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Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 16th February 2022 at 7.00pm – at Upwey and Broadway Memorial Hall

1. PRESENT & APOLOGIES:

Present: Chair – Ms Jenny Webster. Councillors: Mr Charles Norman, Mr Graham Brant, Mr John Trent, Mr Raymond Williams, Mrs Suzanne Mcsevney, Mr Roger Holehouse
Dorset Council: none

Clerk to the Parish Council: Andrew Harrison. **Apologies:** Mr Alec Walters, Mr Roland Tarr

Members of the public: none

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS.

2.1. Cllr Williams regarding item 8.7

2.2. Cllr Trent regarding item 8.2

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – no members of the public were present.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING of 17th November 2021. The minutes were accepted by the council and signed by the Chair.

5. MATTERS ARISING

5.1. Cllr Brant informed the council that people were continuing to park in a disruptive manner around McDonalds at Monkey's Jump, including on top of the newly installed earth bund. This was both unsafe and created a mess on the road. Cllr Brant asked when a more permanent solution might be found, noting and regretting the absence of Mr Tarr without whom it would not be possible for this question to be answered.

6. DORSET COUNCIL UPDATE

6.1. Mr Tarr was not able to attend the meeting and no update was provided.

7. PLANNING, ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

7.1. Major planning application - land north of Littlemoor Road. The chair informed the council that following the last meeting the reserved matters planning application had been received, and that the parish council had responded to this.

Cllr Brant noted that there had been no response or acknowledgement to the parish council's comments about the presence of flammable Kimmeridge clay, or the disbursement of S106 monies. He noted that £120k was allocated to Redlands sports centre, however the future of this site was not assured, and he was concerned that there had been obfuscation around the process from the beginning. Areas of allocation for S106 monies included:

- £310k for a hall;
- £65k for the existing library;
- £96k for the Lorton valley nature reserve;
- £478k for offsite leisure (believed to be Weymouth swimming pool);
- £40k for the existing health centre;
- £120k for Redlands sports centre as previously discussed.

Cllr Norman asked whether enough of the money was being spent within the parish council's area, considering it would shoulder most of the developmental burden.

Cllr Williams asked whether Dorset council ignored their own councillors in the same way that parish councils and councillors appeared to be ignored in the making of such decisions.

The clerk was asked to investigate the feasibility of Matt Prosser (chief executive, Dorset council) or a director to attend a future meeting of the council, and to contact the clerks of other neighbouring parishes to discover if their councils suffered similar frustrations when it came to major planning applications.

- 7.2. Major planning application - Whitcombe stables. The clerk informed the council that Emma Telford advised that the applicant still intended to withdraw the current planning application and replace it with a new, smaller application.

Cllr Holehouse noted that there was still an issue with residential use of the site, and that this now causing problems with waste collection. There was some discussion, following which the clerk was asked to contact Emma Telford and the responsible enforcement officer to ask whether or not Dorset council intended to investigate the residential use and enforce if necessary.

- 7.3. Dorset local plan – open letter from Dorset Climate Action Network. The clerk informed the council that he had received an open letter and a number of emails from the Dorset Climate Action Network who had set up a campaign entitled “Dorset Deserves Better”, which aimed to persuade Dorset council to rethink the draft local plan on the basis of a number of ecological and development factors. The clerk noted that a number of parish and town councils have aligned themselves with the campaign and that WFPC was also being invited to.

There was some discussion, where there was sympathy for the aims of the campaign but no desire to join at this stage. The clerk was asked to respond to the climate action network in this vein, and to circulate email newsletters from the group as and when they appeared.

- 7.4. A352 at Whitcombe. There was no further update.

- 7.5. South Winterborne stream – discharge of sewage. The clerk informed the council that he had written to Michele Harding, clerk of Martinstown parish council, to ask whether Martinstown were aware of the frequency of sewage discharge into the South Winterborne, and awaited a reply.

