

Minutes of the meeting of Symondsburry Parish Council held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017. **These minutes will be ratified at our meeting in December.**

**Those present:** Cllrs B Driscoll, J Roddy, P Colfox, A Streatfeild, S Ralph and S Holmes. In attendance: Marilyn Stone, Clerk, Cllr D Turner and 4 members of the public.

**Democratic Half Hour:** Graham Hutton and Tom Biddle spoke on behalf of Bakers Estates regarding the proposed amended plans at Watton Park. Specifically, the height of plot 25 has been reduced from 36.9 metres to 35.5 metres and the roof has been redesigned with lowered eaves. The property will sit below the ground floor level of the neighbouring property, Brithaven. They added that 11 additional trees will be planted, and after a degree of time to establish, will add to privacy. They stressed that they are really happy with the changes and feel that it is a much better scheme now. The minimum 'back to back' distance should be at least 18 metres, however in the new plans it is at least 28 metres away. They said that they take pride in the fact they are prepared to listen and adapt plans and designs if required. When questioned by councillors, they felt they had complied with the Visual Impact Assessment and that the distant views have been maintained.

Sir Philip Colfox spoke about the planning application for 'Axen Lodge Symondsburry' with the re-positioning of the farm track and showed the councillors the plans.

Sir Philip Colfox also spoke about the proposed advance notice of the plans for the scout hut. The idea is to demolish it and fill in the hole to level it to ground level, and the bank would be raised. He is planning to have 4 shepherds huts with parking, thus bringing more people into Symondsburry.

Sir Philip Colfox shared the proposed plans for the Dance Studio at Crepe Farm. The planning permission for the stone barn had expired, hence the new application, and he wishes to turn it into holiday lets, with more B & B style units. There will be no kitchens within the units to encourage people to utilise the local facilities within the village. The garden will be expanded and will form a new access track.

Sir Philip Colfox spoke about the proposed changes to the 'Green Gaps and Green Spaces' plan, within the Bridport and Neighbouring Parishes Plan and hoped that the Council would take into consideration his thoughts.

Cllr Turner spoke with regards to the creation of a Unitary Authority and advised that the Secretary of State will be reaching a decision by 08 January 2018. He added that the districts of Christchurch, East Dorset and Purbeck are opposing the proposed changes. Cllr Turner also advised that there has been a boundary review of the West Dorset parliamentary boundary (Oliver Letwin MP's area) which has been slightly amended. Cllr Turner said that a new contract is being sought regarding the public toilet cleaning, as the current WDDC contract with Churchills has expired.

**563 To receive and approve apologies for absence:** Cllr S. Christopher.

**564 Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Streatfeild offered her interest in item 573 Broadoak Village Hall Grant Request. Cllr Colfox offered his interest in planning applications WD/D/17/002424 and WD/D/17/002647 and item 574 Protecting Green Gaps and Green Spaces.

**565 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017:** The minutes of the last meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017 were approved and signed, after some minor amendments.

**566 Chairman's Announcements:** Cllr Driscoll reported the sad news that the Chair of Bradpole Parish Council, Steve Spear had died following a road traffic accident the previous night. Cllr Driscoll welcomed Sylvia Ainley to the meeting who wishes to be co-opted at our next meeting in December. He spoke about the recent planning decision regarding Vearse Farm and advised that, whilst Symondsburry Parish Council and Bridport Town Council had objected to the outline planning application, Cllr F McKenzie, who sits on the WDDC Planning Committee, voted in favour having seconded the proposal to approve the application. Accordingly, an invitation to attend our meeting to explain her rationale was sent by the Clerk; to date no response had been received.

**567 Clerks Report:** The Clerk informed the council that she has a few things to say but will do under the relevant items.

**568 Finance a) Bank Balances: Current £11,619.79 Deposit £15,135.90**

**b) Payment of account for approval:** i) Clerks salary as per contract ii) BDO Audit £156.00. On the proposition of Cllr Colfox and seconded by Cllr Holmes, it was **resolved** that the above accounts be paid.

**c) Budget** The clerk provided to the council the draft copy of the proposed budget for year 2018/2019. She advised that no Local Tax Support will be available in 2018/19 going forward. She had included a new heading to help alleviate the pressures of Public Transport for our parishioners. She advised that all allotments are currently rented out. The Finger Post restoration project had been incorporated. With that in mind the proposed increase to Band D will be 7.7% to £28.38. This compares to last year at 7.4% increase to £26.34. This will be finalised at our meeting in December.

**569 Planning Applications and to consider any other planning/enforcement issues:**

**WD/D/17/001566 – Watton Park** – Reserved matters application in respect of matters of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the construction of 33 residential dwellings and associated garages, infrastructure all in association with the outline permission WD/D/15/000521 – Symondsburry Parish Council were content with the alterations and would **SUPPORT** this application.

