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Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 17th November 2021 at 7.00pm – at Upwey and Broadwey Memorial Hall

1. PRESENT & APOLOGIES:

Present: Chair – Ms Jenny Webster. Councillors: Mr Charles Norman, Mr Graham Brant, Mr John Trent, Mr Raymond Williams, Mr Alec Walters, Mrs Suzanne Mcsevney, Mr Roger Holehouse
Dorset Council: Mr Roland Tarr

Clerk to the Parish Council: Andrew Harrison. **Apologies:**

Members of the public: none

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS.

2.1. None

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING of 18th August 2021. The minutes were accepted by the council and signed by the Chair.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1. Following the last meeting, the clerk had provided Cllr Norman with statistics from Wessex Water giving dates and times of the operation of the sewage pumping station at Martinstown.

5. DORSET COUNCIL UPDATE

5.1. Mr Tarr informed the council that he had been off sick so would possibly have a shorter report than usual. He updated the council on the recent works at Monkey's Jump where large pipes had been installed beneath the road surface to resolve the long standing drainage problems on the roundabout, these having been mostly caused by the presence of nearly two metres of clay beneath the chalk.

On the other side of the Dorchester bypass near Came, the next part of the drainage works were being planned. Here most of the flooding was held by the camber of the road which would require digging under the surface to resolve. Mr Tarr stated that Highways England were trying to avoid a scheme that would involve closing the road, however the works were likely to overrun the allocated budget so they were trying to decide how to fund them.

On the A35 at Winterborne Abbas, Highways England were looking to install an average speed limit within the next eighteen months. It was thought that such an installation would not only reduce speeding but also improve the flow of traffic.

6. PLANNING, ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

6.1. Major planning application - land north of Littlemoor Road. The chair informed the council that following the last meeting, a subgroup of councillors had met with Mr Tapscott from CL Planning, who had been contracted on behalf of the applicant to carry out public engagement prior to submission of the detailed 'reserved matters' application. Notes of this meeting had been sent to councillors and Cllr Brant had undertaken some further email correspondence with Mr Tapscott.

There was some discussion concerning drainage of the site and the effect on the RSPB reserve at Radipole Lake, and the presence on the site of flammable Kimmeridge clay. Mr Tarr drew councillors' attention to a geological survey that had been undertaken by Southampton university during the

construction of the Weymouth relief road that was available on the internet¹.

Cllr Brant noted that the parish council had been excluded from the S106 process in the determination of the outline planning application for the site. There was further discussion concerning the planting to the north of the site and the affordable component of the housing offer.

- 6.2. Major planning application - Whitcombe stables. The clerk informed the council of an email he had received from Emma Telford (senior planning officer, DC) noting that the applicant intended to withdraw the current application and put forward a reduced scheme. This had not yet happened and the current application remained extant.

There was some discussion regarding the planning application and the activities being carried out at the site, and it was decided to invite Matt Prosser to a future meeting of the council to discuss these matters in further detail.

- 6.3. A352 at Whitcombe. Mr Tarr informed the council that he was still waiting to hear the outcome of the scrutiny committee's review of Dorset council's approach to speed limits, and would chase this.
- 6.4. McDonalds – parking and litter. The chair informed the council that following the completion of the Monkey's Jump roundabout works, the contractors' site cabins had been removed and replaced with earth bunds along the roadside in the manner described by Mr Tarr at a previous meeting. There was some discussion and it was thought the situation was generally improved.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

<https://planning.dorset.gov.uk/online-applications/>

- 7.1. **P/OUT/2021/02032** – Outline permission to demolish existing barn and erect 1no. dwelling (all matters reserved), LAND AND BUILDING WEST OF KINGSAM, ICEN LANE, WEYMOUTH DT3 5PY. WFPC objected on 18th September, application undetermined. [\[link\]](#). Cllr Brant advised that local residents had arranged a petition in opposition to this planning application which had been presented to Dorset council. WFPC also objected, application refused on 17th November.
- 7.2. **P/HOU/2021/03588** - Alterations to form pitched roof to provide storage, 23 COOMBE VALLEY ROAD WEYMOUTH DT3 6NJ (neighbouring parish notification). No objection from WFPC, approved on 5th January. [\[link\]](#)
- 7.3. **P/FUL/2021/02732** - Demolish existing shed and erect replacement shed, CAME DOWN GOLF CLUB, HERRINGSTON ROAD, DORCHESTER DT2 8NR. No objection from WFPC, approved on 20th October. [\[link\]](#)
- 7.4. **P/FUL/2021/02544** - Replacement of post and wire fencing and galvanised steel field gates, and extension of fencing, using traditional metal estate / park fencing and gates, Came House, Came Park Road, Winterborne Came DT2 8NU. No objection from WFPC, approved on 29th October. [\[link\]](#)
- 7.5. **P/HOU/2021/00941** and **P/LBC/2021/00942** - Insertion of dormer window to the eastern roof slope, alterations to service staircase and internal and external alterations to create additional bathrooms, HERRINGSTON HOUSE, WINTERBORNE HERRINGSTON. DORCHESTER DT2 9PU. No objection from WFPC, application undetermined. [\[941 link\]](#) [\[942 link\]](#)
- 7.6. **P/HOU/2021/01819** - Single Storey rear extension, new dormer windows to front elevation, replace existing pre-fabricated garage, ASHTREE, WINTERBORNE MONKTON, DORCHESTER DT2 8NP.

