

Minutes of a Meeting of Hilton Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th June 2015 in the Club Room of The Old Brewery Hall, Ansty at 7.00pm

PRESENT Mr A Wyld (Chairman) (AW)
Mrs C Langham (Vice-Chair) (CL)
Mr E Bridle (EB)
Ms J McGuinness (JM)
Mr R Rowe (RR)
Mrs M Walbridge (MW)

IN ATTENDANCE Cllr Jane Somper (District), Shulla Jaques (Clerk) and two members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Ms E Parker (District) who had another Parish Council meeting to attend.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS HELD ON 12th MAY 2015

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting had been circulated by email. Typing errors were corrected ('Morgan' and 'McGuinness'). There being no further corrections the Minutes were approved unanimously as being a true record and signed by the Chairman. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting had been circulated. There being no corrections the Minutes were approved unanimously as being a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Points 7.1, 10.1, 13, 14.1 and 14.5 of AGM Minutes had been actioned.

4.2 Point 11.1 to be carried forward. A letter had been drafted to the Ranger about the self-shutting gate and ditch on the bridleway in Hilton E10/5 and the stile on right of way 22.

ACTION Clerk

4.3 Point 12.1 to be carried forward. The letters of thanks regarding cutting grass at memorial seat are ready for sending.

ACTION Clerk

4.4 Point 13 Ms McGuinness as Flood Warden has been invited by the Environment Agency to visit the incident room at the Blandford Office and will be attending with members of Gillingham Town Council on 18 June. Cllr Somper and Cllr Langham also expressed an interest in attending and would liaise with Ms McGuinness

ACTION JM

4.5 Point 14.2 has been actioned. The Chairman would be looking into pension providers

ACTION Chairman

4.6 Point 14.3 Mr Bridle would be enrolled on the October DAPTC Councillors' course.

ACTION Clerk

4.7 Point 14.5 Cllr Langham had sent a text to Mr Hiscock immediately after the Parish Council meeting regarding overladen tractors and trailers being driven by contractors through Hilton Village. He had responded by return, apologizing and agreeing to speak to the contractors. A letter had also been sent to Mr M Hill, Network Operations Manager, Dorset Highways reporting the damage to banks along Hilton Hill and at All Saints Church in Hilton. He had replied that Paul Eastwood, the local Community Highway Officer would check the damaged areas and arrange any

repairs as necessary. He also advised that the issue around the size and appropriateness of farm vehicle is a complex and difficult one, however he would investigate further and contact Mr Hiscock. He also suggested that the police could be informed as having an insecure load is a police matter. Unfortunately, in the week leading up to the Parish Council meeting the problem has been continuing. Although trailers now have tailgates chalk rocks are still falling from the sides of the trailers presumably because they are too full. Also there have been large slurry containers, silage trailers and concrete mixers being driven through the villages. Several residents have complained to Mr Bridle and the Clerk. The Chairman opened the matter to the floor and a member of the public also expressed their strong dissatisfaction for the manner in which the very large vehicles are being driven damaging the edges of the narrow country lanes. They also expressed concern that this level of traffic would continue indefinitely and no measures were being taken to improve matters. There was some discussion in which the Parish Council surmised that the amount of traffic would reduce in the future because the chalk is being carried away from the building works currently being undertaken at Lower Farm, the transport of slurry for spreading would be temporary because in the future the farm would have its own slurry and the concrete mixers were also presumably for the construction of the new dairy at the farm. The Parish Council appreciated that the work has to be undertaken but it did share the concern that the contractors have not demonstrated respect for village residents. It was decided that it would be sensible to establish whether chalk and rubble will continue to be moved, whether the contractors had been asked to drive with more care and whether slurry and silage would continue to be transported regularly once the dairy unit is operational. Mr Hiscock would also be invited to attend the next Parish Council meeting. Cllr Langham would draft a letter.

ACTION CL and Clerk

4.8 The Chairman invited further comment and a member of the public reported that the new tracks opening onto the Hilton/Milton Abbas road have exacerbated flooding on the road. This issue had also been reported to Highways and would be investigated.

4.9 Regarding 8.1 of the Annual Parish Meeting Minutes the Chairman suggested that a member of the Parish Council, who has access to the internet, be responsible for liaising with members of the public about potholes. This was agreed and Ms McGuinness agreed to take on this role.

