



BLANDFORD ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council held on 1st November 2017 at The Brewery Hall in Hall & Woodhouse Visitor Centre, Bournemouth Road, Blandford St Mary.

Present: Cllr M Albery Chairman
Cllr R Whitlock Vice-Chairman
Cllr P Hill
Cllr J Dallison
Cllr D Addison MBE
Cllr J Stayt

In attendance: Mrs N Phillips (Parish Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

Public Consultation.

It was requested that the minutes clarify that Karl Endersby – Technical Director for Persimmon Homes South Coast confirmed that the planning approval given for the development at Dorchester Hill is only for one vehicular access and two pedestrian accesses. There are at the moment five openings along the hedge line, the additional two are for drainage and ecology access. The additional two access points will in time be replanted so there will be one vehicle access and two pedestrian accesses only.

The Council had received details of damage that a lorry had caused on the grass verge at the top of Dorchester Hill. Concerns have been expressed that as the development progressed, more Lorries or large vehicles could get stuck. The Clerk confirmed that the County Council are in the process of contacting the haulage company to ask for them to pay for the damage to the verge and also the Clerk is waiting for confirmation of who is responsible for this area, as an idea of placing large stone boulders on the edge of the verge has been raised, this would protect the verge and notice board from further damage. Concerns were also expressed over where contractors working on the site, will be parking. The Clerk confirmed that contractors should park on site, not along the road, this will be monitored once work commences. The Chairman thanked all volunteers for turning up to help with the litter pick around the village and a thank you to Cllr Addison for organising the event.

2017/54 Apologies for Absence and Declaration of Interest.

Cllr Rev Edwards sent his apologies.

2017/55 Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th October 2017

The minutes were proposed, seconded and agreed that the minutes be signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. They were duly signed by the Chairman.

2017/56 Planning

The Chairman asked Cllr Hill to act as the Parish Council's planning officer. Cllr Hill agreed.

2/2017/1538 – Extend existing garage and tarmac driveway – objected.

2017/57 Items agreed to be discussed from last meeting

Up-date on contract for new rubbish bins in the village – The Clerk confirmed that the bins have arrived at Dorset Waste Partnership and is waiting for the date as to when they will be installed.

Up-date on recreation area repairs – The Parish Council has received the annual playground inspection report. Cllr Whitlock will go through the report and arrange for the low risk items to be dealt with.

To consider support for old burial ground – The Council await quotes from Cllr Rev Edwards for supporting maintenance for the old burial ground. The Clerk has received many phone calls of complaint over the poor state of the old burial ground. The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council agree to cut the grass in this area in spring and autumn, to try and make the area more manageable for the Church. It

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Cllr Albery, Cllr Whitlock, Cllr Hill, Cllr Stayt, Cllr Addison, Cllr Lyth and Cllr Rev Edwards

was also noted that the Parish Council give an annual donation to the church, which will be withdrawn to cover the cost of the grass cutting. After debate, this proposal was seconded by Cllr Addison and a majority vote agreed with the proposal. Cllr Whitlock objected.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council will pay for one cut in spring and one cut in autumn at the old burial, ground instead of a cash donation to the Church. The original donation given annually to the Church will be withdrawn. (2017/57 – Donations)

Up-date on Allotments for the Village – The Chairman will be attending a meeting to discuss the next step in obtaining the land for the allotments next week.

To discuss the damage caused to the grassed area at Dorchester Hill: This matter was discussed under public consultation.

2017/58 Finance

The Clerk had circulated the proposed budget for 2018-19, after debate the only matter arising was for the Council to consider if they wish to continue their annual financial support to Little Birch Pre-School for the sum of £1000.00. The Chairman confirmed that he will contact the pre-school for an update on their financial situation and clarification of what the donation would be spent on.

The Parish Council had already agreed not to increase the precept for three years, therefore there the precept will remain the same at £19620.00. The clerk tabled the financial statement to the Councillors with the Payment Schedule for October 2017, the total sum of £1580.52. This was agreed by all. The Clerk had circulated information on investing some of the Parish's money, to try and obtain a better rate on interest. Concerns were raised that the company that had given the information is not covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. The Clerk will look into this further and report back at the next meeting.

2017/59 Chairman's report – the Chairman reported the following: There was no report given.

2017/60 Officers Report:

Cllr Stayt has been working with NDDC Planning Department & DCC as there are still concerns the five year housing plan not being achieved. It is considered that there are more questions than answers in relation to this matter.

Cllr Addison reported that he had contacted the school regarding the overgrowth along Lower School Lane. This School are not in a financial situation to be able to get the necessary work completed until next summer. After debate, Cllr Addison proposed that the Parish Council pay a contractor to cut back the overgrowth along the Lane. This was seconded by Cllr Whitlock and all agreed.

RESOLVED: To instruct a contractor to cut back the overgrowth along Lower School Lane. (2017/60 – Community Benefit)

2017/61 Clerk Report- Correspondence and matters of interest

Cllr Whitlock expressed concern over the state of the road at the bottom of Dorchester Hill and request that once the Gas Company have finished their repairs that the Council request the road sweeper to come and clear the area. It was also noted that the double yellow line still have not been put down. The Chairman confirmed that he will chase this matter up with County Council Highways.

Cllr Hill asked for the Clerk to request that Forum Focus insert the meeting dates in each months magazine. This was agreed.

2017/62 Date of next meeting and agreed items for the next meeting. Rubbish Bins – Finance – Allotments

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on the Wednesday 6th December 2017 at 7pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.54

Signed.....

Website address <http://www.blandfordstmary-pc.org.uk>

Should you wish to contact any Councillor please ONLY use this address.

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Cllr Albery, Cllr Whitlock, Cllr Hill, Cllr Stayt, Cllr Addison, Cllr Lyth and Cllr Rev Edwards