



Blandford St Mary Parish Council

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting which
took place at
The Brewery Hall in Hall & Woodhouse Visitor Centre Bournemouth Road Blandford St
Mary on Wednesday the 4th December 2019 at 7 pm**

Present: Cllr M Albery – Chairman, Cllr R Whitlock – Vice Chairman, Cllr M Dallison, and Cllr I Mackay.

In attendance: Mrs N Phillips (Parish Clerk) and DCC Cllr A Kerby
There were four members of the public present

Public Consultation: It was noted that the work on the cemetery wall has started.

70/19 Apologies for Absence and Declaration of Interest and Dispensations.

The following Councillors sent their apologies, Cllr J Dallison and Cllr Stayt. There were no declarations of interest or requests for Dispensations.

71/19 Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th November 2019. The minutes were proposed by Cllr Mackay and seconded by Cllr M Dallison, all agreed that the minutes be signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. They were duly signed by the Chairman.

72/19 Co-option for new members There were none.

73/19 Items agreed to be discussed from last meeting and items arising through the month

To receive: Update on Allotments – The Chairman will give an update under Chairman's report.

To receive: Update on Bellway Homes – The Chairman will give an update under Chairman's report.

To receive: Update on Action Plan – the action plan was reviewed, the following actions were agreed:

- To obtain costs to replace some of the notice boards plastic fronts. **Action – Cllr Whitlock**
- Reported that no decision will be made regarding the Neighbourhood Plan, by the inspector until after the general election.

To receive: Update on Play Area – the replacement of the fencing for the play area will commence later in December and continue through until January. The Play Area will be closed whilst these works take place but will be opened for the Christmas Holidays.

74/19 Planning.

2/2019/1223/FUL- Land at 9-10 Pigeon Close – erect 4 no dwellings – the Parish Council objected to this application under the following grounds: Over development of the site, the buildings are now too high and there is no confirmation on the application that permission has been granted for the access onto Knights Close.

2/2019/1627/REM - Land South West Of Blandford Forum – erect 350 no dwellings – no objections

75/19 Finance: The Clerk tabled the financial statement to the Councillors with the Payment Schedule for November 2019 and with two late invoices agreed, the total sum is for £2172.86 as listed below. It was agreed by all members for the payment schedule to be accepted and was duly signed by the Chairman.

RESOLVED : to pay the invoices listed below in the payment schedule, (75/19 – current account)

01-Nov-2019	N Phillips	£	706.76
01-Nov-2019	N Phillips expenses	£	70.30
01-Nov-2019	N Phillips Council exp	£	28.00
01-Nov-2019	Viking Direct	£	141.40
01-Nov-2019	Land Development serv	£	420.00
01-Nov-2019	Mark Hinsley allotments	£	72.00
01-Nov-2019	Blandford town council	£	669.60
01-Nov-2019	Blandford town council	£	64.80

Total £ 2172.86

76/19 Dorset Council Cllr A Kerby reported the following:

There are two focus points taking place at Dorset Council, one being the Local Plan for Dorset and the other is the Draft Plan. Consultations are available on the Dorset Council website for viewing and responses.

Concerns were raised over the Social Care and Children's Services, where some of these services are being taken out of Dorset. The Social Care and Children's Services departments are working to try and bring all these services back into the County.

Dorset Council have worked within their agreed budget.

A new bus shelter has been requested for outside Tesco/Homebase, it has been agreed and will chase this up to try and obtain a start date.

Dorset Council have also agreed to move the bus stop near Bryanston Court to the pull- in directly outside Bryanston Court. A date for this has not yet been confirmed.

77/19 Chairman's report. – The Chairman reported the following:

2019 has been an excellent year in many ways. The following details were given:

- Allotments are progressing with Topographical survey having been carried out and our Arboricultural consultant is now preparing an application to remove and crown a number of trees in the new and amended TPO area. This will be followed shortly by the removal of all trees and shrubs outside the TPO area in preparation for allotments.
- Bellway development Community Hall land successfully negotiated, allocated and represented in the latest phase 2 reserve matters plan.
- The Play Park has had new equipment added and new eco fencing will be erected over the next two months.
- This Council is proud to have obtained Quality Council status and achieved an enviable financial situation with excellent sound accounts. Thanks go to our Clerk Nicky Phillips for all her hard work on both these achievements.

