

**SYMONDSBURY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting of Symondsburry Parish Council held on  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013 at 7pm at Symondsburry School  
**These minutes will be ratified at the January parish council meeting**

**PRESENT:** Cllr D Turner (DCC), Cllr G Summers (WDDC), Cllrs P Smith, M Leighton, D Wragg, S Ralph, A Streatfeild, S Holmes, B Baker. Mrs L Hart (outgoing Clerk) and Marilyn Stone – Clerk. 2 members of the public also attended, their names were recorded in the attendance book.

**Democratic half hour:** Concerns were raised regarding the proposed A35 speed changes, Chideock to Miles Cross eastbound onward to east of Miles Cross to be standardised at 40mph. Cllr Wragg advised that the proposed changes will take place during the next financial year.. Steps had been taken two years ago to help eliminate accidents by improving visibility at Quarr Lane and are moving towards a conclusion regarding the Chideock boundary to Crown Roundabout speed limits. Cllr Wragg further added that the Highways Agency has approved the use of traffic lights on the Broomhill junction. Cameras /Speed indicator Devices on both eastbound and westbound routes are being considered, although the type is not known at this stage Cllr Wragg advised that autumn 2015 is the proposed date for Broomhills opening should planning permission be granted. A concern was raised regarding access to the Pine View Allotments namely vehicle users blocking the nearby garages and potential deliveries. Cllr Smith confirmed no vehicle access and the entrance would only serve pedestrians. A neighbour advised that the allotments are four feet higher than his home situated alongside and was concerned regarding his privacy and requested a strip of land alongside his garden to help alleviate his privacy concerns. Cllr Streatfeild advised that further discussion can take place in this regard. Cllr Streatfeild added that 8 allotments are planned and a provisional plan was shown. Daryl Chambers (Bridport TC) has suggested using the lengthsmen to mark out the proposed areas. The rental charge of the allotments is still to be decided

**Information from DCC and WDDC Councillors:** Bridport Town Council have requested of DCC that the decision re Broomhills WMC is delayed until January and requested that we re-enforce this Cllr Streatfeild noted that we have submitted our response. Cllr Wragg added that we are working towards the 20<sup>th</sup> Dec and a site visit may take place by the DCC Planning Cttee.

Cllr Summers spoke about budgets and advised that WDDC are very proactive in this connection and haven't needed to reduce services. However, this may change in the future, needing to build council reserves again. The Government has made cuts and she added that when councils struggle they can join other councils. WDDC are ahead in this regard having amalgamated with Weymouth & Portland and are on top of things to ensure services continue.

Cllr Summers spoke about grants given for high specification affordable housing, adding that there should be a premium on houses cheap to run whilst being aware not to disadvantage anybody. Cllr Summers also advised that grants for skills enterprise are available and that the young should be able to continue their education in Bridport and not disadvantaged in view of transport problems, eg bus service to colleges.

Cllr Turner stated that the planning system is slow presently and needs to be speeded up and could affect business growth in the area. Two additional officers have been brought in to deal with the backlog.

Cllr Smith asked if any decisions had been made regarding the number 47 bus but this is still being negotiated.

Cllr Turner stated that there had been a couple more complaints regarding the resurfacing of Skilling Hill. These have been passed to the relevant officer and awaiting a response. The potholes are being addressed on a temporary basis.

**Community Policing:** Lucy read an email forwarded from PCSO Paul Miners regarding complaints received in connection with parking opposite the Billets Mead junction with Duck Street. There are no parking restrictions in place at this location and the vehicle in question is not causing an obstruction, and there are no other offences committed that he can deal with. In this connection Lucy read out an email from the complainant advising that life is being made difficult especially for his wife, an MS sufferer and a wheelchair user, and on occasions has to wait for obstruction to be cleared before she can access her property. Cllr Baker suggested that mediation could be used between the complainant and vehicle users. The clerk was asked to approach Legal Services at West Dorset District Council to ask for advice and obtain DAPTC advice. The following points were also read out from the complainant:-

1. Vehicles are being forced to drive close to the entrance of Billets Mead resulting in a large number of near misses of vehicular collisions whilst exiting from the access/egress point, the danger is constant and is particularly hazardous during the school run.
2. Access and egress for emergency vehicles (in particular ambulances) and larger vehicles such as fuel delivery is being made impossible.
3. Access and Egress from the properties is usually only possible from/to a single direction.
4. Whichever direction is available to gain access or egress a three point manoeuvre is still a necessity.

Cllr Smith has requested photos and a map to confirm the points at issue The PC could ask for double yellow lines. Cllr Wragg asked if cones could be used in this regard and Cllr Streatfeild pointed out that they could be moved.

Cllr Smith added that a sign has appeared without consultation in Duck Street, though a 'Symondsburry please drive carefully' sign was there previously which was stolen has still not been replaced. It was noted a similar sign has also appeared in Broadoak.

A further email from PCSO Paul Miners regarding the theft of a large 15-20 foot holly tree between Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 1700 and Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 0900 hours from a property in Broad Lane.

**1. To report and approve apologies:** No councillors were absent. Daryl Chambers had sent an email apology.

**2.To receive declarations of interest:** None received.

**3.To approve minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2013:** Minutes approved and signed.

**4. Chairman's Announcements:** Cllr Smith welcomed the new Clerk, Marilyn Stone to Symondsburry Parish Council and to the meeting tonight. He noted we have a Councillor vacancy and wish to resolve to fill this position, It was agreed to run the announcement at the end of January.

