

## WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2013 in the Village Hall, WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH

### PRESENT

Mrs Christine Flemming (Chairman)  
Ms Caroline Ward  
Mrs Aideene Turley  
Mr Don Byrom  
Mr Richard Fry  
Mrs Emma Parker

**IN ATTENDANCE** Mr R Turley (Clerk), and 10 members of the general public.

**66/13. Apologies for absence-** Jane Somper (District Councillor)

**67/13.** The meeting started with the Chairman, Mrs Christine Flemming reminded councillors that only decisions made by PC in meetings are valid. If any councillor or chairman makes decisions by themselves they are personally liable for the financial consequences. All votes should be by a show of hands.

Any dealings with outside agencies should be through the clerk. If any councillor has been given authority by the council to liaise on any council business a copy should be forwarded to the clerk.

The summons to a meeting of a local council must by law specify the business to be transacted. Therefore we no longer use the term AOB because no legal decisions or votes can be taken under that general heading. There is no objection to exchanges of information or preliminary notification of important business hence it is now itemized it on the agenda as 'matters for information only'

She also read clause 6.2 of the code of conduct which states that any councillor had to declare an interest if they were exercising function of a public nature of which they were a member or in a position of general control or management.

She then asked if any councillor needed to declare an interest as declared in the code of conduct.

CW, DB and RF declared an interest in the WW Celebrations 2013 Committee.

**68/13. Public Participation –** A member of the public asked when the grass verges would be cut again (they were last cut by Highways on 22 April 2013) and were now becoming overgrown again. The Clerk agreed to check on this. Another member of the public also asked why the grass around the trees and roundabout in Fields Close was not cut by the person employed by the PC. It was advised by CF that the small roundabout was not owned by the PC but County Council. The grass around the trees on the PC grassed area was to be looked into.

A member of the WW Celebrations Committee asked if the PC had any objections to bunting etc hung around the bus shelter on the day of the 9th June, although no vote could be taken the PC could see no objection to this.

**69/13. Approval of Minutes-** The Minutes of the meeting held on 2013 had been previously circulated and were now approved by 5 of the 6 councillors present (although RF objected to item 63/13) and duly signed.

**70/13. Matters Arising-** The flooding on A354 was discussed and the clerk was able to confirm that he is waiting for a reply from County Councillor Hilary Cox.

RF advised that the numbers on the no excuses signs have been updated based on the figures provided by the Dorset Roadsafe Team and include the 23 January

campaign. He has sent letters to Colin Searle- (requesting forward to Martyn Underhill), Robert Smith, Brian Austin, Hilary Cox and Peter Finney. He has spoken to Peter Finney, who advised that Hilary Cox has taken over as Cabinet Member for Environment. Peter did provide further contacts (details to be provided from Richard in his full report) It was also mentioned that Community Speed watch had been approved for Winterborne Whitechurch.

It was also confirmed that WW will continue chasing reinstatement of the 40mph buffer zone.

#### Fields Close

The use of Fields Close for pony rides by the WW Celebrations 2013 Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> June was discussed and agreed on the understanding any damage caused would be repaired by them. Proposed by EP seconded by AT.

The new bench still needs fixing to the concrete base –if this is not done by the weekend it will be temporarily removed for safe keeping after the 9<sup>th</sup> June. A formal thanks to be sent to Ian Pitman on completion of fixing the new bench.

Mr Adams has partially repaired the bench at the junction of Fields Close and Whatcombe Lane.

CW provided quotes for the bulbs to be purchased to plant around the trees on the grassed area and it was proposed by CW 2nd by AT to purchase selection from Parkers at £86. All in favour. The plan is to plant the bulbs in October or November and one suggestion was to involve local children to assist.

The War Memorial in the churchyard, which was inspected by the councillors prior to the start of the meeting, was discussed and agreed that AT and CW would investigate further the best way to clean it and tidy up the gravel around it. This is likely to include arranging a working party.

**71/13.** The WW Celebrations 2013 Committee have requested loan of the bier on 9<sup>th</sup> June. The idea is to decorate it for displaying the raffle prizes etc. This was agreed by the PC.

**72/13.** The WW Celebrations 2013 committee have requested a donation from the PC for the forthcoming event. CF asked why this was requested and RF said that it would be nice for the PC to give to charities via his committee. CF pointed out that the PC already gives about 1/13 of their income to the local church and they also do not give donations to the Village Hall Committee or the local school ( the 3 groups mentioned as recipients in the requests apart from the WW Celebrations Committee 2014 (yet to be formed) and felt she could not recommend this request. CF then asked for other members of the PC's opinions

Cllr Fry's reaction to AT's comments which were also not in favour of this donation resulted in a request for RF to leave the room while further discussion took place. The other two councillors with an interest remained silent and stayed.