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

5.1 Cllr Somper reported that following the election for NDDC on 7 May NDDC is now made up of 27 Conservative members, 4 Liberal Democrat members and 2 Independent members. All councilors seeking re-election were successful.

5.2 At the NDDC first full council meeting on 22 May members voted to approve the appointment of Chairman of the Council Cllr Victor Fox, Vice-Chair Cllr Audrey Burch, Leader of the Council remains Cllr Deborah Croney, Deputy Leader remains Cllr Graham Carr Jones, Leader of the Liberal Democrats remains Cllr David Milstead. Spokesperson for the Independents Cllr Simon Pritchard.

5.3 As your elected members for Abbey Ward, both Emma and I remain sitting on Overview and Scrutiny. I also sit on Planning Policy Panel, Team North Dorset Panel and Stour Valley and Poole Partnership (SVPP) Joint Scrutiny Panel.

5.4 Emma has been selected to sit as Vice Chair for Licensing and Orders and Vice Chair of Standards. Emma also sits on the Housing Panel, and is a member of the Spectrum Community Forum as a Council representative.

5.5 Jane will be attending forthcoming meetings to note and recommend changes to the Local Plan put forward. Following the preliminary findings for the Planning Inspector there are 27 recommendations. The redrafting of these modifications will be put out to consultation (subject to Council decision) for a period of eight weeks over the summer, this is longer than usual to take into account the time of year and holiday season. Representations received will go back to the Inspector to consider. He may decide to hold further hearings and then issue his final report with

recommendation as the legal adoption of the Plan by the Council. These will affect some of the villages in the ward in relation to the settlement boundaries. However at the time of writing this report we are still reading through the enormous document to ascertain the full details of these recommendations. Cllr Somper explained that she will be focussing on the parts of the Local Plan that affect her ward. These include Milton Abbas, Winterborne Kingston and Winterborne Whitechurch. If Milton Abbas is identified as a larger sustainable village Hilton Parish might wish to consider joining with it to draw up a Neighbourhood Plan.

5.6 We are looking forward to the coming four years at the Council and will continue to keep residents and parishes informed of any changes that would be relevant to areas in the Abbey Ward in addition to any significant changes being made to the Council, and will feed through information relating to the tri-council partnership regarding consultations and when if any changes are due to be made.

5.7 We would also like to make clear that it is unfortunate that Parish Council meetings here in this Parish do seem to clash with others in the ward. It is impossible to be in two places at once and this was a recurring issue with our last term. We always endeavor for at least one of us to be present, but on occasion this may not be possible, but our report will be sent in advance and we are always available to residents either by email or telephone with any issues and concerns they may have. The purpose of our attendance at Parish Council meetings is to inform not only the Parish Council, but hugely importantly to keep residents abreast of what is happening at NDDC.

6. OPEN FORUM

6.1 It was explained to a member of the public that Hilton Parish was part of Abbey Ward, which in turn was in North Dorset District. The Local Government Boundary Commission's Electoral Review of Dorset (on table as correspondence) was recommending changes to divisional boundaries. Cllr Somper explained that if the new recommendations are agreed Hilton and Ansty will move into the ward of Blackmove Vale with Cllr Pauline Batstone who is both County and District Councillor. Hilton Parish will remain within the boundary of North Dorset. The Parish Council had contacted Cllr Cox to ask whether the proposed changes had any affect for her. Cllr Somper forwarded her reply to the meeting. Cllr Cox did not welcome the proposed changes and had argued strongly against them. It appears that the changes to be made are based on numbers of electors in each division. Cllrs Cox's Winterborne Division will lose Okeford and Iberton and gain a significant part of Blandford. Her Divisional meeting on 1 July will have the DCC consultation on the agenda.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

7.1 No applications had been received.

7.2 No planning decisions to date.

7.3 Applications received after agenda published: No formal applications had been received. However the Chairman had attended the public consultation event on the proposed design of the affordable housing scheme held on 9th June at Higher Melcombe Manor. The Chairman reported that the houses were for Yarlington Housing Association. There will be four units, to include two flats, with a total of eight bedrooms and six car parking spaces. The space would be fully utilized. The Parish Council was supportive of the development, however it expressed concern unanimously that the proposed plans included several flats. Members of the Parish Council felt strongly that flats are not appropriate in a rural setting and that the shortage is for houses with at least two bedrooms and some outside space. Not only are there already a number of flats in the area which are difficult to let they do not serve the part of the community within the parish which requires affordable housing, i.e. young couples starting out perhaps with young children. The Clerk was asked to forward the Parish Council's opinion.