**5. Finance:**

(a) Bank Balances	Current Account £8,755.01
	Deposit Account £5,103.27
(b) Accounts for payment	Eype School Room hire - £20.00
	Clerks Salary November - £111.98
	West Bay Websites - £120.00:

On the proposition of Cllr Streatfeild seconded by Cllr Baker it was resolved the payments be made It was decided to continue with the services of Westbay Websites Proposed by Cllr Ralph seconded

by Cllr Leighton and Agreed.

## **6. Planning Applications:**

PL/1581/13 (1/D/13/001542) – Construction of a Waste Management Centre, creation of cycleway/footway, landscaping and associated works. A strong objection letter has been submitted to DCC. Cllr Wragg advised that the Town Council were asking to follow through the Chideock to 40mph limit east of Miles Cross be extended to 40mph all the way to the Crown Roundabout. This could also reduce tailbacks from the Crown Roundabout.

1/D/13/001458 – Brighthay Farm, change of use of five small fishing ponds as shown on location plan. After discussion it was agreed. No objection.

## **7. Reports from Lead Members:**

**a) Footpaths:** Cllr Ralph advised that there are no problems. He has undertaken half of his tour so far. Cllr Holmes added that horse riders have enquired whether Quarr Lane is clear It was confirmed the work had been done

Cllr Holmes pointed out that Mr Butcher owns the land forming Donkey Lane It was confirmed that a footpath is public if on the definitive map. Cllr Turner added that you could apply at no cost to the individual for unrecognised footpaths to be added to the Definitive Map

**b) A35:** Nothing new to report.

**c) Transport:** Regarding the number 47 bus, which could cease on 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014 Discussions between Dorset and Somerset County Councils and providers are still in progress and a decision is hoped for by 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. Symondsburys weekly bus has been saved

**d) Allotments:** West Road is okay. A map was shown regarding Pine View. Daryl from BTC had measured up and suggested dividing into 8. Cllr Streatfeild also said that she had four people interested in the allotments and it hasn't been advertised yet. She said that we could use lengthsman to mark it out. We own the entrance road and the strip of land behind the right side garages. It was decided to undertake a leaflet drop and Cllr Smith will draft a flyer.

**e) Flood Officer:** Nothing to report.

**f) Resilience:** Cllr Streatfeild advised that progress had been made, templates circulated which would be completed by the area volunteers and being reviewed at a meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014. New documentation regarding resilience is coming out. Require somebody in Higher Eye to be a co-ordinator.

**g) Coastal Matters:** Cllr Leighton advised that there is nothing to report.

**h) DAPTC Reports:** Cllr Wragg advised that there is concern over Council Tax and that support should be very much to the fore. We have had no precept correspondence as yet. All needs of the Parish will need to be precepted. There is a 2.7% increase in DAPTC fees. There is a lot of emphasis on Volunteers. Cllr Wragg advised that volunteers start projects very keenly and then after two years or so start to lose interest/lack of enthusiasm. A pilot is taking place in Marshwood. Burton Bradstock has one and is working very well. Volunteers save money as contractors would need paying.

**I) BLAP Report:** Cllr Streatfeild has circulated the report.

**j) Lengthsman Link:** Cllr Leighton asked why Daryl Chambers not present. Lucy confirmed that his daughter was not well. To be sent an email advising of next meeting.

**k) Symene CLT:** There is a planning meeting scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> December 2013.

**l) Tree Officer:** Nothing to report It was agreed to inform WDDC on receipt of a tree work applications that we would be respond immediately as there have recently been occasions that by

the time we submitted our comments the decision had already been taken .

**m) Ancient Monuments:** Nothing to report.

**n) Symene Voice:** Is with Creeds, the printers, presently and is on hold as we missed the deadline. It will go out with the next Parish Magazine.

**8. Reports to receive and adopt:** BLAP report as distributed by Cllr Streatfeild. Cllr Smith proposed we adopt and was agreed unanimously.

**9. Correspondence:** The list had been circulated via email. In addition:-

**Robins Well** An appeal is being made against an enforcement order. Cllr Wragg enquired how it is going to be resolved, and Cllr Smith confirmed it will be a written procedure. It was agreed SPC would be making a representation.

Dairy Cottage – Cllr Holmes confirmed that this a complex case and has been to the High Court. A brief synopsis of its history was given.

Down House Farm – An appeal has been refused regarding the camping.

**10.Lengthsman Service:** Deferred till Jan due to Town Surveyor not being present.

**11. Change of Signatories for TSB accounts: Proposed by Cllr Streatfeild, and seconded by Cllr Wragg.** It was Resolved that Cllr Smith, Cllr Holmes and Cllr Baker will be the signatories for the accounts All in favour.

**12. Budget for 2014/2015:** Cllr Smith proposed that we should increase the precept by 5%. Seconded by Cllr Streatfield. 6 councillors were in favour 1 against of a 5% Resolved to apply for the 5% increase for 2014-15.

**13. SLCC membership-** Cllr Smith enquired whether they are worthwhile for us and Cllr Wragg advised that they provide support for the clerk. It was decided that the Clerk seek information on this area and report back.

**14. Manor Barn, Symondsburys:** It was agreed to send a letter to the proprietors regarding any further events and suggesting prior meetings to discuss issues and to remind them of the DCC recent Policy regarding A Boards .

Cllr Smith wished everyone a happy festive season and thanked the outgoing Clerk, Lucy Hart for all her hard work. The meeting closed at 9.17pm.

Date of next meeting Tue 14<sup>th</sup> January at Symondsburys School.

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