

VALE OF ALLEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

**of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, held at 7.30 pm in Gussage All Saints
Village Hall on Tuesday 22nd August 2017**

PRESENT

Cllr Mr J. Campbell - Chairman

Cllr Mr S. Wathen – Vice Chairman

Cllr Mrs S. Gilchrist, Cllr Mrs M. Cook, Cllr Ms D. White, Cllr Mrs P. Hill, Cllr Mr R. Hill

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

Ms Bryony Stevens

Ms Stevens explained that she was now the Housing Enabler Team Leader tasked with improving the supply of affordable housing in the East Dorset District Council and Christchurch Borough Council areas.

Ms Stevens explained the basis of affordable housing and how the procedures operated, including the necessity for a Housing Needs Survey to prove the existence of housing need, especially in areas like the Vale of Allen where land was not easily available. She also discussed the role of Community Land Trusts and other ways of including the community in the provision of affordable housing.

Ms Stevens answered Councillors questions regarding various aspects of affordable housing and of producing an assessment of local housing need.

17/66. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies to report.

17/67. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest to report.

17/68. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING

There were no requests for dispensations to report.

17/69. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

There were no members of the public present.

**17/70. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON – Tuesday 25th
July 2017**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 25th July 2017 (pages (1208 - 1213) were approved and signed as a true record

17/71. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Minute No 17/59 (a), Planning Training: Cllr Mr S. Wathen stated that the training session gave rise to concerns that the complexity of the system made it difficult to administer and also that the process of enforcement lacks any substance.

17/72. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**Cllr Mr S. Butler**

- a. **Local government Reform:** The result of the consultation process agreed on two Unitary Authority areas being set up before the elections which are due in 2019 when Councillors could be elected to serve under the new regime. However the snap election and the focus on Britain's negotiations to leave the European Union have delayed the decision on reform and there will not be enough time to set up the new Unitary Authorities in time for the elections.
In the mean time the County Council is having talks with District and Borough Councils about combining services such as IT, Legal Services and Human Resources, in order to save money. Adult and Children's Social services will be an increasing burden on Local Authorities and discussions are being held about combining some of these services over the wider S.W. Area (e.g. Adoption and Fostering Services).
- b. **Budget:** Overall the budget will be neutral this year. More will be spent on Adult and Children's Social Services which means there will be less available for other departments. However if the joint working and the programme to become two unitary authorities materialises then there will be less need for office space and lots of plots of land will become available for development.
- c. **Agency Staff:** The County Council is trying to replace agency staff with its own local employees. It is generally difficult to attract both agency and local staff due to the high cost of housing in Dorset which is out of proportion to the low average wage in the County.

17/73. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Mr S. Tong had to leave the meeting before he could deliver his report.

17/74. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT

- a. **Dorset Wildlife Trust:** It was reported that the Clerk had not heard anything from Mr Steve Davies of County Highways or the Dorset Wildlife Trust regarding the seeding of verges with wildflower mixtures. It was resolved to go ahead anyway and three areas had been identified for treatment. 1) The triangle of grass surrounding the fingerpost near Sheephouses; 2) The straight stretch of verge as one enters Hinton Martell and 3) the verge near the Ton Bridge at Gussage All Saints. Cllr Ms Debbie White agreed to brief Councillors on how to proceed and Cllr Mr J. Campbell agreed to obtain a supply of seeds.
- b. **Manswood Play Area:** The Clerk and the Chairman had met with residents of The Buildings and it was agreed that they would cut the grass twice a week, using their own mowing machines. A request was made for the Council to acquire a ride on mower for the residents to use. The Clerk had contacted the agent for Coppid Management Ltd asking for help with cutting the hedge and with repairing the access track to the play area.
- c. **Affordable Housing:** It was agreed that Ms Bryony Stevens had given members lots of useful information to think about so it was resolved to defer a decision until the meeting in September.
- d. **Stanbridge Pumping Station:** It was reported that Mr Andrew Martin has agreed to a site visit to discuss the problems on the C2 road around Stanbridge Pumping Station.
- e. **Uppington Hill:** The Clerk had contacted the Travelwise Team at Dorset County Council who had put her in touch with Damory Coaches. The coach company is not affected by the overgrown hedges on Uppington Hill because

they only use single decker coaches. The Clerk is awaiting a reply to her query regarding the change to the bus route to avoid Uppington Hill.