ACTION Clerk

8. FINANCE

8.1 Approval of accounts and signing of cheques.

Accounts and cheques were approved for signature and cheques were signed (Mr Northover's signature to be sought after the meeting as only one signatory present).

Accounts					
Current account at 31.05.15		£2444.03	Benefit account at 31.03.15		£5029.47
Cheques for signature	Ref	Amount	Cheques for signature	Ref	Amount
Clerk's salary (May 15)	327	£170.65	Clerk's expenses (stamps and postage audit)	329	£14.81
PAYE	328	£42.60			

8.2 Signatories for both accounts.

It was agreed that Mr Rowe and Mr Wyld would be the new signatories for both the bank and building society accounts. The Clerk to arrange necessary paperwork.

ACTION Clerk, AW & RR

9. FORMALISING DIGITAL INFORMATION BACK-UP

9.1 It was agreed to defer this until the new Clerk has been appointed.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

10.1 It was agreed to invite the community officer to the September Parish Council meeting for advice regarding revitalizing a local Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

ACTION Clerk

11. HIGHWAYS

Nothing to report.

12. RIGHTS OF WAY

12.1 The Ranger had been informed of the adaptations to the stile on RoW 22 however Mr Rowe thought he should meet on site with the landowner(s) and would liaise with Mr Wallis.

ACTION RR

12.2 Mr Rowe reported on progress regarding removal of bird scarers from close proximity of the Ice Drove Bridleway. An email had been sent to the landowner but no reply had been received. Although the tenant had put up signs the scarers were still in place. The Parish Council did not think this was enough as the presence of scarers was effectively closing the bridleway. Mr Rowe had contacted the Ranger for advice about the rules governing the use of bird scarers close to a bridleway and was awaiting reply. He did not think he could do any more for the moment. Mrs Langham would speak to Mr Langham about whether the scarers were necessary now that the crop had germinated. The Parish Council expressed its support for using common sense and consideration for users of the bridleway. Mr Rowe was thanked for working towards finding a solution.

13. RECRUITMENT OF NEW CLERK

13.1 Mrs Jaques had tendered her resignation owing to an increase in workload from another job. A two-month notice period means that ideally a new clerk would be in place for August 2015. It was agreed that an advertisement based on that circulated at the meeting would be placed on village notice boards, the Parish Council website, DAPTC website and in *Village News*. After a short discussion and agreement that the post should be advertised as widely as possible depending on cost an advertisement would also be placed in the *Blackmore Vale* and on *Dorsetforyou* website.

ACTION Clerk

13.1 Deadline for applications would be 24 July 2015. Interviews to be undertaken by Mrs Langham and Ms McGuinness and Mr Wyld if he was available. Date for interviews to be arranged for late July or early August.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence was available on the table.

14.1 Mrs Langham and Ms McGuinness would attend the Forward Together event on 23 June.

14.2 The reply from Paul Eastwood, Dorset Highways Community Officer, regarding the damage to the verges caused by the recent additional farm traffic was read out. There are no safety defects

that currently require repair. However he will keep monitoring the situation when he visits the area. The Parish Council also suggested contacting the Community Police Officer in response to any future reports of apparent careless driving. The Chairman hoped that this reassured residents that the Parish Council was not neglectful of reports such as these that it receives.

14.3 The Parish Council felt that it would be useful to take advice from the Community Police Officer on whether the parish could benefit from any community projects to help make Dorset Safer and therefore be eligible for money from the Safer Dorset Fund.

14.4 It was thought that residents may be interested in the public consultation being planned for the Waste Plan for waste management in Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole. Planning exhibitions will be held in sites where options for waste facilities are being considered and include Blandford and Dorchester. Details of *Village News* and Parish Council website to be forwarded.

ACTION Clerk

14.5 Mrs Langham could attend Cllr Cox's Winterborne Division meeting on 1 July for half an hour. Mr Rowe would also attend.

ACTION Clerk

15. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

None raised

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

As many of the Parish Council could not attend on the first or second Tuesday of July the next meeting will be held on 21st July 2015, 7.00pm, Old Brewery Hall. As this is so late there will not be an August meeting unless there is urgent business. The Chairman offered his apologies that he was away on business for July and Mrs Langham would be acting Chairman at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.