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*Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at Winterborne Monkton Village Hall at 7.00pm*

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**1. PRESENT & APOLOGIES:**

**Present:** Chair – Ms Jenny Webster. Vice Chair – apologies. Councillors: Mr Charles Norman, Mr Roger Holehouse, Mrs Yvonne Doble, Mr Graham Brant, Mr Alec Walters, Ms Suzanne McSevney  
Dorset County Council: Mr Nick Ireland. West Dorset District Council:- Mr Robert Freeman  
**Clerk to the Parish Council:** Andrew Harrison. **Apologies:** Mr Raymond Williams, Mr Derek Read

**2. ELECTIONS**

- 2.1. Election of Chair. Cllr Webster indicated she was willing to stand for another year as Chair. Proposed Cllr Doble, seconded Cllr Holehouse, carried unanimously.
- 2.2. Election of Vice Chair. Cllr Norman was proposed as vice-chair. Proposed Cllr Holehouse, seconded Cllr Brant, carried unanimously.

**3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS.**

- 3.1. There were no declarations.

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** of 21<sup>st</sup> February. The minutes were accepted by the Council and signed as being correct by the Chair.

**5. MATTERS ARISING**

- 5.1. Cllr Norman asked a question regarding potential action to restrict right turns at the junction of Winterborne Monkton and the A354. Mr Ireland said this would not be happening.

**6. COUNTY AND DISTRICT UPDATE**

6.1. Mr Ireland

6.1.1. Fly tipping at Bincombe – Mr Ireland informed the Council that he had met Mr Foot on site at the corner of Icen Lane, Bincombe. Dorset County Council were not minded to bring the fence forward to the road, or install portable CCTV, but had suggested bollards which Mr Foot was not keen on. Understandably, he would prefer this activity to take place on the County Council's land and not his.

6.1.2. Dorset County Council budget – the budget was underspent by around £4m at the end of 2017-18 after some capital reallocations – this money was put into reserves. The County Council was being expected to deliver further savings of £12m in 2018-19, and were aiming for a balanced figure for handover to the new authority in 2019.

6.1.3. Local government reorganisation (LGR) – the Secretary of State for communities and local government had given his approval for LGR to take place in Dorset. A Structural Change Order (SCO) had been drawn up and was at committee stage in Parliament. A legal challenge had been put forward by Christchurch Borough Council but it was unclear how successful this might be. The SCO should be signed by 4<sup>th</sup> June and would allow the creation of the Shadow Authority. The Shadow Authority would meet, elect a chair and appoint a shadow executive. It was envisaged that the Shadow Authority would meet three times.

6.1.4.LGR: boundaries – the Dorset Area Joint Committee had a task and finish group for boundaries, as the Boundary Commission could not advise authorities that did not exist. It was envisaged that there would be 82 councillors with around 3700 people per councillor, but if the DAJC plans did not go through the new authority would use the Dorset County Council wards with multiple members. Cllr Holehouse asked whether parish boundaries could be changed; Mr Ireland replied that they could in theory but this was not something the DAJC wished to do.

Mr Ireland continued that it was envisaged that the current DCC Linden Lea division would be split between four new wards. The entire area of Winterborne Farringdon Parish Council would form part of a new ward Broadmayne and Winterborne, along with Winterborne Steepleton, Winterborne Abbas, Broadmayne and Knightsford. Ian Bruce, a Weymouth & Portland borough councillor, had contacted Mr Ireland to discuss moving the urban parts of Bincombe to Weymouth. It was generally agreed that the upper part of Plaisters Lane could be moved in such a way but not the areas north of Littlemoor Road. The DAJC did not recommend any such change in any case.

Cllr Brant asked whether parishes would be compelled to take on extra services in the future; Mr Ireland replied that there would be no expectation for them to do so.

6.1.5.LGR: council tax – this was being looked at by another committee of the DAJC. Currently council tax rates were different across Dorset, but the aim was to harmonise. While the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole authority would harmonise within five years, the DAJC would recommend to the Dorset Shadow Authority that they should harmonise on day one by working out the average and increasing this by 2.99 per cent. This would result in a change to local council tax payers as follows:

Former West Dorset District Council area	+ 4.99 per cent
Former North Dorset District Council area	+ 5.7 per cent
Former Weymouth & Portland Borough Council area	- 5 per cent

6.1.6.LGR: Christchurch disaggregation – around 11 per cent of Dorset County Council’s income and expenditure was in Christchurch and this, along with assets and services needed to be costed and disaggregated from the Dorset authority.

