

HILTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 3rd October 2017 at 7pm in The Club Room of The Old Brewery Hall, Ansty

PRESENT: Cllrs J McGuinness (JM - Chairman) C Langham (CL - Vice Chairman) R Northover (RN) M Walbridge (MW) E Bridle (EB) & R Rowe (RR) **IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs S Smith (Clerk) and 2 members of the public

- 1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES:** Cllr A Wyld (AW) County Councillor Pauline Batstone (PB) & District Cllrs Jane Somper (JS) & Emma Parker (EP) were absent from the meeting.
- 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting held on the 5th September 2017 had been circulated (some amendments made) and were approved unanimously as being a true record and signed by JM.
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
- 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST PC MEETING/CLERKS REPORT:** The Clerk has contacted Rolly Skeats at DCC Highways requesting that a member of the Highways team visits the Parish to discuss Highway issues, including the locations of the village drains & gulleys etc. The PC would like to confirmation of which areas they are now responsible for maintaining. A meeting with Paul Starkey (DCC Highways) has been arranged for Friday 6th October 1pm outside The Fox. RR has agreed to meet Paul along with the Clerk. The white markings on the road at Higher Ansty corner, by Pleck lane had worn away. The Clerk reported this to Highways and the markings have now been re painted. Since the September PC meeting the Chairman and Clerk have discussed the current Parish Council policies that are in place. Following points raised, the PC has decided to review and update its Standing Orders, Code of Conduct and Complaint Procedure. The current copies will be circulated by the Clerk for all Cllrs to read and comment at the November meeting.
- 5. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS:** Cllr Jane Somper emailed a short report ahead of the meeting. We still have not received a decision from the Secretary of State with regards to the move to a single Unitary Authority. There is a meeting of the 'Overview of Scrutiny' on October 18th 2pm South Walks House, all Cllrs are invited.
- 6. PSCO TOM BALCHIN – DORSET POLICE RURAL CRIME TEAM:** PSCO Balchin gave us a very interesting talk on the Dorset Rural Police Team and how they work to prevent rural crime in our area. Crime figures for your local area can be viewed by visiting www.police.uk and entering the relevant postcode, a map will then be shown. The map shows the recent reported crimes in our local area. In July 2017 49 crimes were reported in our area. We come under the Blandford Rural South Neighborhood Team. You can also sign up for 'Dorset Police Alert' email messages at this website. The local Police also have a Facebook page & Twitter account. All non-emergency crimes should be reported by dialing 101 or online at 101@dorset.pnn.police.uk. Every 6 weeks the local Police meet with other agencies eg: Fire Service, Environment Agency, Fisheries etc to discuss any local crime issues. Theft of scrap metal, poaching, rouge trading, criminal damage are all frequent crimes in the area. We can help to prevent crime by marking equipment with permanent marker, installing noisy alarms and keeping an eye on our neighbour's property. Fly tipping is not a Police matter and this should always be reported to the Dorset Waste Partnership. PSCO Balchin also talked about scams and that the elderly are particularly vulnerable to this, all fraud should be reported to Action Fraud www.actionfraud.police.uk. The Chairman thanked PSCO Balchin for his very informative presentation.

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7. **OPEN FORUM:** The meeting was attended by 2 residents from Brewery Farm who felt that the issues that they had raised at the September PC meeting had still not been addressed by the PC. JM explained that after discussion with the Clerk it had been agreed that several PC policies would be reviewed and updated. An email had been received by the Clerk from Brewery Farm addressed to the Chairman and it had been received by JM. Brewery Farm had requested that this email was circulated to all Cllrs. The Chairman & Clerk had taken the decision to not do this as it was thought that some of the contents of the email should not be put into the public domain for legal reasons. The Brewery Farm resident was unhappy about this decision and made his feelings known to the PC. The resident again stated that he was going to take the matter further and complain to DCC, the Chairman informed that resident that if he felt that way then he should make a formal written complaint to DCC & the PC.*

8. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS, DECISIONS & ISSUES: 2/2017/1383/FUL Lower Farm, Village Road, Hilton DT11 0DQ** – continue to use land to station 1 mobile home (agricultural workers dwelling) and 2 parking spaces – renewal of temporary planning permission. All Cllrs agreed that there were no objections by the PC

9. FINANCIAL REPORT:

9.1 CHEQUES TO BE AUTHORISED: The following cheques were signed –
£235.41 S Smith - Clerks wages & expenses for September 2017

The 2017 annual audit has been completed by BDO LLP and the Annual Return has been received back by the Clerk. The Annual Return was presented to the PC and the Annual Return & Certificate were accepted by the PC.

9.2 CLERKS ½ YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT: The Clerk presented to Cllrs a bank reconciliation, our income and expenditure April 2017 to present & a copy of the 2017/18 PC budget. The bank account balances are as follows –

- Main PC Treasurers account **£3,966.54** PC Savings Account **£5,056.08**
- Total including uncleared cheques **£8.195.72**

Cllrs Rowe & Langham signed a letter addressed to the bank to enable the Clerk to open another subsidiary account attached to the Treasures account. Once this is set up, the savings account will be closed and the monies transferred over into the new account.

10. MATTERS ARISING:

10.1 PHONE BOX ANSTY/MELCOMBE BINGHAM: The issue of the red phone box in Ansty/Melcombe Bingham was discussed. The mechanism from inside the box has already been removed by BT. The box is owed by BT and on a list of boxes waiting to be removed. The possibility of adopting this phone box by the PC was discussed but no final decision on action was made.

10.2 HIGHWAYS & RIGHTS OF WAY: A letter had been received from a resident with regards to some recent incidents of speeding traffic and horses on the road. It was felt that generally most motorists are aware of the need to pass horses slowly, but drivers from out of the area and the drivers of large vehicle are mostly to blame. The use of some roadside warning signs was discussed, RR agreed to consider this and discuss with the resident affected.

11. **CORRESPONDANCE:** All correspondence had been emailed to Councillors ahead of the meeting, for consideration. There is a Parish & Town Planning session on 26/10/17 at South Walks House – Cllrs are invited to attend. Details on a Heating Oil Club for the area has been received by the Clerk. There is a consultation online which needs to be completed by 6/11/17 proposing a change to the way housing need is assessed.

12. **ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA: Defibrillator & the review of PC policies.**

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 7th November 2017 @ 7.00pm, The Old Brewery Hall, Ansty. End of ordinary business * after the meeting had finished, the resident from Brewery Farm returned with a copy of his email and he circulated this to all Cllrs.

Signed(Chairman) Date