

SYMONDSBURY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of the Symondsbury Parish Council held on Tuesday 10 July 2012 at **7.00pm in the Symondsbury Schoolroom**

PRESENT: Cllr A C Streatfeild, P R Smith, S Holmes, M Costello, S Ralph, M Leighton and B Baker.

In attendance: Cllr G Brierley DCC, Cllr G Summers, CPSO P Miners, Police and Mrs C Evans, Clerk and 4 members of the public.

DEMOCRATIC HALF HOUR – Progress was sought about the speed limits on the A35 since this issue was raised at the Annual Parish meeting in May. The Clerk reported her enquiries had found that the signs on the road concerning a possible reduction in speed limits were now out of date and neither the Highways Agency nor their contractor had any funds or plans this year to consider this part of the A35. The Clerk agreed to circulate the key exchanges between all the parties at the time the decision was taken not to reduce the speed limit to inform any next steps. Also to forward the current exchanges to Cllr Brierley in his role on the Road Safety Partnership. PCSO Miners urged anyone seeing dangerous driving to report their License Plate numbers to the Police as they can take action to address the perpetrator.

Information from DCC and WDDC Councillors –

WDDC: Cllr Summers had procured sandbags for Symondsbury residents to use during the recent flooding. She felt the lack of a Community Resilience Plan had hindered the support being offered and offered to work with anyone prepared to work on drawing one up. The Clerk agreed to include an article in the next Symene Voice requesting community volunteers to support this work. Clerk to look into possibility of procuring sand and some bags for future use in the flood-risk areas; making the reports from the Symene Locking station available on-line. To note that the vast majority of WDDC staff are working on Olympic work so responses on their routine work is likely to be significantly slower than usual.

DCC: the money that had been deposited in the failed Icelandic Banks is now being returned in batches, with the expectations that they will get over 90% of the £30m returned in due course; the Police Authority are in a similar position.

The elections for the Crime Commissioner are due to take place in October. Further information regarding this new arrangement can be found at www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/police-crime-commissioners. The front-line Police officers staff cuts are due to continue until 2013.

To note that DCC are also using the majority of their staff in the Olympic work.

The Fire Service received 390 calls over the 3 days of the recent flooding. It was noted that the publication of the impact on local roads and the bus-service were very poor. Any comments on the local responses would be welcomed by Cllr Brierley to enable lessons to be learnt.

Community Policing: Given their reduced staffing levels they can no longer be represented at every Parish Council meeting, so will only attend if there is a

particular need and the remainder of business will be conducted through regular contact with the Clerk.

Symondsbury School had reported traffic issues which the Police will monitor.

A derelict building on West Cliff had previously been reported, but no update on position was available. Similarly the anti-social driving by an individual on West Cliff.

Following request for speed checks by St Mary School there have been 2 undertaken in the past month.

1. **No apologies** for absence:
2. **To receive Declarations of Interest:** None were declared
3. **The Minutes** of the meeting held on 8 May 2012 were approved and signed.
4. **Chairman's Announcements:** none
5. **WDDC Local Plan** –Comments received on the detail within the draft Local Plan will be collated by the Clerk and discussed in greater detail at a meeting to be held on 20th July. Immediate general comments were: Lack of recognition of the impact of the demographics to justify the housing numbers; the facilities focused on etc (Office of National Statistics extract circulated to demonstrate the very significant percentage of old people forecast in this area).
Increasing the quantity of affordable housing could counter-balance the aging population trend by encouraging the young people to stay and work locally.
The affordability of the medical and social services support needed to respond to the level of inward migration exacerbating the aging population was questioned.
There are inconsistencies in the language used, particularly the interpretation of the words 'shall' and 'should' that could result in errors and potentially create loopholes.
Concerns that there was insufficient recognition of the numbers of tourists at the height of the season.
6. **Neighbourhood Planning** – Cllrs have attended a number of training sessions, with particular emphasis on Neighbourhood Planning. **Resolved** that the Symene Community Land Trust act as a key community group for the Parish interests in the Vearse Farm development as part of the draft Local Planning process.
7. **West Cliff Footpath:** issues reported to DCC and the Coastal Path Ranger. No further action can be taken within the remit of the Parish Council.
8. **Reports from lead Members:**
 - (a) Footpaths – way signs have been given to all Cllrs for improving the signage of the local footpaths.
 - (b) A35 and Transport – WATAG looking at transport arrangements during the Olympic Games.

