

HILTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 7th February 2017 at 7pm The Club Room of The Old Brewery Hall, Ansty

PRESENT: Cllrs R Rowe (RR) M Walbridge (MW) R Northover (RN) & E Bridle (EB)

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

1. **WELCOME & APOLOGIES:** Cllrs J McGuinness (JM - Chairman) C Langham (CL - Vice Chairman) & A Wyld (AW) District Cllrs Emma Parker & Jane Somper were absent from the meeting. Cllr R Rowe chaired the meeting in JM's absence.
2. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** The Minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th January 2017 had been circulated and were approved unanimously as being a true record and signed by Cllr R Northover.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None
4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST PC MEETING/CLERKS REPORT:** Lloyds Bank have confirmed that EB is now a signatory on the PC bank account. RR forwarded his details to the Clerk to enable himself to be added as a signatory before the March PC meeting. The Clerk has visited the Dorset History Centre, Dorchester with the PC historical files and these records have now been archived at the Centre.
5. **DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS:** District Councillors Jane Somper & Emma Parker were both absent at the meeting but it was attended by Pauline Batstone. Cllr Batstone is hoping to be re-elected in May 2017 as the County Councillor for the Blackmore Vale ward. As from May 2017 the PC will move into the Blackmore Vale ward, presently it is in the Winterborne Division ward.
6. **OPEN FORUM:** A resident raised the issue of donations made to charities by the PC. It was discussed whether this was good practice, should the PC be making donations on behalf of the parish residents? It was felt that as the precept has been increased for 2017/18 to cover rising costs and responsibilities, maybe the PC should not be donating money to non-village charities. No charity payments have been made in 2016/17, it was agreed by all Cllrs that apart from Hilton Church & Brewery Hall no further payments should be made for 2016/17. £100 has been set aside in the 2017/18 budget for external charity donations and it was agreed to review this amount in the coming year.
7. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:** None **DECISIONS:** None
8. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** The following payments were authorized (cheques signed)
£227.48 S Smith - Clerks wages & expenses for January 2017
£450.00 Hilton & Ansty Church – PC annual donation
£462.00 Old Brewery Hall – PC annual donation & room hire charges

8.1 BUDGET 2017/18: The Clerk has submitted the precept request to NDDC for the amount **£5,406.41** this is an increase of **£310.41** on the previous year.

8.2 DONATIONS for 2016/17: Discussed as before.

9. MATTERS ARISING:

9.1 VILLAGE LITTER PICK: Cllr Langham will again be organizing a village litter pick for Saturday 18th March 2017. This will be advertised in the Village News. A BBQ will be held after the litter pick for all volunteers. It was agreed that the PC will fund the BBQ up to the amount of £75.00. The Clerk also agreed to contact Tesco Dorchester and ask if they would like to contribute to the BBQ from their community fund.

9.2 HIGHWAYS & RIGHTS OF WAY: Work has started on improving the drainage at the farm gates in Hilton, hopefully this will be completed soon. The stream is flowing nicely alongside the newly installed railings in Hilton and the grass is growing on the newly seeded bank. Clive Jones (Moonfleet) and RR discussed the stiles and gates on Clive's land. Clive stated that he has 7 gates/stiles to look after so changing them all to include dog gates would be a big task and expensive. Dorset Countryside have agreed to contribute towards the cost of dog gates but that would still leave Clive with a large bill to fund. RR agreed to meet with Clive Jones and discuss how he could help with the installation of new gates and with a view to also contributing an amount towards his costs.

9.3 EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT: Moved forward to the March meeting.

10. CORRESPONDANCE: All correspondence had been emailed to Councillors ahead of the meeting for consideration. Hilary Cox has a Division meeting on 21st February 2017 @ 7pm in Milton Abbas, all Cllrs are invited. An email has been received from a company in Ansty offering the PC a verge cutting maintenance service. BBC2 are looking for volunteers for a new programme, the Clerk has put the poster on the noticeboards.

11. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA:

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 7th March 2017, 7.00pm, Old Brewery Hall, Ansty.

End of ordinary business

Signed(Chairman) Date