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Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 15th February 2017 at Monkton Village Hall at 7.00pm

1. PRESENT & APOLOGIES:

Present: Chair – Ms Jenny Webster. Vice Chair – apologies. Councillors: Mr Raymond Williams, Mr Charles Norman, Mr Alec Walters, Mr Roger Holehouse, Mrs Suzanne McSevney, Mrs Yvonne Doble, Mr Graham Brant.

Dorset County Council: - West Dorset District Council:- Mr Robert Freeman

Clerk to the Parish Council: Andrew Harrison. **Apologies:** Mr Andy Canning, Mr Derek Read

Also present: Mr Peter Stein

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS.

2.1. There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING of 16th November 2016. The minutes were accepted by the Council and signed as being correct by the Chair.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1. It was generally agreed that there were no matters arising from the minutes that would not be dealt with under agenda items.

5. COUNTY AND DISTRICT UPDATE

5.1. Mr Freeman informed the Council that Christchurch, Purbeck and East Dorset Councils had voted against the reorganisation of local government in Dorset. He commented that Christchurch and Purbeck felt that they could stand alone, however this stance might change once the costs of social care was factored into budgets. He stated that it was hoped to have a view from central government on the proposed reorganisation within the next few months.

Cllr Holehouse asked if there was a chance that the proposals could amount to nothing. Mr Freeman replied that this might happen, but that a reorganisation of some description was most likely.

6. PLANNING, ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

6.1. Local plan update. The Chair informed the Council that the consultation on the local plan review options paper had begun and would run until 3rd April. At Came View was area D4, the same area as brought forward in 2012 as DOR11 in the amendments to the local plan but with an indicative capacity of 850 dwellings as opposed to 1000, and a noted constraint around the impact on the listed Max Gate and Old Came Rectory. To the west of Dorchester, adjacent to Monkey's Jump was area D6, within Winterborne Monkton Parish. To the east of Upwey was area W3 with an indicative capacity of 180 dwellings. This area is within the AONB, between the railway line and the relief road in the area of Chapel Lane and Old Station Road.

The Clerk had set out some preliminary bullet points based on the Council's existing stance around development at these sites, and there was some discussion about the proposed land allocations. Cllr Holehouse stated that the proposals were not coherent with parish boundaries.

Cllr Walters asked Mr Freeman about the governance arrangements at WDDC. Mr Freeman replied that WDDC was still being run under the cabinet system. He added that there would be a drop-in event at South Walks House to discuss the local plan review on 27th February.

There was some discussion about area D4. Cllr Norman stated that it was time for a long term decision on the direction in which Dorchester wished to expand further. Cllr Walters noted the unsuitability of the site, with any sewage produced having to be pumped up hill. The site would also be separated from the rest of Dorchester by the A35. Cllr Norman observed that the current junction with the A35 was very poor. Cllr Brant added that the addition of extra traffic to the A35 strengthened the case for a full ring road around Dorchester. Cllr Williams observed that the proposals constituted a short term view of the requirements of future development.

There was further discussion of area W3 and D6. Cllr Holehouse stated that any development at D6 would dominate views of Maiden Castle from a number of aspects.

The Clerk undertook to produce a draft response for the three areas D4, D6 and W3 which he would circulate to Councillors for their comments.

- 6.2. A352 at Whitcombe. The Chair explained that Cllr Walters and Cllr Holehouse had attended a meeting with Mr Potter at Dorset County Council to discuss the last set of speed survey data, and that there was a proposal to amend some of the signage. Cllr Holehouse noted that the speed survey showed a small reduction in the overall area but that the restriction had not had a huge effect. He additionally noted that only a small cohort of drivers would be affected by a limit, and that thinking was now turning to targeted signage at 'hot spots' with the aim of getting drivers to moderate their speed at a particular point. He concluded that he and Cllr Walters had discussed the signage proposals but needed to have another meeting with Mr Potter. He added that Mr Potter was quite receptive to comments from the parish council.

Cllr Walters informed the Council of the three survey sites – by the old Dorchester Show ground, at Whitcombe and on the approach to Broadmayne. He observed that Broadmayne seemed to have more influence in the trial than WFPC, and that the Council's main concern was not the lengths of empty road but the blind bends and settlements along the route. He had come to the conclusion that the problem in these two areas was severe, however a limit all the way from Dorchester to Broadmayne would not work and DCC were not interested in limiting a shorter stretch. He noted the signage proposal put forward by Mr Potter, but the main problem was the blind bend, in a cutting with no way off the road which he felt the signage proposal did not address. He agreed that a further meeting with Mr Potter would be necessary.

