

## PARRETT AND AXE PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 7.30pm at South Perrott Village Hall.**

Present: Cllrs Kate Organ (Chairman), Liz Fray (Vice-Chairman), Chris Birtwhistle, Sue Coutanche, Anthony de la Poer. Also in attendance: County Cllr Rebecca Knox, District Cllrs Tony Alford and Peter Barrowcliff, clerk Angela Gillingham and 6 residents.

#### **1401. PUBLIC SESSION**

Dave McSkelly raised a concern about the future of the Mobile Library Service. County Cllr Rebecca Knox advised that the Library Service was being used less and less and would be wound down and stopped completely by March 2017. The WRVS are proposing to take over responsibility for ordering and delivering books as required to the one or two regular users of the service.

Peter Hinton advised that when Picket Lane was surfaced-dressed, the debris from the verges was dumped on top of his newly-laid hedge, and white markings sprayed onto his garden wall. Clerk to report to Highways. *Action: Mrs Gillingham*

Cllr Sue Coutanche asked Cllr Rebecca Knox if a Speed Indicator Device (SID) could be placed in South Perrott. Cllr Knox responded that it is unlikely because there are now very strict regulations as to where a SID can be installed.

David Lines advised that he had received an email from Oliver Letwin MP, regarding mobile phone reception in South Perrott, with written confirmation from the Home Office that reception will be improved within the next few months. The Home Office is responsible for the implementation of the new Emergency Services Network (ESN), operated by EE, which is a replacement for the current Airwave communication system. South Perrott is currently served by two radio masts, one in Corscombe and one in Crewkerne, and the Home Office has ascertained that neither mast will provide a strong enough signal in the village for the ESN to operate effectively, due to the terrain and distance from the masts. EE is planning to upgrade the Corscombe mast in the next 7 months, and to upgrade the Crewkerne mast 6 months later. This should provide an acceptable ESN service in South Perrott by the time ESN is due to go live at the end of 2017. Residents will benefit from these enhancements.

Thanks were recorded to David Lines, and a letter of thanks will be written to Oliver Letwin.

*Action: Mrs Gillingham*

#### **1402. APOLOGIES / DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS**

Apologies were received from Cllr Jane Cooper, and Dominie de la Poer.

#### **1403. MINUTES**

The minutes of the AGM held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were approved, with one small amendment, and signed as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Coutanche, seconded by Cllr de la Poer)

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were approved and signed as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr Coutanche, seconded by Cllr Fray)

#### **1404. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE OFFICERS**

County Cllr Rebecca Knox reported on the following issues –

Health and Wellbeing – the County Council is working to expand the volunteer countryside workforce and is trying to attract groups, such as the Ramblers Association, to provide access for wheelchair users and less able people. Also encouraging primary schools to get children more active.

“Dorset Families Matter” – is a new project reaching out to the community with more inclusive services to help families. Social workers will extend their work by going into schools.

Properties and land – DCC is looking at Council owned properties and land which are doing nothing, but cost money to maintain.

District Cllr Tony Alford corrected the minute of his previous report (minute no. 1394) regarding local government reform. He explained that there is a high level of support for a Combined Authority, where all authorities in the area work together to generate economic growth. WDDC will submit proposals shortly for this to be set up. Central Government powers can then be devolved to the combined authority and, in due course, further powers will be devolved to town and parish councils. Two unitary authorities will be set up, but the exact boundaries of these has not yet been decided.

The Chairman raised a concern about the staff shortages in the Planning Department causing long delays in applications being dealt with. Cllr Alford admitted that there is a backlog of cases, but that the process has been changed to speed up the work.

There was no Police report.

The Chairman thanked the above representatives for their reports.

#### 1405. **MATTERS ARISING**

##### a) **Matters arising from minutes**

The Chairman and Clerk reported on the following matters –

Highway issues – the Chairman advised that surface dressing has been carried out on Lecher Lane, Picket Lane and Chedington Lane. Cllr Liz Fray reported that there are now two deep depressions in the road surface in Chedington Lane caused by a heavy lorry during the works. The road surface in Pipplepen Lane has still not been repaired. Hedges are overgrown and covering road signs. The finger board on the corner of A356/Lecher Lane is in a state of disrepair. Clerk to report these matters to Highways. *Action: Mrs Gillingham*

HM The Queen’s 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday – the Chairman reported that the event had been well received with good attendance, although not many children had attended. Commemorative medals had been distributed to the children in both villages.

Superfast Broadband – Martyn Gillingham advised that the properties on Chedington Hill were unable to benefit from the fibre cable running through the village as they were linked directly with the exchange at Corscombe.

