

SYMONDSBURY PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of Symondsburry Parish Council held on Tuesday 12th January 2016 at 7pm at Symondsburry School. **These minutes will be ratified at the February Parish Council Meeting.**

PRESENT: Cllrs A Streatfeild, P Smith, S Holmes, B Driscoll, J Roddy, J Jack.

In attendance: Marilyn Stone, Clerk, Cllr D Turner, Cllr S Christopher and 7 members of the public.

Democratic Half Hour: Concerns were raised over the construction of a retaining wall (Planning application) which has caused some controversy amongst some parishioners. Concerns included that it was deemed unsafe, no proof that the wall had been stabilised, existing land that it was placed had been raised significantly, subsidence, and that similar walls within the country had caused death. It was also advised that a small measure of success had been received to date with the Dorset County Council and West Dorset District Council in regard to the reinforcement of regulations relating to retaining walls that engage section 167 of the 1980 Highways Act, in so far as they have informed all of West Dorset planning staff to be vigilant in this regard. Oliver Letwin had been contacted in this connection. Officers at WDDC should be proactive in this regard. There was confusion initially at the time of the planning application whether the footpath, that the wall was beside, was a public footpath or highway. Much work by a parishioner had been accomplished in this regard and several letters of thanks had been received, together with thanks from the Parish Council.

The current road surface at Pine View was discussed, deep potholes being an issue. These can be advised direct to Dorsetforyou.com. The condition of a pavement was also discussed where a lady had recently tripped. Pine View allotments were discussed as overgrown trees were becoming a problem. The Council had previously received a quote to tidy the area but it was too much and way outside of the budget.

Information from DCC, WDDC Councillors and Dorset Police: Cllr Turner presented the council with a cheque for £700 to put towards the cost of the finger posts. Cllr Turner advised that the Communications Team will be asking for thoughts in respect of the Unitary option. He advised that on the announcement of the budget on the 17th December 2015 a potential saving of 17.4 million had to be sought, awaiting a decision from London due 15th January 2016. A consultation is in place (due to end 8th February 2016) on the removal of some rural bus services and could potentially save £500K. Concerns were raised over isolation and a detrimental effect on health. There is a comprehensive list of routes affected on the website. Cllr Turner also advised that Youth Services are at risk and some may be taken over by a private company. The result of the Tourist Information Centres will be known shortly.

Cllr Christopher presented the council with a cheque for £50 to put towards the cost of the finger posts.

The Clerk read a report sent by PCSO that a theft of 500 litres of red diesel had been stolen from Moor bath overnight on 30/31st December 2015.

266 To receive and approve apologies for absence: Apologies had been received from Cllr S Ralph due to being unwell which was accepted.

267 To receive Declarations of interest: Cllr B Driscoll in connection with Pine View allotments.

268 To approve the Minutes of last meeting: The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2015 were approved and signed.

269 Chairman's Announcements: Cllr Streatfeild thanked both Cllr Turner and Cllr Christopher for their donations.

Finance: a) Bank Balances: Current account £4,170.92 **Deposit account** £15,120.83

b) Payment of Account for approvals: Clerks Salary December £329.06
HMRC £34.20, Adam Fox £155.00 (repair noticeboard).

Approved by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Roddy

270 Planning Applications:

WD/D/15/002919 – Atrim Gore, Broadoak – Infill open sided outbuilding. Better use of a nice building. Support this application.

WD/D/15/002934 – Crepe Farm – change of use from agricultural offices and archive storage rooms to yoga studio and dance studio. Concerns were raised regarding increase in traffic. Whilst no objections the council are very disappointed that yet again this is a further retrospective planning application..

271 Vearse Farm – Cllr Smith reported that he had received correspondence from Savills advising of the main points of the meeting held in November 2015. It was agreed that we should communicate that our view remains that nothing should be approved until the full Master plan had been received.

272 Restore and Repair Finger Posts – Cllr S Holmes will circulate paperwork. It was agreed that the Cockcrowing finger post was a priority and would cost around £1,200. The finger post in Eype would cost around £600 and it was agreed to approach the Eype Historical Society to ask whether they would consider sponsoring it.

273 Prospect of reduced support from Local Authorities (Leisure Centre) – Cllr Christopher advised that Oliver Letwin feels that the leisure centre will survive and would be hugely amazed if West Dorset District Council did not support it. The Leisure Centre budget and charging structure is decided within the leisure centre. We need to ensure there are sufficient leisure activities for both young and the elderly people. Cllr Turner reported that a meeting is due to take place on 19th January 2016 to discuss in more detail. You can log in beforehand. Very much doubts that a decision will be made at the meeting. There is an online petition currently.

274 Eype Beach – possible submission to National Trust –WDDC had in the past wished to dispose of certain assets, including Eype Beach and it was agreed that an approach to The National Trust might be of benefit to both parties. Cllr Christopher would follow this up.

275 York Lodge – technical data for retaining walls – Following on from the report from a parishioner in the democratic half hour, it was requested that the Parish Council contact head of Planning at West Dorset District Council, Jean Marshall, and invite her to send an officer to our next meeting to discuss the various discrepancies.

276 Reports from lead members:

- a) Footpaths – Nothing to report.
- b) A35 – Bob Gillis, Bridport Town Council, has an A35 Working Group in respect of the proposed change of speed limit, Miles Cross to the Crown Roundabout.
- c) Transport – Number 76 is under threat. A consultation commenced on 11th January 2016. Cllr Driscoll will be experiencing the service and to see how many people use the service and will report at the next meeting.
- d) Allotments – Cllr Driscoll reported that he had a very productive meeting with the lengthsman. A fence is missing from one of the allotments. A lot of tidying up needs to be undertaken to which the lengthsman is on board with.
- e) Flood Officer – Cllr Smith reported that he is now in possession of two boards ‘hidden obstructions ahead’ together with 2 yellow jackets.
- f) Resilience – Information will be available in around two weeks.
- g) Coastal Matters – Nothing to report.
- h) DAPTC Reports – Nothing to report.
- i) BLAP Report – Nothing to report.
- j) Lengthsman Link – Is aware of work to be done.
- k) Tree Officer – Nothing to report.
- l) Ancient Monuments – Nothing to report.
- m) Symene Voice – Meeting arranged for 13th January 2016.
- n) Neighbourhood Plan – Sustainable meeting due 21st January 2016. Daryl Chambers is the guest speaker.

277 Reports to receive and adopt: None.

278 Items for inclusion on February Agenda – Chairman’s Allowance £100.

279 Correspondence - The list for December had been previously circulated.

280 To confirm date of next meeting: Tuesday 9th February 2016 at Symondsburry School at 7pm. The Annual Parish Meeting was arranged for Tuesday 19th April 2016 at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 9.01pm

Signed..... **Date**