- 6.3. WDDC – paperless planning project. The Clerk updated the Council on this project, stating that he had attended a meeting at WDDC with other Clerks, including some who have been trialling the paperless system for a year. One of the Clerks set out the procedure he had agreed with his Councillors, most of which WFPC was doing already. There was general agreement at the meeting that complex electronic arrangements involving computers and projectors had numerous issues, and councillors attending meetings preferred to look at paper plans. The suggested process was:
- 1) Receive the consultation notice by email only
 - 2) Check the planning application has been uploaded to the planning website
 - 3) Email councillors with the application forms and link to the application
 - 4) Ask them to send their responses using reply to all so all Councillors can see
 - 5) Other councillors and clerk can then gauge if the application is complex or controversial, and needs to be attended to at a meeting.
 - 6) If the application proceeds to a meeting, ask the agent or applicant for paper copies of the plans.
- Applicants and agents were being told that they must be in a position to produce paper copies for parish councils.
- 6.4. DCC Highways – Councillor survey results. The Chair explained that the areas of highest satisfaction were driver safety, helpfulness of Travel Dorset, ease of reporting online, keeping roads clear of obstruction and advance consultation/warning of road works. Areas of lowest satisfaction were condition of road surfaces, dealing with cars parking on pavements, badly managed works and illegal

parking.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

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

- 7.1. **WD/D/16/002767** - Alterations and extension of existing dwelling and convert/incorporate adjoining barn into residential curtilage (Full), BAYARD BARN, BAYARD FARM, BINCOMBE. New application for discussion. The Chair explained that this application followed the certificate of lawfulness issued in 2015 and was an application to extend the existing permitted dwelling to incorporate the adjoining barn. It was generally agreed that the proposal would be good for the area's built heritage and provide improved security to the farm buildings – support.
- 7.2. **WD/D/16/001869** – Increase height of chimney stack from 1.5m to 1.8m, 4 WHITCOMBE FARM COTTAGES, WHITCOMBE, DORCHESTER, DT2 8NY. This application was approved on 1st December 2016.
- 7.3. **WD/D/16/001728** – prior notification application for proposed road, DEWFLOCK FARM, WINTERBORNE MONKTON, DORCHESTER, DT2 8NP. The Clerk informed Councillors that he had received a phone call from Mrs Bamlet. He informed her of the Council's abilities to object to prior notification applications (none) and told her what had been discussed at the meeting. Mr Freeman added that the applicant had undertaken to try and mitigate the effects of noise and traffic during licensed events.

Cllr Walters left the meeting at 8.10pm

- 7.4. **WD/D/16/000739** - Outline application for a mixed use development comprising: up to 500 dwellings, including affordable housing; up to 8 ha of employment land (to include a new hotel, residential care home, car show rooms and other employment land); land for a new primary school; a new local centre; public open spaces, new accesses and roads, and associated infrastructure (Outline), LAND TO THE NORTH OF LITTLEMOOR ROAD, WEYMOUTH. This application was still under consideration.
- 7.5. **WD/D/16/001396** - Change of use of land last used for equestrian purposes to campsite (Full), THE WILLOWS, ICEN LANE, BINCOMBE, WEYMOUTH DT3 5PY. This application was deferred and withdrawn from the WDDC planning meeting agenda, but was still extant.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- 8.1. **Local government reorganisation**. The Chair informed the Council that the nine main councils in Dorset had now considered the proposal to create two unitary authorities in Dorset. Six of them voted for this option, and a submission to change the structure of local government in Dorset was now to be submitted to Sajid Javid, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.
- 8.2. **South Dorset Ridgeway projects**. The Chair explained that the Clerk had received a letter from James Sharpe, South Dorset Ridgeway Landscape Partnership Manager: *The Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), through its South Dorset Ridgeway Landscape Partnership (SDR LP) has funding to support eligible Parishes in the recording and conservation of their heritage, including public green spaces, restoration of locally distinct features (including traditional finger post road signs), training & support of local volunteers (on, for example maintaining footpaths around the villages) and publishing records of & celebrating local heritage.* WFPC was one of 20 parishes eligible for this funding. Cllr Holehouse said he would look at this with the local history group.
- 8.3. **Dorset CCG – clinical services review**. The Chair outlined the contents of this document, which were noted.

- 8.4. Healthwatch Dorset – newsletter. The Chair outlined the contents of this document, which were noted.
- 8.5. Royal funeral protocol - The Chair outlined the contents of this document, which were noted.
- 8.6. Funding – Sport England community asset fund - The Chair outlined the contents of this document, which were noted.

9. INTEREST AND INFORMATION

- 9.1. Cllr Brant raised the issue of bus subsidy cuts which did not affect the main bus services passing through the WFPC area but did affect people on the periphery. Cllr Williams noted that in some areas services were provided by commercial bodies, for instance supermarket buses. Mr Freeman noted that unitary authorities could get additional devolved funding for transport subsidy but of Dorset was not in that situation. He said he would be working with Alan Thacker on pointing out the DCC the lack of joined up thinking in transport and noting the development of Crossways which was being expanded without any addition in public transport.

10. TREASURERS REPORT

- 10.1. Accounts 1st November – 31st January – these were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.
- 10.2. Precept 2017-18. £2600. The Clerk stated that the precept had been confirmed at £2600.
- 10.3. Future audit arrangements. The Clerk informed the Council that the accounts for this financial year 16-17 (to be presented at the May meeting) would be audited as in previous years by BDO Stoy Hayward. As a smaller council, an external auditor would not be required in FY 17-18 and future years as long as financial and transparency information was published online. He confirmed that WFPC was already doing this.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. No members of the public were present.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 24th May 2017

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.