

SYMONDSBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Policy Committee Meeting held on 14^h August 2012 at Symondsbury School at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs M Leighton, A Streatfeild, P Smith, S Holmes, M Costello, S Ralph, B Baker
In attendance: Ms Cathy Evans, Clerk.

1. **Democratic session** – no members of the public attended.
2. **The minutes** of the meeting held on 12th June 2012 having been previously circulated were taken as read and were approved.
3. **Chairman's Remarks** - Clerk asked to summarise the Symondsbury Parish Council's response to the Draft West Dorset District Council Local Plan and publish in the next Symene Voice. Following attendance at the 'Flooding Seminar' on 8th August in Bridport Town Council Offices, Cllr Smith reported that Dorset County Council was still asking that residents and local businesses that have either been affected or have ongoing concerns about flooding, to share their views and experiences (including photographs) by email on floodriskmanagement@dorsetcc.gov.uk or by telephone on 01305 22100. The Flood Zone for the Symene, including the Vearse Farm area, is being re-assessed in light of the recent flood event and will be made public in due course.
4. **Sale of Eype Beach** – after due consideration it was felt that accepting the offer of Eype Beach from WDDC would result in an unacceptable level of risk as the Parish does not have access to the professional support that may be necessary in the future. Consequently, on balance, the beach was considered more of a liability than an asset. However it was important to keep the beach in public ownership, and an exploratory discussion with the National Trust suggested they would be happy to enter into negotiations to take on the ownership. The Clerk agreed to further the discussions with the National Trust and gain insight into any restrictions on access that their ownership may result in. Results of the discussions to be brought back to a future meeting.
5. **Consider and sign up to a New Code of Conduct** – **Resolved** to sign up to the revised Code of Conduct. Clerk to circulate a proforma for Councillors to complete to declare their Interests as per Annex A and B of the document, and must all be declared within 28 days of this meeting. All interests will be published on the website as well as maintained by WDDC.
6. **Localisation of Council Tax Support Consultation** – Clerk gave a brief summary of the proposals which could result in an increase of Council Tax for residents. Clerk to keep Cllrs informed of any progress of this national proposal.

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7. **Review continuation of Policy Committee** – agreed to dissolve the Policy Committee and increase the number of Council meetings a year. Clerk to explore other Council practices and put forward a proposal to be considered at the next full council meeting.
8. **Review custom and practice of not paying Cllrs expenses** – Councillors felt there was a need to review the current practice of paying no expenses, but wanted to understand other Parish Councils' policies. Clerk to prepare a Paper for consideration at a future meeting.
9. **West Cliff Notice Board** – Clerk reported that no response had been received from the West Cliff House Owners Association, but difficulties with the email system may have interrupted a response, so once confirmation that no response was sent by the deadline of 1st August it was agreed not to reconsider this issue for at least 12 months and the current position will stand.
10. **Plans to modernise the process of recording rights of way** - the Clerk have a brief update on the national proposals which aim to streamline the process in order to complete the Definitive mapping process by 2026. Full details can be found at: www.defra.gov.uk/consult/2012/05/14/improve-rights-of-way. There is a European Fund, Paths for Communities (P4C) aimed at community groups seeking to effect a change of Public Rights of Way in their local area. More details can be found <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/access/rightsofway/p4c>.

11. **Planning** –

1/D/12/0001/D/12/000924: Heatherbell, Hill Close, West Bay, DT6 4HW (retrospective) to replace garage flat roof with a pitched roof. No objections raised.

1/D/12/001031: Highlands End Holiday Park, Mount Lane, Eype, to site touring units (on the parts of OS 1800 and 2800 shown cross-hatched on the approved plan HEF.1) between the Thursday before Easter and 31st October inclusive each year, with reconstruction and (Variation of condition). Object on grounds that: It is contrary to WDDC Local Plan Policies SA1, SA2 SA3, ET11 and ET12.

1/D/12/001121: Cliff Cottage, West Cliff, West Bay, DT6 4HS External & internal alterations (Listed Building Consent): No objections raised at the meeting but Cllr Leighton to undertake further local consultations before final view agreed.

12. **Finances** –

a). Accounts for payment:	DAPTC Training	£ 40.00
	Jubilee Celebration Grant	£200.00
	Clerk's Salary	£863.22

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HMRC	£163.00
Cllr Leighton for CRPE entry fee	£ 5.00
Creeds (laminated maps)	£ 32.00
Greenbarnes Ltd (notice board)	£947.02

Resolved that the above accounts be paid, apart from Greenbarnes Ltd as still awaiting invoice to support the payment.

13. **Correspondence to date** – as per attached schedule, attention was drawn to:

- Section 106 Agreement between WDDC and Colfox family re Manor Farm Symondsburry Planning permission
- Enforcement Notice in respect of Brighthay Farm.
- Approval of Planning Permission for Manor Farm B&B units 1/D/11/001787
- Approval of Listed Building Consent for above 1/D/11/0001788
- Approval of Planning Permission for Solar Panels at Edge Cliff, West Bay
- Approval of Planning Permission for April cottage, conservatory 1/D/12/000525

14. Agreed the date of the next Policy Committee meeting on 9th October 2012
Date of the next Council 11th September in WI Hall in West Bay

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Signed.....
date.....

Chairman

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