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Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 15th November 2017 at Upwey and Broadway Memorial Hall at 7.00pm

1. PRESENT & APOLOGIES:

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

Dorset County Council: Mr Nick Ireland. West Dorset District Council:- Mr Robert Freeman

Clerk to the Parish Council: Andrew Harrison. **Apologies:** Ms Jenny Webster, Mr Derek Read

The Clerk explained that, at short notice and due to illness, Cllr Webster was unable to attend the meeting and had sent apologies, and that Cllr Read was also unable to attend. A Chairman must be elected to run the meeting or it could not proceed. Cllr Norman indicated he would be willing to chair the meeting. This was proposed by Cllr Walters, seconded by Cllr Holehouse and carried unanimously.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS.

2.1. There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING of 16th August 2017. The minutes were accepted by the Council and signed as being correct by the Chair.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1. Item 5.1 – the caravan had now been moved.

4.2. Item 6.1 – Mr Freeman stated that equestrian policy was in a state of flux. Cllr Walters replied that he was interested specifically in West Dorset District Council's position with regard to planning policy for equestrian development. Mr Freeman said he would look into this.

5. COUNTY AND DISTRICT UPDATE

5.1. Mr Freeman stated that local government reorganisation was open for further consultation, but other councils still needed to be fully on board. Mr Ireland noted that Christchurch was also considering rejoining Hampshire, and that the local government reorganisation proposals were not yet a done deal. Mr Freeman added that the timescale (2019) was very tight.

5.2. Mr Freeman informed the council that the speed limit on the West Stafford bypass would be temporarily restricted to 30mph for three days from 20th November.

6. PLANNING, ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

6.1. A352 at Whitcombe. The Chair informed the Council that a fatal road traffic collision had taken place at Whitcombe on the morning of Monday 16th October. Both drivers were local and from the Dorchester area, and sadly the passenger in one of the cars died from their injuries.

Oliver Letwin MP had written to Mike Harries, Director of Environment at DCC to note that '*this does seem to bear out the dire warnings that something was going to go very wrong on the A352 with the current speed limits*' and asks that the speed limit be reconsidered. Mr Ireland had also written to Oliver Letwin to provide some detail on the specific hazards between the West Stafford roundabout and Broadmayne.

Mr Ireland stated that there would be a meeting at County Hall with Oliver Letwin on 8th December,

which would be attended by Cllrs Walters and Holehouse. Mr Letwin had been contacted by a resident. The 50mph limit would now be permanent.

Cllr Walters replied that ideally the limit would be lower but that the council did not want the 50mph limit removed.

There was some discussion about the layout of the road. Mr Ireland noted that the incident was still sub judice and this was acknowledged. Cllr Walters stated that he was concerned that the parish council had been fobbed off over a period of years and that it should have pushed harder for action on this stretch of road, having not been given the full picture by Dorset County Council on what was and was not possible. This was especially noticeable with the recent news that the A353 was to have a 40mph speed limit from Osmington to Preston.

It was decided that it would be appropriate to write to the coroner noting that WFPC had been raising the issue of safety along this stretch of road for some years. The Clerk undertook to do so.

- 6.2. Local plan review. The Clerk explained that the consultation summary had now been published. At the first round of consultation earlier in the year WFPC had objected to three sites, D4, D6 and W2. The Clerk went on to summarise some of the other responses from both private and statutory consultees with regard to these sites.

At site D4 (Came View) one of the private submissions stated that 'the landowner does not support D4 and has no intention of developing the site'. Natural England stated that 'option D4 is likely to be more prominent in views from the Dorset AONB than options D1-3. Further landscape assessment will be needed to ensure significant issues relating to the setting of the Dorset AONB are avoided', while Historic England said 'further explanation/evidence is essential to enable development in such a sensitive landscape'. DCC noted that development here would impact on the A35, the Max Gate junction and the necessary foot/cycleway links. A number of other private comments objected to this site.

At site D6 (west of Poundbury) Historic England said 'development to the south of Bridport Road, west of Poundbury would have a significant deleterious effect on Maiden Castle. Not supported.', while Natural England believed it was 'likely to significantly harm special features of the AONB'.

Site W2 (between the A354 and railway line, Upwey) apparently has support of the landowners. Both the Dorset AONB and Natural England objected to the site, both stating concerns over the cumulative impact on the AONB when combined with development on the LITT1 site. DCC also pointed out the constrained access to the site.

The Clerk concluded that the next stage of the review process was to gather further research and identify the 'preferred options' for the plan. These preferred options would be consulted on in early summer 2018.

Cllr Norman asked if the requirement for a northern bypass for Dorchester had been removed. Mr Freeman replied that the signs pointed towards development being concentrated on Crossways and the north of Dorchester, which would suggest such a road was still required although there were various issues, including building on flood plains, to be overcome.

- 6.3. Minerals and waste plan consultation. The Clerk stated that consultation would begin on 1st December on the pre-submission drafts for the Dorset-wide minerals and waste local plans, providing allocation of sites and strategy up to 2033.

