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Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 29th August 2018 at Winterborne Monkton Village Hall at 7.00pm

1. PRESENT & APOLOGIES:

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

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS.

2.1. There were no declarations.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING of 16th May. 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 any matters arising were dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

5. COUNTY AND DISTRICT UPDATE

- 5.1. Dorset County Council budget – the child and adult services budget was already overspent, with little that could be done to control spend. A large number of out of county placements were adding to the strain.
- 5.2. Highways – most metrics were worse. The highways department was fifteen officers short and cash reserved for capital programmes was having to be spent on regular revenue expenditure.
- 5.3. Local government reorganisation (LGR) – lots of decisions were now being referred to the new authority. The shadow authority had met, with 140 councillors attending, and had elected a chair and vice chair. It was envisaged that the shadow authority would meet three times; its next task was to appoint a chief executive. A number of the existing chief executives had applied for the role along with some external candidates. The interim officers were Matt Prosser (interim chief executive), Jason Vaughan (interim S151 officer) and Jonathan Muir (interim monitoring officer). The political makeup of the shadow authority was all Conservative, bar one Liberal Democrat from West Dorset and one Labour from Weymouth & Portland.

Council tax harmonisation still needed to be approved by the Department for communities and local government to take effect on day one of the new authority. If this was not approved by DCLG it would need to be phased in over five years. There would be no reorganisation on day one and possibly for the first six months. Financial and payroll systems would continue as previously. The day one saving would be from a single chief executive and a single set of directors, although lots of staff were leaving of their own accord. This had a side effect that the programme delivery team for LGR was also not up to strength. The south west audit partnership had also raised concerns regarding the new authority's ability to deliver on day one.

There was some discussion regarding devolution of assets. The new authority was looking to keep all revenue or value generating assets. It was envisaged that parishes with toilets would get around £20k to take them on, plus two years' running costs.

Mr Ireland concluded that all in all, transformation work had been costed at around £27m but there was no budget to fund it.

- 5.4. Mr Freeman added that lots of detail was still uncertain. There were thoughts that planning matters would be decided by area planning committees instead of a central planning committee.

6. PLANNING, ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

- 6.1. Local plan review. The Chair informed the council that the Preferred Options consultation, to identify options for delivering housing, has begun and will run until October. None of the sites that we objected to in the previous consultation around either Dorchester or Upwey have been brought forward, proposed sites for development around Dorchester being confined to the north of Dorchester and the former prison site.

The policy regarding development north of Littlemoor (LITT1) had been fleshed out to provide a 'vision' for any development. It retained the requirement for advance tree and copse planting along the northern and eastern boundaries 'to ensure that these improvements have time to establish and mature' and stated that the masterplan should 'create a positive out-facing edge when viewed from the Ridgeway'.

Cllr Norman stated that the trees and planting needed five years to mature. The council would continue to object to the policy, stating that while it was pleased to see the importance of the border between urban development and the AONB being realised, it was still important that this be realised.

- 6.2. A352 at Whitcombe. The Chair informed the council that the coroner's office had written back to the Clerk, stating that an inquest had not yet been held, but that if criminal charges were brought then it might not be required. The Clerk was asked to reply to the coroner's office, thanking them for their reply and to ask for a fuller response when this was possible.

There was some discussion regarding the next approach to Dorset County Council. Mr Freeman suggested asking the DCC briefholder, Daryl Turner, what speed limit would be acceptable through Whitcombe that the police would support. Cllr Walters undertook to contact Cllr Turner to arrange a meeting.

Mr Ireland stated that another avenue might be the DCC petition process [[link](#)], which would require fifty signatories for the petition to be discussed by a petition panel, or 4250 signatories to be discussed at a full meeting of the council. Mr Freeman undertook to speak to Broadmayne parish council to see if this was also something they would be interested in.