##### b) **Picket Lane Railings**

The Chairman reported that Blair Turner had confirmed that Highways’ offer to provide the labour to remove and replace the broken wooden posts was restricted to the first section of railings only, from the corner of the A356 to Parrett Mead. This was disappointing because some of the posts in the next two sections from Parrett Mead to the wooden bridge, were also in a very poor state. Cllr Coutanche proposed that all 9 posts in the first section should be replaced. However, in view of the fact that the parish council would have to fund the total cost of renovating the remaining sections of railings, it was agreed that only the broken or wobbly

posts in the first section (4 in total) should be replaced at this time, in order to keep costs to a minimum. Some quotes had been obtained for new posts, which were likely to cost in the region of £40 - £50 each. Further quotes would be obtained. *Action: Mrs Gillingham*

### c) **Millennium Green**

Dr David Lines had asked the parish council to reconsider taking over responsibility for the Millennium Green. It was reported that the MG Trustees are currently awaiting a report on the results of the annual safety inspection of the play equipment, and it was agreed that when this is available a report will be prepared for submission to the next meeting of the parish council.

## 1406. **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Letter from parish council to Oliver Letwin MP re. planning policy concerns.
2. Letter from Ron Martin, WDDC, re. felling of tree at Bathsheba Cottage.
3. DCC Highways - Temporary Road Closure notice for Down Lane, Mosterton.
4. DAPTC re consultation on a Combined Authority for Dorset.
5. DAPTC re. Highway changes to be presented at area meetings.
6. Email correspondence re. Superfast Broadband.
7. Email correspondence re. Broadband – overhanging cables.
8. Email from DCC re. consultation on future of subsidised bus services in Dorset.
9. Email from DCC Highways re. A3066/Lecher Lane junction.
10. DCC re. Public Consultation on the Registration Service.
11. Email correspondence with DCC re. proposed implementation of Digital Planning.
12. Email from Dorset Travel re. Crowdfunding Youth Projects.
13. DAPTC re. Fly the Flag for the Commonwealth in 2017.
14. Email from Dorset Waste Partnership re. removal of recycling banks.
15. Email to Highways re. repair of railings in Picket Lane, South Perrott.
16. NALC/SLCC re. 2016-2018 National Salary Award for parish clerks.
17. DAPTC Magazine, Spring 2016.
18. DCC booklet – Setting up a Community Transport Scheme in Dorset.

## 1407. **PLANNING**

### a) **Applications handled since last meeting:**

WD/D/16/000810 Highfield House, Chedington – replace existing conservatory with oak framed garden room. PC comments – no concerns.

### b) **Decisions notified by WDDC since last meeting:**

WD/D/16/000588 Threshers Barn, South Perrott. Approval of Listed Building Consent.

### c) **New applications to be considered:**

None.

### d) **Tree Applications:**

None.

### e) **Other planning issues:**

The Chairman reported that the Planning enforcement officer had made a site visit to the Coach & Horses and had noticed a number of anomalies in the building works, compared with the approved plans, which he has taken up with the owner's agent.

**1408. FINANCE**

a) Income received	None
b) Payments made since the last meeting:	None
c) Payments to be made:	
Footprintz (photocopying for newsletter)	£50.00
Tower Mint Ltd. (Queen's commemorative medals)	£128.40
DAPTC (annual subscription)	£118.38
Clerk's salary for June & July 2016 ( <i>including hourly rate increase of 9.1p, backdated to April 2016</i> )	£294.75
Clerk's expenses	£54.02

The above payments were proposed by Cllr de la Poer and seconded by Cllr Fray.

Bank account stands at:	£6,535.67
Balance after payment of the above cheques:	£5,890.12

**1409. MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- a) Chairman – reported a near miss with a cyclist travelling very fast in Chedington Lane, at the exact point where a cyclist was killed some years ago. A road sign is needed to tell cyclists to keep left on that bend. *Action: Mrs Gillingham*
- b) Clerk – none.
- c) Members –
  - Cllr Coutanche requested items for the Pump & Pound by 22<sup>nd</sup> July. She advised that the South Perrott village clean-up will be held on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August.
- d) Footpaths Officers – Thanks were recorded to the footpath officer who had spread chippings on the permissive path leading to the Millennium Green. Cllr Anthony de la Poer volunteered to strim Langmoor Lane alongside the river.
- e) River Warden – Martyn Gillingham offered to put an item in P&P reminding property owners of their riparian duties.

**1410. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016, at 7.30pm in Chedington Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Signed .....

Date .....