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Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 21st August 2013 at Monkton Village Hall at 7.00pm

The meeting began slightly late at 1915 (7:15pm)

1. PRESENT & APOLOGIES:

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

Dorset County Council:

West Dorset District Council: Mr S. Slade

Clerk to the Parish Council: Andrew Harrison

Apologies: Mr C. Norman, Mr A. Canning, Mr A. Miller, Mrs M. Miller

Members of the Public: Ms J Webster

2. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR FOR BINCOMBE

- 2.1. Following the carrying out of the proper election procedures by West Dorset District Council, Ms Jenny Webster was co-opted as a Councillor for Bincombe. Proposed Cllr McSeveny, seconded Cllr Foot, carried unanimously.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

- 3.1. Cllr Foot declared an interest in agenda item 8.1.
- 3.2. Cllr Walters and Cllr Williams declared an interest in agenda item 7.6.

4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** of 8th May 2013 - the Minutes were accepted by the Council and signed as being correct by the Chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING

- 5.1. Cllr Slade said he would have a meeting on site within the coming weeks to discuss the request for a litter bin at lower Bincombe.

6. COUNTY AND DISTRICT UPDATE

- 6.1. Cllr Slade gave an update on the shared service partnership between Weymouth & Portland Borough and West Dorset District Councils. He informed Councillors that headcount had been reduced and numerous service managers had departed.
- 6.2. Cllr Canning had been unable to attend the meeting and it was decided that he should be asked to provide a written update should he be unable to attend meetings in the future.

There was some discussion regarding the DEFRA badger cull as Cllr Canning was known to be opposed to it. There was some concern that his views on this subject did not reflect the

needs of his ward with regard to badgers and the problems they cause to local farmers. It was unanimously decided to make this point to Cllr Canning.

7. PLANNING, ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

- 7.1. West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland Local Plan. The Chairman outlined the current status of the local plan procedure with regard to the proposed site at Came View. He informed the Council that the site had been removed from the local plan as a historic environment assessment had not been completed by West Dorset District Council. He continued that a report drawn up by officers also noted the 2000 plus comments from members of the public, and comments from English Heritage and Natural England that suggested further work needed to be done to demonstrate that development on the site would not have a harmful impact. The removal of the site from the local plan was approved by Full Council on 14th May. The Chairman noted that it had been possible to raise a very strong case against the inclusion of this area of land in the local plan, helped in part by the literary connections of the land and the large audience of the two literary societies involved. Cllr Walters noted that although the land had been removed at this point, all the parties involved should be wary of WDDC looking for another opportunity to use it in the future.

The Chairman concluded by stating that the local plan as a whole had been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and Paul Crysell BSc MSc MRTPI had been appointed to act as Inspector. No date had been set for the Public Inquiry to take place but it was set to take place later in the year.

- 7.2. Application to upgrade Bridleway 1 to a byway open to all traffic (DMMO T4413) – Bincombe. The Chairman set out the current position. He explained that the application, which the Parish Council had objected to at the start of the year, had been refused by the Dorset County Council Rights of Way committee on 6th June. He went on to warn Councillors that the same applicant had successfully appealed another refusal and outlined some email correspondence he had had with DCC on that matter, asking them amongst other things if the point could be made on the DCC Rights of Way website that using a motor vehicle on a footpath or bridleway without permission is illegal. He suggested some wording as used by Cambridgeshire County Council which DCC undertook to investigate.
- 7.3. AONB Partnership Draft Management Plan 2014-2019. The Chairman outlined the contents of this document, which were noted. There was some discussion of the document and it was decided to respond to the consultation, outlining WFPC's support for the AONB designation but at the same time reminding the Partnership of its own responsibility to the AONB, particularly with regard to the proposed future use of land north of Littlemoor Road for housing.
- 7.4. Refurbishment of Fingerpost, Greenhill Barton. The Chairman explained that WFPC had been approached by Mr Jones, a resident of Sutton Poyntz, who was applying for a grant to refurbish a damaged fingerpost at Greenhill Barton. Mr Jones was applying to WDDC under the Conservation Community Planning Grant scheme. To access this funding he was required to obtain an expression of support from the relevant Parish Council, which we were happy to provide.
- 7.5. Naming of roundabout, West Stafford bypass. The Chairman outlined an email from Steve Howard, DCC regarding the naming of this roundabout. The proposal was to name the

roundabout Stafford Gate for mapping and sponsorship purposes, to which there was no objection.