f. **DAPTC Training**

- a. **Clerk's Seminar** Mrs K. Bradbury to attend
- b. **Budgeting and Precepts:** Cllr Mr S. Wathen to attend
- c. **DAPTC AGM** Cllr Mrs M Cook to attend

Date	Time	Course	Venue	Cost
Thursday 21 st Sept	10.00 – 4.00	Clerk's Seminar	Kingston Maurward	£60
Tuesday 3 rd October	7.00 – 9.00	Essentials for Councillors Part 1	Leigh Village Hall	£65 for both sessions
Thursday 12 th October	10.00 – 12noon	Budgeting and precepts	Dorset Youth Association	£35
Saturday 4 th November	9.30 – 1.00pm	DAPTC AGM	Council Chamber – DCC	N/A
Tuesday 7 th November	7.00 – 9.00	Essentials for Councillors Part 2	Leigh Village Hall	£65 for both sessions

17/75. PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Application No:	Location	Proposal	Type
3/17/2269	Wiamate, Woodcutts Lane – Lodge Road, Holt	Erection of 1no. dwelling	FUL

Parish Council Comments on Planning Applications

- a. **Planning Application 3/17/2269/FUL, Wiamate, Woodcutts Lane, Gaunts Common.** Parish Council comment – NO OBJECTION.

17/76. EAST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING DECISIONS

Application No:	Location	Proposal	Decision
3/17/0962/ FUL	High Lea Farm, Witchampton Lane, Hinton Martell	Retention of relocated Digestate Storage Lagoon for anaerobic digester plant approved under planning permission 3/13/0781	Permit
3/17/1344/ HOU & 3/17/1345 /LBC	Rose Lea, Witchampton	Demolish existing extension and replace with new single storey extension and widen existing access and driveway (amended description)	Permit
3/17/1113/ FUL	Hazelwood Barn, Hinton Martell	Change of use of outbuilding to dwelling	Refuse

17/77. OTHER PLANNING MATTERS

None

17/78. FINANCIAL MATTERS

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

	Details	Amount (£)	V.A.T	Cheque Total	Cheque No:
1	K. Bradbury, Clerk's Salary July 2017 £323.71 and Clerk's Expenses April - June 2017 £3201.86	3525.57	0.00	3525.57	887
2	HMRC PAYE due July 2017	81.60	0.00	54.93	888
3	Cllr Mr S. Wathen - Photocopying	18.00	0.00	18.00	889
4	Mr C.G. Mills - Club Bus Shelter July 2016 - June 2017	110.00	0.00	110.00	890
5	DAPTC Annual Subscription 2017/2018	420.98	0.00	420.98	891
	Total	4156.15	0.00	4129.48	

17/79. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. **Annual Ward Budget Allocation:** Councillors were asked to consider suitable projects to put forward for the Ward Budget allocation meeting and to let the Clerk know as soon as possible.
- b. **East Dorset District Council:** Details of Energy Switch Scheme – leaflets for distribution were passed on to members.
- c. **Local Councils Update:** August 2017 Edition.
- d. **East Dorset Citizens Advice Bureau:** Invitation to “Annual Public Meeting” Thursday 5th October 2017 , 2 – 4pm.

17/80. MATTERS OF INFORMATION

- a. **Cllr Mr S. Wathen:** reported that he had received the results of his village questionnaire. The general consensus regarding a bus shelter was that it was unnecessary.
- b. **Cllr Mrs S. Gilchrist:** Reported that the trees next to the bus shelter in the centre of Witchampton belong to the County Council. They have tree preservation orders on them. The Clerk was asked to inform DCC and EDDC.
- c. **Cllr Mr R. Hill:** Reported that maps of Gussage All Saints dating from 1840 had been discovered. They have been deposited with the Dorset History Centre.

Meeting closed at 9.33 pm

Signed.....
Chairman

Date.....