- 6.3. Dorset AONB management plan consultation – the Chair outlined the contents of this document, which were noted. Cllr Norman asked if there was any progress to the idea of Dorset having national park status. Mr Ireland and Mr Freeman replied that this was an idea that was being worked up by private individuals and was not being driven by the local authorities.
- 6.4. Dorset highways – annual performance report. the Chair outlined the contents of this document, which were noted. Cllr Walters noted that the report was bland, and not very insightful.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

- 7.1. **WD/D/18/001022** - Change of use of agricultural building to dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) and for associated operational development (Prior Approval Agricultural to dwelling), ICEN FARM, ICEN LANE, BINCOMBE, WEYMOUTH, DT3 5PY. Objection from Bincombe, application withdrawn 8th

August.

- 7.2. **PL/2307/18** – (DCC application) - Removal of existing classroom and replacement with another from elsewhere on site, MONKTON PARK, WINTERBORNE MONKTON, DORCHESTER DT2 9PS. No objection from Monkton, approved on 28th June.
- 7.3. **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. Approved on 6th June.
- 7.4. **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. Approved on 15th May.
- 7.5. **WD/D/18/000110** - Change of use from stable to holiday let (Change of Use), THE WILLOWS, ICEN LANE, BINCOMBE, WEYMOUTH, DT3 5PY. Approved on 21st June.
- 7.6. **WD/D/17/001808** - Convert existing redundant agricultural traditional barn to form 3 no. dwellings. (Full), DEWFLOCK FARM, WINTERBORNE MONKTON, DORCHESTER, DT2 8NP. Approved on 23rd May.
- 7.7. **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.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- 8.1. Number 5 bus service – Mr Ireland informed the council that Damory had confirmed that they would continue to run the service until at least January. He asked residents to please support the route where possible.
- 8.2. Local government reorganisation. It was generally agreed that this had already been discussed to the satisfaction of everyone attending the meeting.
- 8.3. Ironman 2018. It was generally agreed that the 2018 event had built on the improvements made in 2017.
- 8.4. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) – the Clerk informed the council that he had produced a number of policies covering data protection, data breaches, subject access requests and data retention. He would circulate to councillors ahead of a future meeting so they could be formally adopted.
- 8.5. Chair absence protocol. The Chair informed the council that the Clerk had drawn up a brief procedure to cover instances when she or a future Chair might be unavailable to chair a meeting. It was generally agreed that this was satisfactory.

9. INTEREST AND INFORMATION

- 9.1. Cllr Walters noted that he had been contacted by a local resident who was concerned at the prospect of a new slurry lagoon within Whitcombe valley. He added that the valley was a nitrate vulnerable zone, and that the local drinking water supply was collected at the bottom of the nearby Knighton valley. The proposed site was around 100yds from where the resident lived. The Clerk informed Cllr Walters that he was not aware of a planning application for such a development. Mr Ireland and Mr Freeman

undertook to find out more.

- 9.2. Cllr Walters informed the council that he was increasingly concerned regarding the future of Whitcombe racing stables. Crops had been planted on a number of the training fields so there were evidently few or no horses, it appeared that lots of people without an equestrian connection were using the accommodation on site and parts of the site were also being let for tourism. He continued that West Dorset District Council should provide assurance to the parish council that the S106 agreement in place would be upheld. Mr Freeman undertook to look into this.
- 9.3. Cllr Brant informed the council that his attention had been drawn to the part built house located in Coombe Valley Road. Mr Freeman said that he was aware that people had been living there, apparently with the permission of the landowner. He undertook to look into this.

10. TREASURERS REPORT

- 10.1. Accounts 1st May – 31st July – these were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.
- 10.2. Annual return 2017-18. The Clerk explained that the auditor, PKF Littlejohn had acknowledged the council's online publication of its annual return.
- 10.3. Payment – DAPTC subscription, £238.54, a rise of £5. Proposed Cllr Norman, seconded Cllr Brant, carried unanimously.
- 10.4. Payment – Mrs Butcher, internal audit, £20 as per previous years. Proposed Cllr Norman, seconded Cllr Brant, carried unanimously.

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

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

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

LOCATION FOR NEXT MEETING:
UPWEY AND BROADWEY MEMORIAL HALL, VICTORIA AVENUE, WEYMOUTH DT3 5NG