Tree Works, Church Mead, Harley Lane, Gussage All Saints.** T1 – copper Beech – reduce crown by maximum 3m and crown thin by 20%. T2 – Cedar – fell to ground level. T3 – Purple Plum – reduce crown by max 1,5m. It was resolved to delegate the decision on this application to Cllr Mrs P. Hill and the Clerk.

#### **17/108. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a **Authorisation and payment of Cheques:** The cheques having been approved were signed by Cllr Mrs S. Gilchrist and Cllr Mr J. Campbell

	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount (£)</b>	<b>V.A.T</b>	<b>Cheque Total</b>	<b>Cheque No:</b>
1	K. Bradbury, Clerk's Salary September 2017	398.95	0.00	398.95	897
2	HMRC PAYE due Sept 2017	83.74	0.00	83.74	898
3	C.T. Mee, Burial Ground Oct 17, R&BT Seat Oct '17,	49.50	0.00	49.50	899
4	DAPTC Good Councillor's Guide & Clerk's Seminar	110.00	0.00	110.00	900
5	Local Councils Update	100.00	0.00	100.00	901
6	C.G. McKay H. Martell Fountain Materials	106.92	0.00	106.92	902
7	Holt Parish Council noticeboard	47.50	0.00	47.50	903
8	Blandford Industrial Spraying Ltd	662.50	132.50	795.00	904
	<b>Total</b>	1559.11	0.00	1691.61	

### **17/109. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. **Local Councils Update:** October 2017 Edition
- b. **DAPTC Circular:** September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017

### **17/110. MATTERS OF INFORMATION**

- a. **Cllr Ms D. White:** reported that the bridleways in the Manswood area e.g. Cock Row are very overgrown and the signs are in poor condition. Cllr White agreed to send full details to the Clerk so that she could contact Coppid and the County Council
- b. **Cllr Mr J. Campbell:**
  - i. **Long Crichel Kiosk:** Cllr Campbell reported that the re-painting of the Long Crichel telephone kiosk is almost complete. The long term plan is to have a defibrillator housed in the kiosk.
  - ii. **Planning:** Cllr Campbell has obtained a document titled Introduction to Planning that has been produced by Wiltshire County Council. Cllr Campbell has agreed to distribute it to all members.
- c. **Cllr Mr S. Wathen:** Cllr Wathen reported that he had attended the Budgeting and Precept seminar and that he had ordered four copies of an NALC booklet on Finance and transparency.
- d. **Cllr Mrs P. Hill:** Reported that the Gussage All Saints History Week-end was a great success

**Meeting closed at 9.17 pm**

Signed.....  
Chairman

Date.....

## **VALE OF ALLEN PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Report of meeting with the Highways Engineering Department (Mike Potter and Mark Adams) on 20th September 2017 to discuss the C2 road at Stanbridge Pumping Station.**

#### **Traffic Accidents**

It has been tentatively suggested that the traffic accidents on the single track portion of the C2 near Stanbridge Pumping Station were due to the time of day (late afternoon) when the setting sun would be shining directly into the eyes of car drivers as they rounded the bend. The bank is held back by a low retaining wall and there is a "pull in" for drivers to allow oncoming traffic to pass. The retaining wall then curves out and runs uphill along the single track roadway. Drivers rounding the bend too fast and blinded by the sun probably ran into the wall where it juts out and tipped over. The Police would be able to give a more accurate analysis of the causes. The motorbike accident was caused by a skid due to the accumulation of gravel that is routinely washed out of the bank during heavy rain.

#### **Widening of the single track portion of the C2 roadway**

The main objection is cost as it would entail the purchase of land to accommodate the wider road. If the landowner was not willing to sell then a compulsory purchase order would increase the cost of acquiring the land considerably. The actual widening of the road would itself be very expensive. The widening of the road would attract more traffic into the area.

#### **Gravel Accumulation on the road**

Dorset Waste Partnership does not normally sweep up the gravel that washes out of the roadside banks in rural areas. It was agreed that the Highways Department would do a thorough sweep/clean-up of the road between the bottom of the hill and the Stanbridge Pumping Station pull-in

#### **Short Term Flooding, Stanbridge Pumping Station**

The bend adjacent to the Stanbridge pumping station pull-in gets flooded during heavy rain. The flooding drains slowly over a period of a few hours. The gully at this point is regularly cleaned out by the Highways Department. However, the gully empties into a ditch on Wessex Water land which is silted up. In spite of repeated requests, Wessex Water has not cleared the ditch. The County Highways department will continue to pursue the matter.

#### **Improved Advance Warning Sign**

After some discussion it was agreed that the existing sign was too far around the bend on the approach to the single track section of roadway and would not be visible if the sun was in the driver's eyes. It was agreed to install a suitable warning sign on the approach to the bend while leaving the existing sign in place. Examples of a sign are attached.

#### **Road Markings**

It was interesting to hear that there is no obligation on the County Council to provide road markings, so I assume we should feel very privileged that the road markings along the bends in this location have been refreshed

K. Bradbury  
12/10/17