

Minutes of a Meeting of Hilton Parish Council held on Tuesday 1st September 2015 in the Club Room of The Old Brewery Hall, Ansty at 7.00pm

PRESENT Ms J McGuinness (JM) Acting as Chairman
Mr E Bridle (EB)
Mr R Northover (RN)
Mr R Rowe (RR) (7.03pm)
Mrs M Walbridge (MW)

IN ATTENDANCE Cllr J Somper (District) (7.05), Cllr H Cox (County), Shulla Jaques (Clerk), and no members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Ms E Parker (District), Mr Wyld and Cllr Langham.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS HELD ON 21st JULY 2015

The Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting had been circulated. There being no corrections the Minutes were approved unanimously as being a true record and signed by the Acting Chairman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Point 9.1 the potholes in The Knapp had been reported.

4.2 Point 9.2, direction sign for Ansty, RR has contact details for DCC Highways but has not had time to take this forward. RR has spoken with another resident in Pleck Lane who agreed that they were also frequently asked directions to Ansty and the Fox Inn. MW reported that in her experience people using directions from 'SatNav' were often misdirected to Higher Ansty. RR would look into road signs for Ansty. JM would also ask the Fox whether it was intending to put up direction signs.

ACTION RR & JM

4.3 Points 10.9 RR had looked at the formal bridleway sign at the bottom of The Knapp in Hilton and had thought it was in good condition. However EB explained that the sign in question is the old-style wooden carved fingerpost on the corner at Diamond Cottage opposite the Church. Cllr Cox offered to ask the Rangers whether there was a spare post of similar design that could be used. This offer was gratefully accepted.

ACTION Cllr Cox (RR)

4.4 Point 11, recruitment of new Clerk. The Acting Chair reported that the post had been advertised and there had been a good response. Five people had been invited to interview, one did not turn up as they had not received the email. The post had been offered and accepted by one of the interviewees but unfortunately they had emailed at 8.00am this morning to withdraw their acceptance as they had changed their mind, they had not signed a contract. The person who had not received the interview invitation had been contacted again and the Clerk was waiting for a reply. After this interview on the return of CL and AW from holiday, CL, JM and AW will reconsider all interviewees, and select a new clerk. The Parish Council resolved unanimously this way ahead. The Acting Chairman offered thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to the current Clerk for agreeing to take the Minutes of this meeting.

4.5 The DCC Highways survey had been completed by EB, CL, JM and RR. The deadline is this Friday 4th September for any Councillor who wishes to respond.

4.6 The Mobile Library survey deadline is this Friday 6th September. There are not many users of the mobile library on the Parish Council. JM does use the library and has completed the survey (as has the Clerk).

4.7 CL wrote to NDDC in her capacity as District Councillor, and not as a representative of Hilton Parish Council, about the proposal to pedestrianize Blandford Market Place.

5. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS (BY INVITATION)

5.1 Cllr Cox reported that it had been a quiet summer at County. Cllr Cox continues to be involved in strategy for highway maintenance on a reduced budget. It is likely that DCC will ask parishes to take responsibility for keeping road signage clear of over hanging hedgerows and trees. Partly to reduce costs but also because it is a low priority DCC highways cannot respond quickly.

5.2 Cllr Somper reported that it had also been quiet at District level. Milton Abbas Parish Council had applied to NDDC for designation of a neighbourhood area. The proposed Milton Abbas Neighbourhood Area covers the whole of the parished area of Milton Abbas. Designating a neighbourhood area is the first step in the neighbourhood planning process. Full details of the application can be found on the dorsetforyou.com website.

Cllr Cox and Cllr Somper were thanked. Cllr Cox left the meeting at 7.25pm.

6. OPEN FORUM

None (no members of the public present).

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

7.1 Tree application 2/2015/124/CATREE Ashlar, Church Row, Hilton. Proposal: T1 elaeagnus, reduce height by approx. 2m; T2-T3, willow, pollard to a height of approx. 2m; T4, mulberry, reduce overhanging branches by approx. 2m; T5, cotoneaster, pollard to a height of approx. 3-4m. The Parish Council resolved that RN should visit the site and report any issues.

7.2 2/2015/0817/FUL Aller Farm, Ansty. Erect agricultural livestock building and lean-to storage building (demolish existing timber building). GRANTED

7.3 Applications received after agenda published: None

8. FINANCE

8.1 Approval of accounts and signing of cheques.

Accounts and cheques were approved for signature and cheques were approved and signed.

Accounts					
Current account at 31.08.15		£2016.87	Benefit account at 31.08.15		£5029.47
Cheques for signature	Ref	Amount	Cheques for signature	Ref	Amount
PAYE (July) retrospective approval, raised out of meeting	335	£42.80	Clerk's salary (July & Aug 15)	337	£341.10
Old Brewery Hall room hire Sept/Oct/Nov/Dec 15	336	£20.00	PAYE (August)	338	£42.60

9. CLERK VACANCY UPDATE AND NEXT STEPS

9.1 This had been discussed in Matters Arising (4.4). The Acting Chair explained that what had become apparent at from the interviews was that the Parish Council's laptop is now very elderly and will need replacing. It was agreed that The Acting Chair and RR would research costs for a replacement laptop.