¹ <https://wessexcoastgeology.soton.ac.uk/Ridgeway-Railway-Cutting.htm>

No objection from Monkton, granted on 25th August. [\[link\]](#)

- 7.7. **WD/D/20/000864** - Modification of Section 106 Agreement dated 23 May 2018 on planning approval WD/D/17/001808, DEWFLOCK FARM, WINTERBORNE MONKTON, DORCHESTER, DT2 8NP. No objection from WFPC providing previous conditions had been met, application undetermined. [\[link\]](#)
- 7.8. **WD/D/19/003081** - Convert existing redundant agricultural traditional barn to form 3 no. dwellings - Variation of condition 1 of planning approval WD/D/17/001808, DEWFLOCK FARM, WINTERBORNE MONKTON, DORCHESTER, DT2 8NP. No objection from WFPC providing previous conditions had been met, application undetermined. [\[link\]](#)
- 7.9. **WD/D/19/001772** - Change of use to holiday village to consist of use of existing buildings as holiday accommodation, restaurant and spa and use of land for parking. Outline application for the erection of extensions to existing buildings, new build holiday accommodation, cycle hire/store and indoor leisure facility (with details of access, layout and scale, all other matters are reserved), WHITCOMBE MONYMUSK RACING STABLES, WHITCOMBE DOWN ROAD, WHITCOMBE, DORCHESTER, DT2 8NY. WFPC objected, application undetermined. [\[link\]](#)

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- 8.1. Dorset community governance review. The chair informed the council that, following the last meeting where the council's response was agreed in draft, further work had been carried out between Cllr Holehouse, Cllr Brant and the clerk to finalise this in written form, and it was duly submitted ahead of the 28th October deadline. Dorset council would consider the responses, issuing draft recommendations at a later date for a further period of consultation. There was some discussion.
- 8.2. Request for an allotment – the clerk informed the council that he had been contacted by a resident of Winterborne Monkton who would like to have an allotment. The resident had applied to Dorchester town council who had (rightly) informed him he should approach his own parish. The clerk informed the council that he had written back to DTC's allotments officer noting that WFPC had no allotments, nor land nor money to create any, and to ask if an exception could be granted on this basis.

He continued that he wrote back to the requester to explain this, noting ‘...while allotments are the responsibility of parish and town councils, the duty to consider their provision only exists if the council believes that a demand exists (the relevant legislation is the Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908). I am unfortunately not aware of any other request for an allotment in the last fifteen years. In considering such a matter we would also need to think about the cost of acquiring land, and any ongoing costs involved in its management, as any such expenditure would be funded directly from the precept and may be prohibitive across such a small number of electors.’

The clerk asked the council to consider whether this request constituted a sufficient demand under the 1908 act. It was generally agreed that one request in (at least) fifteen years did not. Cllr Norman believed he might be able to propose an alternative course of action, and would look into this.

- 8.3. Online declarations of interest – the clerk informed the council that the new system had gone live on 1st November, and all councillors should by that point have completed an online declaration. If anyone had not, or needed to change anything in their declaration, they would need to contact the clerk to request a new link to the web form.
- 8.4. Code of conduct – the clerk informed the council that, over the summer, both Dorset and BCP councils had adopted the new 2020 Local Government Association model code of conduct for councillors. Further, Dorset council and DAPTC recommended its adoption by parishes as well.

The clerk continued that while parish councils were free to choose their own code of conduct, WFPC

had adopted the LGA model code in 2012 and had not amended it since then. Some councils had adopted the new code already, but ultimately it would be up to the council to decide.

The clerk proposed circulating both the existing code and the new model code by email ahead of the next meeting (the new code goes into further detail and is somewhat longer than the existing one once the appendices are included) so the matter could be discussed in full at the next meeting or a following meeting.

- 8.5. Ironman 2021 – it was generally felt that Ironman 2021 had raised no particular issues of concern.

9. INTEREST AND INFORMATION

- 9.1. There was further discussion regarding the operation of the sewage pumping station at Martinstown. The clerk undertook to contact the clerk at Martinstown parish council to enquire if they were aware of the frequency of the discharge of sewage into the South Winterborne stream.
- 9.2. Mr Tarr informed the council that Martinstown were looking into the potential for a cycling route to Dorchester, part of which would pass through Monkton.

10. TREASURERS REPORT

- 10.1. Accounts 1st August – 31st October – these were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.
- 10.2. Precept for financial year 2022-23. The clerk presented the precept calculation to the council. He explained that once again there were two options, to leave the contested election recharge at its current rate of £900 or to raise it to a round £1000.

He continued that ordinarily the precept calculation would include a revised salary for the clerk. As this was set against the agreed local government pay scales it had not, at the time of the meeting, been possible to include a revised number as the trades unions had rejected the government's proposed pay award and the matter remained under dispute. He had therefore used last year's figure.

There was some discussion. Cllr Holehouse proposed an amendment to option 2, reducing the election recharge figure by £100 to £900 and increasing the general contingency by £100 to £400, with a further option to vary the clerk's salary should a pay award be finalised. This was seconded by Cllr Brant and carried unanimously.

11. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – no members of the public were present.

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 16th February 2022**

The meeting closed at 2055 (8.55pm).

<u>The next meeting will take place at Upwey and Broadwey Memorial Hall</u>
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