

PARRETT AND AXE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th November 2014 at 7.30pm at South Perrott Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Mike Johnson (Chairman), Kate Organ (Vice-Chairman), Sue Coutanche, Liz Fray, Anita Legg and Peter Simmons. Also in attendance: County Cllr Rebecca Knox, District Cllr Caroline Payne, clerk Angela Gillingham and 8 residents.

1286. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A356 - Wayne Sear, a new resident in Manor Close, raised his concern about the speed of traffic coming down the hill into South Perrott from Chedington. He would like a 20mph limit or a priority system. His garden wall had been hit five times in recent months. Chris Dale, a new resident in Parrett Mead, also voiced his concern about the speed of traffic.

Flood Warden – Martyn Gillingham advised that, since agreeing to become a Flood Warden, he had not heard any more from DCC about the training.

Mobile Phone Signal – Martyn Gillingham requested an update on the progress of the Mobile Infrastructure Project.

1287. APOLOGIES / DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS

Apologies were received from District Cllr Janet Page and Dominie de la Poer.

Grant of Dispensations – the clerk advised that the dispensations that members had applied for two years previously were still valid and would enable them to speak and vote on the setting of the new parish Precept at this meeting.

1288. **MINUTES** of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th September 2014 were approved and signed as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Fray, seconded by Cllr Organ)

1289. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE OFFICERS

County Cllr Rebecca Knox reported on the following issues –

- Safeguarding Children - in Dorset there are 380 children in care because of neglect, emotional and physical abuse, or sexual exploitation. The internet and social media can be harmful. School governors are to be trained to raise awareness. The problem exists across the county, and particularly in Bridport.
- The County Council is to become a local authority trading organisation, to make services, such as day care centres, more available to people.
- Community Safety Partnership is focussing on child safety, and also "slavery", e.g. gangs of people living in one house and being paid to wash cars.
- The County Council is undergoing a big reorganisation to enable more flexible working. Reporting road problems to Highways using the online system is more efficient and removes six levels of admin work.
- Gully clearing – DCC has been granted Government funding to enable a programme of clearing gullies along all the roads in Dorset. Cllr Knox encouraged people to report any blocked drains online, so that they get onto the list for regular maintenance.

- A356 – Cllr Knox met Mr and Mrs Thackwell of Bakers Arms, South Perrott, to discuss the crossing outside their property. It would cost £3,500 to remove the crossing. It could go onto Highways work schedule but could wait for years, or alternatively it might be possible that private fundraising could pay for it. Regarding the speed of traffic through South Perrott, Cllr Knox advised talking to PCSO Alex Bishop about Speedwatch. Broadwindsor has paid £6,500 for a 20 mph limit through the village. Cllr Knox is buying a speed indicator device (SID) for her division to use in the villages.

District Cllr Caroline Payne advised that the new recycling scheme for West Dorset will come into effect w/c 13 July 2015. There will be a meeting in Beaminster Town Hall on 24 November to explain the scheme. New car park machines with numberplate-recognition cameras are being introduced, so people will be charged for the time they actually stay in a car park. The District Council has begun gradually replacing machines, starting in Dorchester. Beaminster Town Council has been commended for its work with Flood Wardens.

In a written report, District Cllr Janet Page reported that everyone on the housing waiting list has been sent a form to complete to re-apply to be on the list. WDDC is hoping that this will reduce the numbers by finding those who have already been housed but are still on the list, making sure that those on the list are in the right band and giving housing advice to those who stand no chance of a house. West Dorset and Weymouth & Portland councils have voted in principle to join with North Dorset District Council. All three councils have approved the appointment of one Chief Executive Officer being in charge of the three councils by March 2015.

There was no Police report.

The Chairman thanked the above representatives for their reports.

1290. **MATTERS ARISING**

a) **Public Session –**

Following the trial period, members agreed to keep the Public Session at the start of meetings for the remainder of this Council's term of office. (Proposed by Cllr Johnson, seconded by Cllr Coutanche.)

b) **A356 Road Issues –**

The Chairman commented that the road scheme had failed to slow the traffic coming down into South Perrott from Chedington, and suggested monitoring the success of the Broadwindsor 20mph scheme. Meanwhile Speedwatch should be followed up with Alex Bishop.

Action: Mrs Gillingham

c) **A3066/Lecher Lane junction –**

The Chairman advised that a site meeting had been held with Richard Stubbs of Highways to consider possible improvements to lessen the danger from overtaking traffic at this junction. A formal request has now been made to Highways for a Traffic Regulation Order for a dedicated right turn lane to protect traffic turning into Lecher Lane from the A3066.

d) **Breakfast Consultation – Feedback –**

Cllr Sue Coutanche thanked Dave McSkelly and Jo Morgan for their excellent feedback presentation held on Sunday 5th October. Thanks were also given to the helpers for the

refreshments. The key themes of the feedback had been transport (bus services), A356 road issues, communication (broadband and mobile phone signal) and village services and amenities.

e) BT proposal to remove Phone Box -

The clerk reported that BT had begun a consultation on its current programme of proposed public payphone removal. The phone boxes that are planned to be removed are those which have had little usage. South Perrott's phone box is on BT's list because only six calls have been made from it in the last 12 months.