- 7.6. TESLA Exploration – Seismic survey of local area. The Chairman explained that TESLA would be carrying out a seismic survey in September on behalf of Egdon Resources who hold a licence from the Department of Energy & Climate Change to appraise the Dorset area for oil and gas. The survey would mostly be along public highway but would also involve some access to private land which had been negotiated with landowners directly.
- 7.7. DCC – Road closures for Dorset County Show. The Chairman outlined the usual closures over the weekend of the show.
- 7.8. DCC – New Dorset Waste Plan. The Chairman explained that a new waste plan was being formulated, and that DCC had started the process with a number of questions for initial comments up to the end of September.
- 7.9. DCC – Dorset Highways – Councillors Survey. The Chairman explained that this survey was designed to obtain the views of Councillors on the services Dorset Highways provides. Cllrs Walters, Foot, McSeveny and Webster requested a copy.
- 7.10. DCC – Security of Whitcombe Pit Depot. Cllr Walters had raised concerns with DCC over the security of this depot, given the number of groups of travellers moving through the area. WFPC were able to get the depot secured within a day although it appeared that the depot was currently in use and DCC staff had left it unsecured on several occasions. Cllr Walters had emailed Martin Hill (copying in Cllr Canning) to make sure this was addressed.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Full details of planning applications and decisions can be viewed at:
<http://webapps.westdorset-dc.gov.uk>

- 8.1. WDDC 1/D/13/000009 - *Change of use of existing buildings and storage of materials in adjacent fenced compound (Full), WEST FARM, LOWER BINCOMBE, WEYMOUTH DT3 5PS.* This application remained undetermined.
- 8.2. WDDC 1/D/13/000850 – *Steel framed barn for the storage of hay, straw and machinery (Prior permission not required), COOMBE FARM, CHAPEL LANE, UPWEY, WEYMOUTH DT3 5NB.* The Chairman explained that this construction did not require the prior approval of WDDC, but following the “notification application” development must be begun within five years

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- 9.1. Electoral review of West Dorset. The Chairman explained that the electoral review previously announced last year was now underway, and that the Boundary Commission would be consulting on WDDC’s ward boundaries in the Autumn.
- 9.2. Pest Control update. The Chairman outlined the contents of document, which were noted.

- 9.3. Dorset Local Access Forum. The Chairman explained that the forum was looking for new members. Any persons interested in applying should do so by the end of the month.
- 9.4. Public Health Dorset – update. The Chairman outlined an update on the Public Health service in Dorset following its transition from the NHS to Dorset County Council.
- 9.5. Alteration of November meeting date. The Chairman explained that both he and the Clerk would unavoidably be away in the second half of November. It was decided to hold the meeting on 6th November instead.

10. INTEREST AND INFORMATION

- 10.1. Cllr Foot informed the Council that he was applying to the Big Lottery Fund to repair the dry stone wall at Goulds Hill.

11. TREASURERS REPORT

- 11.1. Accounts 24th April – 31st July – these were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

- 11.2. Payments

- 11.2.1. DAPTC - £211.87 (an increase of £7.16) – proposed Cllr Walters, seconded Cllr Foot, agreed unanimously.

- 11.2.2. Internal Audit, Mrs Butcher - £20.00 – proposed Cllr Walters, seconded Cllr McSeveny, agreed unanimously.

12. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

- 12.1. No members of the public were present.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 6th November 2013

The meeting closed at 2020 (8:20pm)