6.2. Mr Freeman stated that fly tipping was on the increase, to the extent that rubbish was even being tipped over gates in some areas. After a period of difficulty, the Dorset Councils Partnership planning search time had been reduced to fifteen days. Although this was a significant improvement the target from central government remains at ten days.

## 7. PLANNING, ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

7.1. A352 at Whitcombe. The Chair informed the Council that it had been asked to express its formal support for the permanent implementation of the 50mph speed limit between Dorchester and Broadmayne. Following consultation with the Whitcombe councillors this had been done.

Cllr Walters stated that he did not believe the County Council’s intransigence with regard to a lower speed limit was related to budgetary restrictions, rather an unwillingness to upset motorists. Cllr Holehouse added that there was a lobby that resented lower speed limits and wondered whether Mr Potter and the team at DCC were trying to balance this.

Cllr Walters added that he would like to understand where the DCC policy on speed limits was coming from, and asked if there had been any further information on when an inquest might be held. The Clerk replied that there had not, but he would attempt to find out. It was also generally agreed that Daryl Turner, the responsible briefholder, should be invited to a future meeting. Cllr Freeman

undertook to do this.

- 7.2. Local plan review. The Chair informed the council that there had been no further developments with regard to the local plan review, and it was unclear how LGR might affect the local plan process. Cllr Freeman answered that he did not believe it would to any great extent.
- 7.3. Highways proposed capital programme 2018-19. The Clerk informed the council that the A352 between Broadmayne and Warmwell Cross would receive 'premium surface dressing in the next few months.

## 8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

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

- 8.1. **WD/D/18/000431** - Change of use of agricultural land to dog walking /activity area together with the erection of fence enclosure. Expansion of existing hardstanding to provide parking for two vehicles and the erection of a field shelter. (Full), DEWFLOCK FARM, HERRINGSTON LANE, WINTERBORNE MONKTON, DORCHESTER, DT2 8NP. There was no objection from Monkton but concerns over noise and vehicle access had been relayed to the applicant and the planning office.
- 8.2. **WD/D/18/000279** - Conversion of existing garage to dining room & erection of new garage on the side of house. Erection of boundary fence. (Full), 14 FIRECREST CLOSE, WEYMOUTH, DT3 5RY. Cllr Brant told the council that he would write to the Head of Planning regarding the services in the ground below the proposed garage.
- 8.3. **WD/D/18/000393** - Remove extensions and outbuildings, construct extensions and alterations (Full), FORTUNESWELL, CHAPEL LANE, UPWEY, BINCOMBE, WEYMOUTH, DT3 5ND. Bincombe objected to this application on the grounds of impact on the edge of the AONB, approved on 8<sup>th</sup> May.
- 8.4. **WD/D/18/000110** - Change of use from stable to holiday let (Change of Use), THE WILLOWS, ICEN LANE, BINCOMBE, WEYMOUTH, DT3 5PY. No objection from Bincombe, this application was still under consideration.
- 8.5. **WD/D/17/002314** - Erect 3 cart shed garage within residential curtilage of Bayard Barn Farmhouse. (Full), BAYARD BARN, BAYARD FARM, BINCOMBE. No objection from Bincombe, this application was still under consideration.
- 8.6. **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.
- 8.7. **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.

## 9. OTHER BUSINESS

- 9.1. Number 5 bus service – The Chair reminded the council that in January First gave up the operation of the number 5 bus service, and that Damory were currently running it on an experimental basis. Mr Ireland had subsequently learnt that First intended to run a commercial service between Weymouth and Warmwell in the summer that might 'cherry pick' customers during the more profitable season.

Mr Ireland informed the council that DCC could not influence this, and he had been unable to progress the matter to any extent with First.