78/19 Officers Report:

Cllr J Dallison sent the following bullet point report:

Proposals for Parish and Town council – Feedback from a recent Climate Emergency Seminar meeting was that Councils appear to have no clear plans/targets in place yet. Also frustration at not having any real influence on housing decisions (which of course would include environmental requirements).

First up: a choice: Your own estate and operation – We don't have any at present. Need to consider future estate. A key item was to have solar farms to reduce carbon footprint – so are we in negative carbon footprint. Our future estate will be community hall and allotments.

The whole of the area you cover, but what controls/influence do we have: Note on proposed community hall (see last bullet point): -

Policy B6 (neighbourhood plan) – Blandford St Mary Community Hall (detailed within the BLANDFORD + NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2011 – 2033) - Proposals for a new community hall in Blandford St Mary The location is within the St Mary's Hill development boundary and is convenient for access by foot or bicycle; The scheme provides the community with a meeting place of sufficient size to accommodate office uses, informal socialising, refreshment and indoor recreational activities; Sufficient off-road car parking spaces are provided; The scheme will be sympathetic to the character and scale of the surrounding buildings and landscape; and the scheme design will incorporate features that improve energy efficiency and reduces carbon dioxide emissions. Therefore, would suggest PV installed and no gas, basically all electric.

Short-term Actions: The UK's electricity grid is getting better, slowly. The problem is heat and transport. There is no plan for low-carbon heat. There isn't much of a plan for transport.

Action 1: Lobby central government, insist on a plan and stop the problem getting worse: - ensure all new buildings in your area zero carbon and PassivHaus (reducing heating demand to a very low level rather than relying on renewables). With a south-facing roof. What does our neighbourhood plan say about renewable energy – very little? Needs an environmental policy which is missing. EV charging points on public land.

79/19 Clerk Report – had circulated and acknowledged correspondence.

The Clerk had circulated a proposed Social Media Policy for the Council to consider adopting. It was agreed that this will be deferred until the new year as the Clerk would like to ensure that all Councillors have an additional exclusive email address which is used only for Parish Council correspondence.

Action -Clerk

The Clerk received a letter of complaint regarding the Clerk having sent a letter to no 9 Pigeon Close asking for the hedge to be cut back, The hedge however was not on land at 9 Pigeon Close, it was no 10. The Clerk did apologise to the owner of 9 Pigeon Close over the telephone and the Council unanimously agreed that a letter of apology also be sent to the owner of no 9 Pigeon Close.

Action-Clerk

The Parish Council received an invitation for a representative from Dorset National Park to attend a meeting to give details of the possible benefits of the proposed Dorset National Park. It was agreed to invite them to the April 2020 meeting.

Action-Clerk An

email has been received from a local resident concerned over the grass area at Folly Lane/Dorchester Hill, being used for parking. It was agreed for the Chairman to ask the resident to monitor this and take photographs if possible, it was also agreed to put up a no parking sign on the area. **Action – Chairman and Clerk**

Cllr I Mackay expressed concerns that there seems not to be a policy in place for Dorset Council or Parish Councils for people that submit planning applications to take into consideration materials that can be used to improve the environmental/energy saving. The Clerk confirmed that Dorset Council are looking into this matter and once a policy is put in place the Parish Councils should follow by adopting the same policy.

80/19 Date of next meeting and agreed items for the next meeting
Allotments – Action plan – play area – Bellway Homes - grants

Signed.....

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

Should you wish to contact any Councillor please ONLY use this address blandfordstmary@dorset-atpc.gov.uk

Date of next meeting and agreed items for the next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th February

2020. There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.30

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR