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Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 16th May 2012 at Monkton Village Hall at 7.00pm

1. PRESENT & APOLOGIES:

Present: Chairman - Mr R. Harrison. Vice-Chairman - Mr R Williams. Councillors; Mrs U. Norman, Mr C. Norman, Mr C. Foot, Mrs S. McSeveny, Mrs Y Doble, Mr A Walters, Mr A. Miller

Dorset County Council: Mr D. Crowhurst

West Dorset District Council: n/a

Clerk to the Parish Council: Andrew Harrison

Invited speaker: Simon Conibear representing the Duchy of Cornwall

Public: five members of the public

Apologies: Mr S. Slade, Mrs M. Miller, Mr D. Read, Mrs L Cheeseman

2. ELECTIONS

2.1. Election of Chairman. Cllr R. Harrison was unanimously re-elected as Chairman. Proposed Cllr C. Norman, seconded Cllr McSeveny.

2.2. Election of Vice-Chairman. Cllr. R. Williams was unanimously re-elected as Vice-Chairman. Proposed Cllr U. Norman, seconded Cllr Doble.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

3.1. Cllr Foot declared an interest in item 7.1.

4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** of 15th February 2012 - the Minutes were accepted by the Council and signed as being correct by the Chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING

5.1. All matters arising were dealt with in the agenda items below.

6. PLANNING, ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

6.1. Park and Ride for Dorchester – The Chairman welcomed Mr. Conibear to the meeting. He explained that numerous residents around Winterborne Monkton had contacted the Parish Council with concerns over plans for a park and ride facility to the south of the junction with the A35 and the A354 at the Stadium Roundabout. As the Parish Council was not aware of any such plans he asked Mr. Conibear if any more information could be released to the Council and residents.

Mr. Conibear replied that although this was early days for any proposal the issue had been discussed on numerous occasions between different agencies over the past ten years or so. He reminded Councillors of West Dorset District Council's 2010 park and ride consultation which favoured a site at Monkeys Jump (the preferred site of WFPC). However it was a sensitive site with numerous landscaping difficulties so the Duchy would not have been happy to promote it. He continued that a developer had produced a plan last year for the Monkton site that was not acceptable, however two other plans existed which he could produce to give an idea of a layout.

There was some discussion of the two plans. The site would also be intended to accommodate a filling station, restaurant and possibly a hotel in a service area for the A35. Cllr U. Norman and Cllr C.

Norman informed Mr. Conibear of the floods experienced each winter on the land. Mr. Conibear replied that this would be a problem for engineers to solve; Cllr Williams noted that although engineers may attempt to solve the problem nearby residents must live with the result if they get it wrong.

Cllr C. Norman asked if the best place for a park and ride facility was possibly inside the Dorchester bypass. Mr. Conibear noted that wherever the site was located there would be a major impact, however it was currently a concern of the Highways Agency that no proper rest stop existed on the A35 between Bere Regis and Bridport.

Cllr Walters asked Mr Conibear where the demand for a park and ride facility came from. Mr Conibear replied that the requirement was coming from West Dorset District Council and that the Duchy was acting as an interested landowner. Cllr Walters drew the meeting's attention to a recent article in the Dorset Echo reporting on low usage of the Mount Pleasant park and ride in Weymouth.

The Chairman concluded by noting that any such proposal here would only add further congestion to the A354, largely negating the recent work by the Highways Agency which expanded the roundabout. He thanked Mr Conibear for his attendance.

Mr Conibear left the meeting

- 6.2. Weymouth Relief Road. The Chairman outlined recent correspondence regarding the Dorchester Road Improvement Plan. Emma Baker had responded to the Council's original objections to elements of the Plan, maintaining that Dorchester Road and Stottingway Street would remain accessible to heavy vehicles needing access to agricultural premises. She noted WFPC's proposals to remove the requirement for some of these vehicles to use Dorchester Road and Stottingway Street by the installation of a mini-roundabout at the junction of Goulds Hill and Friar Waddon Road but stated that the funding received could only be spent on Dorchester Road itself. There was some discussion about the Plan and the Clerk undertook to contact Ms Baker to express the Council's continued disappointment at the inflexibility of DCC.

The Chairman noted that the temporary removal of Condor Ferries traffic from Weymouth had done something to alleviate the traffic problem at lower Bincombe, however DCC were still working on a long-term solution.

The Chairman also noted that while planting had been put in place which stopped drivers making U-turns via the cycle path at Icen Lane, recently much of it had been vandalised or stolen or otherwise removed. He informed the Council that the Clerk had notified DCC of this.

- 6.3. Speed Limits – The Chairman outlined a letter received from Andrew Brown, Traffic Engineering Team Manager, Dorset County Council. He explained that Mr Brown had written to all Parishes regarding requests from residents for speed limits, weight and parking restrictions, traffic calming, signs and lines etc. He continued that Mr Brown and DCC were of the opinion that Parishes were the ideal forum for deciding economically, efficiently and democratically the best interest of the community.

Cllr Crowhurst added that Mr Brown was considering numerous applications for speed limits, including those requested in the past by WFPC. The Clerk undertook to write to Mr Brown directly setting out the Council's support for these applications.

- 6.4. DCC – Cessation of Parish Maintenance Units – The Chairman outlined the contents of these documents, which were noted. He explained that Andrew Martin, Head of Highways Operations, DCC stated that DCC are no longer able to ringfence this funding which will be returned to the general maintenance fund. This followed the reorganisation of the DCC Highways operation.

- 6.5. DCC – Highways capital programme 2012-13 – The Chairman outlined the contents of these documents, which were noted. He explained that this document detailed DCC funded capital works taking place in the coming year. Works in the WFPC area would be the resurfacing of the A352 at Whitcombe, planned for October 2012, and the resurfacing of Icen Lane in Bincombe planned for December 2012.
- 6.6. DCC – Public Path diversion (Bridleway 2 Whitcombe, part Bridleway 1, Footpath 3 & Bridleway 7 Came). The Chairman outlined the contents of these documents, which were noted.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Full details of planning applications and decisions can be viewed at:

<http://webapps.westdorset-dc.gov.uk>

- 7.1. WDDC 1/D/12/000586 – *Six month temporary installation of a 15m mast on a temporary moveable trailer housing 3no. antennas, 1no. 600mm dish, 1no. equipment cabin, 1no. generator, 1no. fuel tank (Full), MANOR FARM, LITTLEMOOR ROAD, WEYMOUTH.* The Chairman explained that this was a new application by **Vodafone** to provide extra capacity and coverage during the Olympics. There was no objection given the infrastructure requirement for London 2012 and the temporary nature of the installation. The Clerk was asked to respond noting that this did not infer any tacit approval from WFPC regarding any future use of land to the north of Littlemoor Road.
- 7.2. WDDC 1/D/12/000688 – *Dressing of roundabouts with official 2012 Olympic Look and Feel (Advertisement), JURASSIC ROUNDABOUT AND BINCOMBE BUMPS ROUNDABOUT, WEYMOUTH.* No objections. The Clerk was asked to respond noting that this did not infer any tacit approval from WFPC regarding any future use of land to the north of Littlemoor Road.
- 7.3. WDDC 1/D/12/000542 – *Change of use from agricultural to equestrian (Full), ADJ. GARDENERS COTTAGE, 1 WHITCOMBE FARM COTTAGES, WHITCOMBE.* New application. There was some discussion about this application. Cllr Walters noted that the site was protected by its location within a scheduled monument. No objections.
- 7.4. WDDC 1/D/11/002102 – *Demolition of existing garage and the erection of a two story side extension (Full), 8 REDPOLL CLOSE, WEYMOUTH DT3 5SF.* No objection from WFPC, approved.
- 7.5. DCC 1/D/11/002061 – *Planning application for underground section of gas pipeline to link gas feed from application site to pressure regulating station adjacent Monkey Jump Roundabout, Rainbarrow Farm, Martinstown, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 9JF.* No objection from Monkton, approved.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- 8.1. Localism Act and new code of conduct – The Chairman informed the Council of recent work around the adoption of new codes of conduct under the Localism Act. He noted that at some point it would be necessary to adopt a new code of conduct.
- 8.2. Dorset Police – Enquiry Office review – The Chairman outlined the contents of these documents, which were noted. He informed the Council that although the opening hours for enquiry offices around the WFPC area were mainly unchanged, Dorset Police had announced the closure of enquiry offices at Lyme Regis, Gravel Hill and Boscombe with reduced opening times at Gillingham, Wimborne, Shaftesbury and Verwood. Cllr Crowhurst noted the very low level of callers to many police stations.
- 8.3. DCC – Mobile library service review – The Chairman outlined the contents of this document,

which were noted.

- 8.4. Olympics update – The Chairman noted that this was the last meeting before the 2012 Games begin. He reminded the Council that Olympic sailing events would run from the 29th July to 11th August, followed by Paralympic events from 1st September to 6th September. The Olympic torch relay will be passing through the area on the 12th (Dorchester) and 13th (Weymouth & Portland) July.

9. INTEREST AND INFORMATION

- 9.1. No matters of interest or information were raised.

10. TREASURERS REPORT

- 10.1. Accounts 1st February to 30th April – these were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.
- 10.2. Annual Accounts 2011-12. These were accepted by the Council unanimously. Proposed Cllr Foot, seconded Cllr A. Miller.
- 10.3. Annual Return 2011-12. This was accepted by the Council unanimously. Proposed Cllr McSeveny, seconded Cllr A. Miller.
- 10.4. Clerk's statement of assurance. The Clerk assured the Council of his responsibility for his tax arrangements.
- 10.5. Payments
- 10.5.1. Aon Insurance. Proposed Cllr C. Norman, seconded Cllr Walters, unanimous
- 10.5.2. Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils. Proposed Cllr C. Norman, seconded Cllr McSeveny, unanimous.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 15TH AUGUST 2012

13. DATES OF FOLLOWING MEETINGS: November 2012 tba, 13th February 2013

The meeting closed at 2040 (8:40pm)