

SYMONDSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Policy Committee Meeting held on 9 August 2011 at Symondsbury School at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs A Streatfeild, P Smith, S Holmes, B Baker, S Ralph and M Leighton
In attendance: Mr D Wragg and Ms Cathy Evans.

1. **Apologies.** Cllr M Costello.
2. **The minutes** of the meeting held on 7 June 2011 having been previously circulated were taken as read and were approved.
3. **Chairman's Announcements.** The chairman introduced Ms Cathy Evans who had been appointed clerk to succeed the present clerk when he retires in September. Ms Evans thanked the council for their warm reception and that she looked forward to working with the council. The councillors introduced themselves individually and identified their respective responsibilities.
4. **WATAG report.** DCC had re contracted the subsidised bus services to Damory, part of the Go Ahead Group. Initial problems with the hospital service were now resolved. (Update frequency still not confirmed by DCC)
5. **Training.** The chairman presented a report on a training session he had attended and found useful. Other reports were presented by new councillors. Whilst these were found useful the sessions attempted to impart too much information in the time available. It was suggested that greater benefit would be gained if the seminar was divided over two sessions and more time given to explanations. The course was found to be 'Bewildering' for new councillors. Most of the councillors had looked at the NALC e learning web site but had difficulties, size of council, levels of experience and subject knowledge each had a bearing on what was being taught and what was needed to know.
6. **Declaration of Interests.** An explanation was given of the need to declare interests. The types and definitions of and examples of where these would be applied.
Clerks Note. One area of this subject was not discussed and that was the Declaration of Pre-judgement and is where you have already discussed an issue and pronounced your position of that issue in another place and the issue comes up in Council then you should declare that matter.
7. **Planning.** There were three applications for decision
1/D/11/001065 Horsemans Cottage, Higher Eype. Alterations/repairs to fire damaged roof.
1/D/11/001185 1 West Walk, Alterations to windows and doors driveway and minor drainage.
1/D/11/001243 Sea Hill, 2nd Cliff Walk Single storey extn and entrance porch.
Each application was fully discussed and account taken of neighbouring views and without exception the council had no objections to any of these three applications.
It was further agreed that a supply of calling cards would be printed to confirm a councillor had called and with contact details.
8. **Dorset Police Enquiry Office Review.** Details had been provided by Winfrith Headquarters regarding possible future changes in service and proposed consultation process which will be notified in the near future and to which the parish council would be invited.
9. **Participatory Budgeting.** With Localism in mind, and with the budget preparation season in view it has been suggested that efforts be made to secure a view from the community of ways in which community life might be improved in the coming budget year. A newsletter containing this proposal is to be issued to establish support for the idea.
10. **Noticeboards.** Following discussion it was agreed that a meeting would be arranged with the chair of West Cliff Residents Assoc. with a view to agreeing the next step in the provision of a joint notice board at West Cliff.
11. **Correspondence.** Details of correspondence received to date were discussed and in particular an email from John May advising his inability to continue with the maintaining of the parish web site. The council were sorry to learn of this situation and consideration would be given to the alternatives proposed by Mr May.
12. Date of the next meeting 11 October 2011

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed.....date.....
Chairman

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