- 6.4. Parking issue – Meadow View Road/Littlemoor Road (Bincombe). The Chair explained that Mr Freeman had been contacted by a resident of Meadow View Road about the visibility problems caused by cars parking on the wide pavement of Littlemoor Road (within Weymouth & Portland) obstructing

visibility. Mr Freeman stated that the police were not keen to get involved, and that the county council could not assist. The only solution would be double yellow lines. He would write to the relevant borough councillor. The Clerk undertook to do the same.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

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

- 7.1. **WD/D/17/001808** - Convert existing redundant agricultural traditional barn to form 3 no. dwellings. (Full), DEWFLOCK FARM, WINTERBORNE MONKTON, DORCHESTER, DT2 8NP. Initial objection from Monkton, withdrawn after clarification from applicant. This application was still under consideration.
- 7.2. **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 refused on 21st September.
- 7.3. **WD/D/17/001860** - Proposed telecommunications installation upgrade and associated works, TELECOMMUNICATIONS MAST, BINCOMBE HILL, BINCOMBE, WEYMOUTH DT3 5PU. Prior approval not required, determined 24th August.
- 7.4. **WD/D/17/001121** - Formation of site access off carriageway (Full), COPPICE SOUTH OF CAME DOWN, BINCOMBE. This application was approved on 17th August.
- 7.5. **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. Cllr Freeman undertook to contact Planning for an update.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- 8.1. Future use of Monkton Park. The Chair explained that the issue of Monkton Park was discussed at the DCC cabinet meeting on 6th September. The cabinet resolved *“That the retention of Monkton Park to explore options for utilisation of the site, including the potential of providing an SEMH Special School, and the re-provision of the Learning Centre on the site (Paragraph 4.1.13 of the report) be approved.”*
- 8.2. Ironman 2017. There were generally positive comments following the 2017 event. Cllr Holehouse noted that having DCC employees on the important junctions was the main improvement.

Cllr Norman informed the Council that he had attended a meeting earlier in the day where he heard a number of farms had experienced problems, including that of ‘closed’ signs being left on the Dorchester bypass for longer than necessary causing needless traffic jams. The meeting had been constructive, however he noted that the 2018 event would be a week later, in the middle of the maize harvest and potentially a late harvest. He asked if a recompense fund could be made available in the event of disruption.

Mr Ireland reported that Kevin Cheleda (Traffic Team Manager, DCC) had appreciated all the feedback.

- 8.3. Local government reorganisation. The Chair informed the Council that Sajid Javid, secretary of state for communities and local government had announced that he was “‘minded to’ implement the locally-

led proposal for improving local government in Dorset”, stating that “I am satisfied on the basis of the information currently available to me that this proposal if implemented is likely to improve local government across the area, establishing two new councils with a credible geography, and which would command local support. The existing nine councils will be replaced by a single council for the areas of Bournemouth, Poole, and that part of the county of Dorset currently comprising the Borough of Christchurch, and by a single council for the remainder of the current county area.”

- 8.4. Arrangements for future meetings. There was some discussion regarding the venue for the meeting, and for that of future meetings. While it was acknowledged that the Council had met exclusively at Monkton for some years, Cllr Norman noted that the meetings used to alternate between Monkton and Bincombe. Cllr Holehouse proposed that the May and August meetings be held at Monkton, with the November and February meetings being held at the Upwey and Broadwey Memorial Hall. This was seconded by Cllr Doble and carried unanimously.
- 8.5. South Western Railway – proposed timetable change. The Chair informed the council that SWR were consulting on major changes to their timetable from December 2018. It was proposed that there would be one direct Weymouth-Waterloo semi-fast train per hour (all of them calling at Dorchester South), with the stopping service that calls at Upwey, Moreton etc being diverted to Portsmouth Harbour. This would mean that passengers from Upwey or Moreton travelling to Waterloo would either need to change at Southampton Central or catch the 0539, 0633 or 0733 ex Weymouth services for a direct train. The semi fast service would be twelve minutes faster Weymouth-Waterloo. SWR had recently issued a further statement about this particular proposal that suggested they may look again at the service west of Bournemouth.
- 8.6. Dorset Waste Partnership - update – The Chair outlined the contents of this document, which were noted.

9. INTEREST AND INFORMATION

- 9.1. No matters were raised.

10. TREASURERS REPORT

- 10.1. Accounts 1st August – 30th September – these were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.
- 10.2. Precept 2018-19. The Clerk presented the precept proposal for the coming financial year. The first option involved keeping the Clerk’s salary unchanged at £2013, while the second raised is to £2077 in line with the current pay figure, the Clerk’s salary being worked out using the National Joint Council for Local Government Services National Salary Award pay scale. The Clerk explained that for many years the WFPC Clerk’s role had been set at spinal column point 20 of band LC1 - £19238 if it were a full time role. This produced an hourly rate of £9.99 (£19238 divided by 37, divided by 52). The Clerk’s salary was based on a nominal four hours per week although this varied throughout the year - £9.99 multiplied by four multiplied by 52 produces £2077.

The second option, raising the Clerk’s salary and setting the precept at £2670 was proposed by Cllr Norman, seconded by Cllr McSevney and carried unanimously.

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

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 21st February 2018**

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

<p style="text-align: center;">IMPORTANT – LOCATION FOR NEXT MEETING: UPWEY AND BROADWEY MEMORIAL HALL, VICTORIA AVENUE, WEYMOUTH DT3 5NG</p>
