

HILTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 6th December 2016 at 7pm The Club Room of The Old Brewery Hall, Ansty

PRESENT: Cllrs J McGuinness (JM - Chairman) C Langham (CL - Vice Chairman) M Walbridge (MW) R Northover (RN) R Rowe (RR) A Wyld (AW) & E Bridle (EB)

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs S Smith (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

- 1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES:** District Cllrs Jane Somper & Emma Parker were absent from the meeting.
- 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** The Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on the 1st November 2016 had been circulated and were approved unanimously as being a true record and signed by the Chairman (JM).
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
- 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST PC MEETING/CLERKS REPORT:** The November PC meeting was clerked by Liz Sellen and all arising matters were included in the December agenda.
- 5. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS:** District Councillor Jane Somper had sent an email in advance of the meeting with a copy of her December 2016 report. The Planning Department within the Dorset Councils Partnership has been re organized. There are now two teams, Western and Eastern. North Dorset comes under the Eastern Team. The local government reorganization consultation for a possible unitary council for Dorset has now ended. On 11th January 2017, the findings of the consultation will come to Overview & Scrutiny, on the 27th January, the recommendations will be voted on at Full Council. From 1st February, all Dorset councils will have considered the proposals and if all agree on the outcome Dorset councils will all submit to the Secretary of State who makes the final decision. Dorset Waste Partnership is looking to have made savings to its budget of over £1m – due to efficiency savings and this has not affected services. DWP will be charging fixed penalty notices for fly tipping offences following a change of legislation in May 2016, for the maximum amount set out in the legislation. This is £400 fixed penalty notice with a 50% reduction if paid within 7 days. Jane S attended the first DWP Scrutiny meeting last month. The partnership has strong leadership and an efficient team. Jane was impressed with the turnaround that has been achieved.
- 6. OPEN FORUM:** CL talked of her recent visit to the Hurn Recycling Centre and gave Cllrs a brief description of how our household waste is disposed of. Litter in the villages was raised and it was agreed that this would be an item on the agenda at the January 2017 meeting. Fly tipping at Bulbarrow car park was mentioned, it was felt that the new fly tipping fines would not deterrer people from dumping rubbish here as they would need to be caught in the act to be fined.
- 7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS:** **2/2016/1608/FUL - Cothayes Farm Cothayes Drove Ansty DT2 7PJ** Remove roof, build up external walls to increase height of building and erect new roof to form a two storey dwelling. The Parish Council had no objections to this application. **2/2016/1763/TEL - VARIOUS SITES IN NDDC AREA – BT Boxes remove.** BT are applying to NDDC Planning to remove 2 public phone boxes in the Parish. One at Higher Ansty and one at Hillside, Hilton. These phone boxes are hardly used anymore and it was agreed that removing them was a good idea as at present they are subject to vandalism.

- 8. FINANCIAL REPORT:** The following payments were authorized (cheques signed) –
£240.62 S Smith - Clerks wages & expenses for November 2016
£25.54 E Sellen - Clerk Cover for November 2016 PC meeting
£35.00 J McGuinness - flowers for Liz Sellen, Clerk cover 2016

8.1 BUDGET 2017/18: The Clerk provided Cllrs with a draft copy of the 2017/18 Parish Council Budget. The Clerk talked through the various costs and expenses and Cllrs discussed these. It was agreed by all that the precept would need to be increased to cover the rising costs and extra responsibilities that are being handed down to Parish Councils. A lengthy discussion took place as to whether the Parish Council should continue to send donations to charitable organizations, when in order to meet its own costs the precept would need to rise. It was agreed to cut down the on the number and amount given in donations for 2017/18. The Parish Council will only donate to 2 charities in 2017, the Citizens Advice Bureau and the Dorset Air Ambulance at £50.00 each. The Clerk agreed to update the proposed budget and re issue it in time for the January meeting so that it can be finalized to enable the precept request to be submitted.

8.2 ADD SIGNATOURIES TO THE PC BANK ACCOUNT: It was agreed to add Ed Bridle and Richard Rowe as signatories on the Parish Council Lloyds bank account. The Clerk will bring the bank application paperwork along to the January PC meeting ready for EB & RR to visit Lloyds in Blandford.

9. MATTERS ARISING:

9.1 CLERKS EMPLOYMENT: Sam Smith agreed to except the role permanently as Hilton PC Clerk. A contract will need to be drawn up. The Clerk agreed to use a contract from another local PC as a template and email this to JM for approval.

9.2 HIGHWAYS & RIGHTS OF WAY: The Clerk has received a letter from DCC Mike Harries Director for Environment & the Economy in reply to the Parish Councils complaint letter with regards to the proposed cuts to the DCC Highway service. It was felt that the reply letter did not address the Parish Councils original concerns or answer the questions that were asked. It was agreed that at least the Parish Councils views and dissatisfaction with the proposed cuts was now on record at DCC. RR raised the issue of poor signage in the Ansty area. RR proposed that the village signs could be removed and re positioned but it was felt by Cllrs that this was unnecessary and that the signs could be moved or replaced as and when the existing ones come to the end of their life. The new railings at Hilton are now in place but the general opinion is that the sandbags and concrete bases used are unsuitable and will alter the flow of the stream, therefore causing a flooding issue in the winter. Highways have apparently already looked at the issue but the Clerk agreed to raise this again with Paul Starkey at Highways and the Environment Agency. The Flooding at Lower Farm, Hilton was discussed, no action has yet taken place but Highways have been to visit the site and works are planned to alleviate the problem.

9.3 2018 REVIEW OF PARLIMENTARY CONSTITUENCES – BOUNDARY CHANGES: CL provided an explanation that Hilton are due to move into the Wimborne area, whilst Melcombe Bingham will be split between two areas. JM agreed to have a chat with Carol Eastment (Melcombe Horsey) Parish Meeting before the issue is raised further with the Boundary Commission.

9.4 HILTON PC 2017 MEETING DATES: The Parish Council meeting dates for 2017 were agreed as follows: 10th Jan, 7th Feb, 7th Mar, 4th April, 2nd May, 6th June, 4th July, 5th Sept, 3rd Oct, 7th Nov & 5th Dec.

- 10. CORRESPONDANCE:** All correspondence had been emailed to Councillors ahead of the meeting for consideration. A DCC bus travel consultation is running from 1st Dec until 13th January 2017. DCC Dorset Travel proposes the following changes to Dorset's Bus Concessionary Pass Scheme: Removal of free bus travel before 0930 on routes that have no other services until after 1030.

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Simon Hoare MP is holding a roundtable discussion on Friday 9th Dec 2016 in Stourpaine to discuss local and national issues with Parish Councils, unfortunately JM is unable to attend the meeting.

11. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA: Budget 2017/18 – Precept request, CCG Consultation, Village Litter.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 10th January 2016, 7.00pm, Old Brewery Hall, Ansty.

End of ordinary business

Signed(Chairman) Date