ACTION JM & RR

10.0 CHANGES IN HEALTH SERVICE

10.1 The Acting Chair suggested that the Parish Council should be engaged with the outcome of the recent Clinical Services Review which had proposed changes at Dorchester Hospital in particular the proposed closure of the children's Kingfisher ward at the hospital. Councillors had

been aware of a local petition in the village shop against this closure. The review has been postponed until early 2016. Although there had been consultations in towns such as Poole and Dorchester there had been no consultation in the rural areas. Any changes to health service provision in Dorchester could significantly impact residents in rural villages. Parish Council resolved that when the consultation begins there should be a presentation for residents, this might be before or part of an ordinary parish council meeting. Cllr Somper requested that other villages from neighbouring parishes could be invited. The Acting Chair offered to look into this. The Parish Council accepted her offer.

ACTION JM

11. EMERGENCY PLANNING

11.1 Stephen Sanders had put in place a number of emergency plans whilst he had been on the Parish Council. The Acting Chair had attended an open day for emergency services which had introduced her to a range of voluntary emergency organisations. For example in an emergency there is a group of volunteer radio operators who station themselves at Bulbarrow Hill in order to alert the emergency services. The Acting Chair suggested that a meeting for the parish could be organized. The Acting Chair would look into relevant voluntary organisations to attend and also suggested inviting the electricity company(ies) to explain what they do in a power shortage (this suggestion as a consequence of an outage in the village in July). This was agreed unanimously by the Parish Council

ACTION JM

12. HIGHWAYS

12.1 RN reported that there is a very strong smell of effluent in Aller Lane, which appears to be coming from the Fox Inn. It was resolved and agreed that JM would speak to the landlord at the Fox and if necessary contact the Environmental Officer.

ACTION JM

13. RIGHTS OF WAY

13.1 RR reported that the actions from the previous Minutes are in hand. He has spoken to the Senior Ranger and they are in the process of organizing for the gate, on the Hilton bridleway, that swings shut too rapidly to be fixed. RR had offered to undertake any other work on stiles and is in communication with the Ranger about dog gates. RR would also work on the ditch on the bridleway in Hilton.

ACTION RR

14. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence was available on the table.

14.1 The Clerk had received an email of complaint from Carol Eastment on behalf of her and the Chairman of Melcombe Horsey Parish Meeting about Hilton Parish Council's response to the affordable housing scheme in Melcombe Bingham published in the Minutes in the September edition of *Village News*. The Parish Council must by law publish its Minutes and does so on its website and extracts of the Minutes in *Village News* to reach as many residents as possible. In a short discussion it was explained that the Parish Council had been advised by Ms C Bonnett, Rural Housing Enabling Officer, by email on 21 May 2015 of a public consultation event on the proposed design of the scheme to be held on 9th June at Higher Melcombe Manor. Residents of Melcombe Horsey Parish and Hilton Parish had been invited to attend the event. Mr Wyld had attended the public consultation in his capacity as a resident of Hilton Parish. He had then attended the Parish Council meeting that happened to be straight after the consultation meeting and had reported to the Parish Council on the proposed plans. The Parish Council had discussed the matter and felt that it would be relevant to pass on its remarks to the developer/WDDC. The Clerk had contacted Ms Bonnett by email and received an email reply on 19 June 2015. The body of the reply is copied herewith:

The Parish Councils support for the scheme is very welcome. We are appreciate that the development will raise concerns for local residents and will look to address these as much as possible throughout the development process.

With regard to the Parish Council's concerns with the inclusion of flats in the scheme, the designs for this scheme have evolved from the evidence of housing need drawn from the Affordable Housing Needs Survey conducted in the area, the Housing Register and the Council's Expression of Interest list. This has identified a mix of house types required including smaller 1 bedroom properties. If there was evidence to show that the overriding affordable housing need was for larger family housing this would have been considered, however the evidence we have is for a mix of house types. By developing a scheme with a range of property types we hope to address this broad range of need and create a scheme that is sustainable in the future.

I have been advised by colleagues in the planning department that although Hilton Parish Council are not a statutory consultee they are welcome to forward their comments to the application as part of the application process.

Hilton Parish Council completely understands that it is not a statutory consultee for this development. After a short discussion it was resolved to offer by email its apologies for any unintended offence its comments to WDDC has caused Ms Eastment and the Chairman of Melcombe Horsey Parish Meeting.

ACTION Clerk

14.2 Of other correspondence progress on Milton Abbas' request for designation as a neighbourhood area would be monitored. Attention was also drawn to the consultation regarding the proposed changes for waste management services in North Dorset.

15. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

15.1 Budget process to begin

15.2 New laptop

15.3 Dates for 2016 meetings

16. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

6 October, 3 November & 1 December, 7.00pm, Old Brewery Hall, Ansty

End of ordinary business 7.50pm.

CONFIDENTIAL**17. FROM MATTERS ARISING CONFIDENTIAL**

17.1 The correspondence between the Clerk and Ms Crabb, Spectrum Housing was on the table. It was reported that there has been another incident of anti social behavior from the difficult individual involving a different resident. It had been made clear by the Housing Association that it would take at least a year to evict a resident. Evidence must be collected and residents had agreed to keep a diary of any antisocial behavior and to report it. Sherborne Police had refused to submit a report to Spectrum. It was agreed that the service provided by Spectrum had been as good as it could be in the circumstances. No further involvement from the Parish Council was thought to be required at present, however it would monitor the situation.

There being no further business the Acting Chairman thanked those who attended and the meeting closed at 8.05pm.