Cllr Norman asked the clerk if it would be possible to obtain the 2021 figures from Wessex Water to see if the same January-August flow was observed. He informed the council that there was concern that sewage might have been discharged into the ground between Martinstown and Ashton which was potentially serious.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

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

- 8.1. **P/FUL/2022/00864** – Erect semi-permanent siting of marquee, service tent and w/c trailer for events, CAME HOUSE, CAME PARK ROAD, DORCHESTER DT2 8NU. New application for discussion. There was some discussion regarding traffic accessing the site at night. No objection from WFPC. [\[link\]](#)
- 8.2. **P/FUL/2021/05132** – Change of use of agricultural land for the seasonal use for 20 tent pitches, DEWFLOCK FARM, WINTERBORNE MONKTON, DORCHESTER DT2 8NP. WFPC commented

on 3rd January and again on 26th January. The application had been withdrawn. [\[link\]](#)

- 8.3. **P/RES/2021/04983** - Application for approval of reserved matters for access, layout, scale, appearance and landscaping in relation to outline applications WD/D/16/000739 and WP/16/00253/OUT, LAND TO THE NORTH OF LITTLEMOOR ROAD. WFPC commented on 10th January, application undetermined. [\[link\]](#)
- 8.4. **P/HOU/2021/03329** – Erection of two storey extension, 27 CHAPEL LANE, WEYMOUTH DT3 5NA. No objection from WFPC, application undetermined. [\[link\]](#)
- 8.5. **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, refused on 17th November. [\[link\]](#)
- 8.6. **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. [\[link\]](#)
- 8.7. **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. [\[941 link\]](#) [\[942 link\]](#)
- 8.8. **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. [\[link\]](#)
- 8.9. **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. [\[link\]](#)
- 8.10. **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. [\[link\]](#)

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- 9.1. **Managing interests and requests for dispensation.** The clerk followed up on a previous email to councillors by clarifying the differences between disclosable pecuniary interests and personal interests, and the obligations on the council (both councillors and clerk) in managing both interests and dispensations when these arise.
- 9.2. **Dorset community governance review** – the clerk informed the council that, further to the consultation last year on the previously announced community governance review, Dorset council had in the week before the meeting published a set of draft recommendations to go to full council. If adopted by the full council, the draft recommendations would go out to consultation from 28th February to 23rd May.

He informed the council that Dorset council were unwilling to make any changes to boundaries where such a change would affect the Dorset council warding arrangements, stating "...[these] were only recently established on the creation of Dorset Council in April 2019 and it isn't considered

appropriate to seek a review of the Dorset Council wards at the current time. Therefore, any submissions that would require a significant Dorset Council ward boundary change that will impact on a large number of properties/electors will be held on file and considered when Dorset Council boundaries are next reviewed." This appeared to affect all but one of WFPC's proposed changes, the only one making its way into the draft recommendations being at Monkey's Jump.

The clerk continued that Dorset council had however made their own recommendation, regarding a change to the number and distribution of councillors which would substantially alter the make-up and focus of the parish council. The proposed change would amend the number of councillors per parish with the intention of improving 'electoral equality':

	Number of councillors 2022	Electors per councillor in 2026	Proposed number of councillors	Electors per councillor in 2026
Bincombe	3	281	5	167
Whitcombe	2	10	1	19
Came	3	12	1	36
Herrington	2	11	1	22
Monkton	3	20	1	61

Cllr Holehouse noted that there were potentially two routes forward – one being to forcibly object to the proposed arrangements and to continue to make the case for the arrangements proposed by the parish council, and the other being to consider de-grouping of the parish council and devolution to parish meetings.

There was some discussion on the comparative merits of parish meetings, parish councils and grouped parish councils. Cllr Williams noted that the proposals appeared to be dysfunctional and would quite possibly be unworkable for a future parish council. He felt that the proposals were not conducive to the existence of strong local communities.

It was agreed that Cllr Holehouse and Cllr Brant would continue to explore a way forward, to report at the next meeting.

- 9.3. Code of conduct – the clerk informed the council that he had circulated a copy of the new code of conduct to councillors. It was hoped they would be able to review the document ahead of the May meeting.

10. INTEREST AND INFORMATION

- 10.1. Cllr Brant noted that a steel structure was being erected at Bincombe that was seemingly without planning permission.

11. TREASURERS REPORT

- 11.1. Accounts 1st November – 31st January – these were circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.
- 11.2. Precept for financial year 2022-23. The clerk informed the council that this had been set at £3450.00 and had been submitted to Dorset council.
- 11.3. Payment – Andrew Harrison – clerk wages - £451.80
- 11.4. Payment – HMRC – clerk PAYE - £451.80

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 11th May.** The clerk informed the council that he would be

unavoidably away on the third Wednesday of May, and asked if councillors would be minded to hold the meeting on another Wednesday in the month. It was unanimously decided to hold the meeting a week earlier than usual on Wednesday 11th May.

The meeting closed at 20:55 (8.55pm).

<p><u>The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 11th May at Winterborne Monkton, commencing 19:00 (7pm)</u></p>

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