Members considered that the biggest justification for retaining the phone box was for emergency use as there is no mobile phone signal in the village. The clerk to respond to the consultation.

Action: Mrs Gillingham

1291. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence In

1. DAPTC Chief Executive's Circular 8/14
2. DCC Children's Services and School Admissions re. pupils due to start school or transfer schools.
3. Local Government Boundary Commission re. Electoral Review of Dorset
4. Dorset Waste Partnership re. 'recycle for Dorset' briefings.
5. DCC Public Notice re. temporary closure of Crooks Hill, Halstock
6. DCC Public Notice re. temporary closure of Pretty Box Lane, Chedington
7. WDDC re. Budget Setting 2015/16
8. Jurassic Coast Trust re. Jurassic Coast Champions and Ambassadors
9. Clerks & Councils Direct newsletter, November 2014

Correspondence Out

1. Letter to DCC Highways re. Mosterton A3066/junction with Lecher Lane.

1292. PLANNING

a) Applications handled since last meeting:

WD/D/14/001923 Court Farm, Chedington – external alterations to agricultural barn (part retrospective). PC comments – concerns that the site plan does not show the new entrance off the road leading to the agricultural barn, which is the subject of the application. Also that the large expanse of glass on the west elevation could cause an unacceptable glare from reflected sunlight across to residents in Picket Cottage and Picket Farm.

APP/F1230/C/142222403 Penny's Hill Coppice, Chedington – the erection of a container unit without planning permission. PC comments – the parish council opposes the applicant's appeal against the enforcement notice and endorses the District Council's reasons for serving the notice. The applicant has continually shown a flagrant disregard of planning regulations.

b) Decisions notified by WDDC since last meeting: None.

c) New applications to be considered: None

d) Tree Applications:

WD/CA/14/00272 – 5 Parrett Mead, South Perrott – fell 1 Silver Birch, 4 Cypress and 1 Norway Maple. PC comments – no concerns. Approved.

WD/CA/14/00319 2 Parrett Mead, South Perrott – fell 1 Crab Apple. PC comments – no concerns. Approved.

1293. **FINANCE**

a) Income received:	
Precept (2 nd half)	1826.50
Council Tax Support Grant (2 nd half)	<u>73.50</u>
	£1900.00
b) Payments made since the last meeting:	None
c) Payments to be made:	
Footprintz (photocopying of newsletter)	£50.00
Clerk's salary for October & November 2014	£282.72
Clerk's expenses	£15.00

The above payments were proposed by Cllr Coutanche and seconded by Cllr Legg.

Bank account as at 23 September 2014:	£5,329.39
Balance after above cheques agreed:	£4,981.67

d) **Approval of Budget and Precept for 2015-2016**

The clerk explained that the Council could not formally approve next year's Precept until the meeting in January 2015 but members could consider it. Following discussion, members approved the proposed Budget for 2015-2016 and were minded to approve a Precept of £3,800. This decision would be ratified in January. (Proposed by Cllr Johnson, seconded by Cllr Organ)

1294. **MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- a) The Chairman – none.
- b) Clerk – none.
- c) Members –
 - Cllr Simmons reported that Court Farm, Chedington, had taken delivery of a vast quantity of topsoil and questioned whether extensive landscaping required planning permission. The clerk to speak to the DCC enforcement officer. *Action: Mrs Gillingham*
 - Cllr Simmons advised that the road surface was being repaired from Crook Hill to Pretty Box Lane and down to Keepers Piece.
 - Cllr Simmons reported that some cannabis plants had been found growing in a nearby field and these had been removed by the Police.
 - Cllr Fray raised a concern that the white lines and cats eyes have still not been reinstated on the A356 towards Chedington. *Action: Mrs Gillingham*
 - Cllr Coutanche requested items for the Pump & Pound by the deadline of 20 November.
- d) Footpaths Officers – no report.

1295. DATES OF NEXT YEAR'S MEETINGS

Members agreed the following dates for next year's meetings:

- Thurs 8th January 2015 – South Perrott
- Thurs 12th March 2015 - Chedington
- Thurs 14th May 2015 (incl AGM) – South Perrott
- Thurs 9th July 2015 – Chedington
- Thurs 10th September 2015 – South Perrott
- Thurs 12th November 2015 – Chedington

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed Date

DRAFT