- 9.2. Future use of Monkton Park. Mr Ireland explained that the previously mentioned special needs school would be set up, but in Bovington. Monkton Park would however remain in DCC ownership, with other departments moving into the main building. It was generally agreed that this item could be removed from the agenda.
- 9.3. Fly tipping. It was generally agreed that this subject had been discussed previously
- 9.4. Ironman 2018. The Chair informed the council that Ironman Weymouth would be on 23<sup>rd</sup> September this year, across the same course. Alan Rose, race director, was once again happy to visit parish councils to discuss issues and concerns.
- 9.5. Local government reorganisation. The Clerk informed the council that he had recently attended a meeting at South Walks House to discuss the issue of ‘downward devolution’. Attendees were told that WDDC generally delivered more discretionary services than other local authorities and there were some concerns about how some of these might be delivered in a unitary authority – the top five being toilets, tourist information centres, discretionary grants, economic development and street cleaning.

A number of town councils had been developing ambitious plans to take on some services in their areas currently being provided by WDDC in exchange for funding. There was also discussion of parishes potentially doing this, clubbing together to provide services or even contributing parts of their precept to neighbouring town councils to provide services.

Many concerns were raised by small parish councils that they were not resourced to do any of this. WDDC’s response was that downward devolution was optional and there would be “no compulsion on any parish council to make any change that they do not want to make”. As there were few, if any, discretionary WDDC services being delivered in the WFPC area the Clerk recommended that the council simply note his report.

- 9.6. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) – the Clerk explained that the GDPR would come into force on 25th May. A potentially big issue for all parish councils, being public authorities, was going to be the requirement to appoint a data protection officer which could not be the Clerk or any councillor. This had the potential to add significantly to the pay costs of parish councils, many of whom generate little to no personal data. DAPTC were urging councils to do nothing at this point. In the past two weeks an important amendment had been made to the Data Protection Bill going through parliament to remove parish councils and parish meetings from the scope of being ‘public authorities’ - this would mean that a DPO was not required.
- 9.7. Charges for contested elections – the Clerk explained that WDDC would charge for contested elections after 1st April 2019. Parish elections in Winterborne Farringdon were rarely, if ever, contested, and the fees would be recovered in the following financial year. This would mean that if any charges were incurred the council would always know the exact cost before setting the precept, as they would not be recovered until financial year 2020-21. Cllr Freeman suggested that this might not happen in the new unitary authority.
- 9.8. Clerk salary payment and PAYE – the Clerk informed the council that insurers now require an Employer Reference Number to validate a new insurance policy. To obtain one of these, he needed to register the council as an employer and thus he would have to be paid in the future under PAYE. He intended to defer his payments while he worked out what needed to be done. There would be a few more cheques to sign as tax payments would now have to be made directly to HMRC. He undertook to keep Councillors informed.

## 10. INTEREST AND INFORMATION

10.1. No matters were raised.

## 11. TREASURERS REPORT

11.1. Accounts 1<sup>st</sup> February – 30<sup>th</sup> April – these were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

11.2. Annual accounts 2017-18. Proposed Cllr Brant, seconded Cllr Holehouse, carried unanimously.

11.3. Annual return 2017-18. The Clerk explained that this was the usual rounded at-a-glance summary. Under the new audit regime the Council was required to send a statement of exemption to the new auditor PKF Littlejohn, who would then check that the Council had published the relevant information online at <https://www.dt3web.co.uk/wfpc/transparency/> . Proposed Cllr Holehouse, seconded Cllr Walters, carried unanimously.

11.4. Payment – BHIB insurance. The Clerk informed the Council that, following Aon's exit from the parish council market, BHIB Insurance Brokers had offered the Council a competitive renewal quotation of £285.08. This policy was underwritten by Aviva. As ever the market remained very small. Proposed Cllr Norman, seconded Cllr Brant, carried unanimously.

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

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 29<sup>th</sup> August 2018**

*The meeting closed at 8.50pm.*

**IMPORTANT – AMENDED DATE FOR NEXT MEETING:**  
**29<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

**LOCATION FOR NEXT MEETING:**  
**WINTERBORNE MONKTON VILLAGE HALL, WINTERBORNE MONKTON,  
DORCHESTER DT2 9PT**