**WD/D/17/002365 – 10 Eypes Mouth Chalet Park, Eype, Bridport DT6 6AL** – Erect extension on front of chalet. **No objections.**

**WD/D/17/002412 – Manor Farm Cottages, Higher Eype Road, Eype, Dorset** – Single Storey extension. Spoken to neighbours. **No objection.**

Cllr Colfox left the room for this part of the meeting.

**WD/17/002647 – Axen Lodge, Symondsburry, Bridport, Dorset DT6 6HL** – Construction of a 6 metre wide track (agricultural determination) – wholly within the owners land, seems logical and would make the area more attractive. **No Objection.**

**WD/D/17/002424 – Dance Studio, Crepe Farm Business Park, Crepe Farm Lane, Symondsburry** – Change of use to flexible holiday accommodation. Carry out alterations. Erect 2 metre high fence.

Extend site boundary to the west by 20 metres and plant a new hedge to form a garden area. Form a new access track linking the existing track with the yard. Move existing hedge to the south by 10 metres to be in line with the end of the building. (change of use) – It was felt that this will enhance employment within Symondsburry – **No Objection.**

**570 Reports from lead members:**

- a Footpaths – Very muddy at present.
- b A35 – Cllr Roddy had forwarded to the councillors a copy of her report.
- c Transport – Cllr Driscoll reported that councillors should peruse the South Western Railway Consultation on the proposed new timetable, as there were significant changes proposed, particularly on the Weymouth to Waterloo route; deadline for responses is 22 December.
- d Allotments – The clerk advised that a parishioner had asked whether potential buyers of his house could take over his allotment. This was discussed and the conclusion was that there was no automatic right and any person on a 'waiting list' would normally have priority. Cllr Driscoll will contact the individual concerned.
- e Resilience – Cllr Streatfeild advised that she is attending a First Aid Course.
- f Coastal Matters – Nothing to report.
- g DAPTC – Cllr Driscoll attended the AGM on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2017. Cllr Ralph will be attending the DAPTC meeting on 23rd November.
- h BLAP - The next Liaison meeting is on 15<sup>th</sup> November; the agenda will include public transport.
- i Lengthsman Link – The clerk attended a recent meeting and it was advised that the hourly rate would increase from £18 to £20 plus VAT for the lengthsman link service. Cllr Ralph reported that there are some kerbs that need to be dug out.
- j Tree Officer – Cllr Holmes advised that he is awaiting advice from Western Power.
- k Ancient Monuments – Nothing to report.
- l Symene Voice – Any new items to be sent to Cllr Roddy.
- m Neighbourhood Plan – Excellent meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017. Cllr Streatfeild advised that Katy Graham, Project Manager is leaving her post.
- n Finger Posts – Cllr Holmes has had a meeting with Peter Bailey who has pulled out the fingerpost (Down House Farm) ready for restoration. Letters cost £4 each. The roundells are £150 each. Looks much better with non-plastic letters and with roundels.
- o CLT – The AGM is taking place on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017 which Cllr Streatfeild will be attending as Cllr Roddy will be away. Cllr Roddy had already forwarded her report to councillors.

**571 Cockcrowing Triangle:** The clerk advised that Debbie Redding had advised that the application was permitted development within a conservation area. The Conservation Officer, Kate Williams, had been contacted who advised of the same. The Clerk is awaiting communication from BT with regard to re-positioning the broadband box. Cllr Colfox stated that he had also undertaken some work on this.

**572 Defibrillator:** It was agreed that the clerk could purchase a new defibrillator to position at the Symondsburry Estate for a total cost of £1,800 plus VAT. Donations had/ will be received totalling £1,250 towards this cost. **Approved by Cllr Colfox and seconded by Cllr Roddy.**

**573 Broadoak Village Hall – Grant Request** – The clerk had received correspondence requesting a donation of £250. **Approved by Cllr Ralph and seconded by Cllr Colfox.**

**574 Protecting Green Gaps and Green Spaces:** This forms part of the Neighbourhood Plan process and it would separate Symondsbury from surrounding towns and parishes. It was felt that it was important to highlight 'green spaces' between the communities; also a wish to preserve the area along the coast. It was agreed that Cllr Colfox should write to Sal Robinson (Neighbourhood Plan) and Symondsbury Parish Council to express his concerns, but as a member of the public rather than in his capacity as a Parish Councillor.

**575 Website:** The clerk has a meeting regarding the website on 17<sup>th</sup> November.

**576 Reports to receive and adopt:** None

**577 Correspondence and information for distribution per attached listing (October):** None

**578 Items for inclusion on December Agenda:** Website, Correspondence Review, Budget, Reports from Lead members review

**579 To confirm date of next meeting Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at Symondsbury School at 7pm**

**The meeting closed at 9.16pm.**