- (c) Allotments – Clerk apologised for incorrect invoicing. A meeting to be called by Cllr Baker of all allotment owners to raise issues to bring to the attention of the Parish Council.
- (d) Coastal Matters – Nothing to report
- (e) DAPTC Reps. (2) – Nothing to report
- (f) BLAP Rep - Various meeting attended, all regarding WDDC Local Plan.
- (g) Flood & Emergency Officer – photographs of any local flooded areas to be sent to Cllr Smith to inform reports etc.
- (h) Lengthsman Link – **Resolved** to send letter to Bridport Town Council to support their evaluation of the scheme.

9. **Finance.**

a. Bank Balances. Current a/c £6,528.80 Deposit a/c £3,919.76

- b. Accounts agreed at Policy Meeting 12 June for payment:
Sum of £900.00 to Bridport TC for Lengthsman
Sum of £138.00 to Creeds for Annual Report printing
Sum of £40 to DAPTC for 2 x training sessions
Sum of £100 to Cllr Smith for Honorarium

Resolved that the above accounts be paid

c. Accounts for payment:

Bridport & District Tourism Association sub	£	
20.00		
Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils sub	£323.25	
CPRE subscription	£	29.00
Community First Insurance renewal		
£193.73		

Resolved that the above accounts be paid

The Annual Return was presented and agreed and it was **Resolved** that the document be approved and signed.

10. **Planning Applications** – to formally approve resolutions made at Policy Committee meeting held on 12th June:

1/D/12/000761: Downhouse Farm, Higher Eype - Certificate of lawfulness for existing use of land for stationing of motor homes and tents for tourism purposes between mid-March and the end of September each year (Certificate of Lawfulness (Exi). Objected on grounds of lack of firm evidence

1/D/12/000767: Dairy Cottage, Lower Eype Farmhouse – Certificate of lawfulness for existing use as a dwelling house. Objected on grounds there was insufficient evidence to support the continuous use. Note Permission not granted.

1/D/12/ 000506: 15 Eype Mouth Chalet Park. Demolish existing timber chalet and construct replacement chalet (Full). No objections

1/D/12/000525: April Cottage, West Cliff – erect a conservatory. Objected on the grounds that it overlooks the adjacent properties and is of a detrimental design to neighbouring properties.

1/D/12/000684: Sea Hill, West Cliff; alterations to terrace and boundary treatment and single story extension. No objection. Note Approval granted.

1/D/12/000691: Higher Moor bath Cottage, Symondsbury; restore existing carport and add log store, workshop and carport extension. No objection.

1, Rectory Gardens
South Drive
aptc.gov.uk
Cattistock DT2 0FD

07786 190035
email symondsbury@dorset-

1/D/12/000580: The Old Pig Sty, Dairy House, Watton Lane, Bridport; alterations to convert store into ancillary accommodation. No objection. Note Approval granted.

Resolved all of the above decisions.

Considered:

1/D/12/000909/10: The Loft, Shutes Farm Barn, Symondsbury. Retrospective application for installation of chimney flue for a wood-burning stove. (Full and Listed Building). **Resolved** no objection with a condition that the chimney appearance is not in keeping with the Listed Building's roof and should be treated to be less stark.

1/D/12/000835: The Garage, 192 West Bay Road. Conversion of garage to commercial kitchen and associated facilities and parking (Full); adjoining Parish Consultation: **Resolved** that as this building is a considerable distance from the Parish boundary and its usage unlikely to affect residents of the Parish there were no objections. However to comment on the poor quality of the details provided, which made it impossible to understand the full extent or nature of the activity proposed.

1/D/11/001830: Bridport Football Club - Reinstate all weather multiple use games area with fencing & flood lighting (Full), adjoining Parish Consultation. **Resolved** No Objections, however a comment that the Application appeared a little inconsistent in that the Application included Floodlighting yet it stated at Point 20 that its hours of opening would be daylight only.

11. **Reports. To receive and adopt.** No reports.

12. **Request for support for a bid to the Conservation and Community Planning Grant Scheme:** **Resolved** to support the application for hedge layering in the upper parts of Shutes Lane.

13. **Correspondence** and information for distribution per attached listing. Councillors' attention was particularly drawn to the following:
The public consultation on WDDC's Statement of Gambling policy
Offer of support by Julie Girling MEP

14. **To approve and confirm:** the date of the next meeting as: 11 September 2012;

Policy Committee 14th Aug

The meeting closed at 9.50

Signed.....Date

Cllr P R Smith, Chairman