CF stated that the auditors could question such a donation as not a justifiable use of precept money. The event was not just for the village as it had been opened up to other villages, EP asked if other PC's been asked to contribute? A member of the public, Piers Chichester pointed out that if a village puts on an event to raise funds, it is for the villagers to find their own way to deal.

CF then said that it is not the role of the PC to give money for social events. This is the reason the village has committees such as the Village Hall Committee and Party in the Park Committee (WW Celebrations 2013 Committee). None of the councillors who were able to vote were in favour and therefore there was no proposer for this request

RF returned to the meeting

#### **73/13 Lady Bailey Bus Shelter**

The shelter has been temporarily repaired but will need a long term solution as timber is rotting in several areas. This will be looked at in the future.

### 74/13. Planning –Applications/Decisions:

2/2012/1572/PLNG -- 3, Blandford Hill, DT11 0AE-Carry out internal and external alteration to outbuilding-GRANTED by NDDC

2/2013/0372/PLNG—Chapel Cottage, DT11 0AB—Form parking and turning area-PC had no objections but NDDC have REFUSED (EP as District Councillor would ask for further clarification of this decision)

2/2013/0502/PLNG—24 Old Oak Way, DT11 0TN –Erect single storey extension—PC have no objections

2/2013/0497-8/PLNG—Bourne House, Blandford Hill, DT11 0AE—Erect single storey extension (Demolish existing garage/store) & Demolish garage/store. –PC have no objections

### 75/13. Correspondence

Letter from Marion Clemens—replied to in previous section on Fields Close

Letter from Jim Luke –partially dealt with in Fields Close issue –remaining item was that he said that PC did not get involved in social events ---this was answered by PC members confirming that they had as individuals attended such events when possible by choice. CF repeated that PC are not there for social reasons.

### 76/13. REPORTS

Playground – RF has compared the firm recommended by the PC Insurers and Digley Associates the current firm used for the playground annual inspection and recommends we stay with Digley. Proposed RF seconded DB –carried. RF has also compared the cost of woodchip replacement for the playground and recommends a firm called Suttles at a cost of £102 inc delivery and VAT for 1 cubic metre bulk bag.- Proposed RF seconded AT carried. RF also advises that the benches and table etc do need some restoration by way of repainting etc. It was agreed to look at a possible working party to deal with this.

Footpaths – CW- the damaged stile off of Dolway Lane has not been sorted yet and it was suggested that contact is made to County regarding this. There is now a gate at start of footpath running behind Fosters Meadows with a sign 'No Horses or motorbikes'.

### 77/13. FINANCE

Current Account at 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2013	£8248.36
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Less cheque not yet presented £211.87 No.441

#### Cheques for authorisation

DAPTC Training	£25.00	No.443
HMRC PAYE payment on Clerks Salary April & May 2013	£ 7.00	No.444
R Turley- adjustment of salary after new tax code	£69.80	No.445

Clerk's Salary SO 20 May 2013- £177.86.....

New SO needed due to new tax code

**78/13 Acceptance of Annual Audit Account:** The Audit return was accepted and signed by the Chairman and Clerk

### **79/13. Other information for report only**

EP provided a District report advising that the New District Chair was now Sue Hunt.

It was also mentioned that some local charity bags distributed in the area recently were not legal and for people to be aware of this if leaving items out for collection.

RF announced that he will be resigning as a Parish Councillor at the end of this meeting.

### **80/13. Public Participation**

It was suggested from a member of the general public that the cost to reinstall the 40 MPH zone could be paid for by the WW PC. The PC will look into this to see if it is possible. There would be legal obstacles also to sort out.

The PC was asked if anything further had happened regarding the possibility of a community shop in the village. The proposed site suggested last year by the site owner was deemed not suitable and no one else has so far come forward with any other suggestion.

EP advised that the new general rubbish and recycling collections in the village were to be Thursdays from June.

A member of the public gave a vote of thanks to RF for his work in the village.

Another member of the public asked for clarification on when should anyone request the use of PC property- The answer given was 'when it is first suggested' This would enable the PC to be able to discuss the request in their meeting. The Village Hall Chairman, Jim Luke then asked for next year's 'Party in the Park' to be on the PC's list to be considered for next year.

Piers Chichester said that the PC have to stand by Regulations which places them in a difficult position regarding requests regarding some activities such as social events which is not the job of a Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 9:18 pm

**81 /13. Date of Next Meeting** – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 7:30 pm