

SYMONDSBURY PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of Symondsbury Parish Council held on Tuesday 12th January 2021 at 7pm by remote means during the COVID-19 Pandemic. **These minutes will be agreed at the February Parish Council Meeting.**

PRESENT: Cllrs, A Streatfeild, S Ralph, J Roddy, P Allen, S Ainley, P Hartmann and N Mawditt. In attendance: Marilyn Stone, Clerk, Cllrs K Clayton, S Williams, D Bolwell of Dorset Council.

Democratic Half Hour during which members of the public are invited to raise matters of interest and Information from DC Councillors and Dorset Police:

Cllr Williams reported that The Dorset Council Local Plan Consultation will begin on 18th January to 15th March 2021. It will be more difficult to manually circulate this time due to the Covid 19 pandemic. There are a few copies in local libraries but will require quarantining before circulating. Cllr Williams also reported that the Clerk, Will Austin, of Bridport Town Council will table our request to form a joint committee for considering planning applications for the development at the next BTC Planning Committee Meeting (25th January 2021). She added that Vearse Farm features quite heavily within the consultation advising of 960 houses and not 730. It was advised that Dorset County Hospital (Dorchester) intensive care is at full capacity. Cllr Clayton reported that Sam Crow, Director of Public Health Dorset, has advised recently that people are not appreciating how severe this virus (Covid 19) can be and how clear the message is 'Stay at Home'. Cllr Ainley asked if some form of enforcement could be provided in the local town and felt that people have mis-understood the difference between what is essential and non-essential. She added that far more shops are open in this new lockdown than in the previous ones. Cllr Mawditt questioned why the esplanade at West Bay has remained open for parking during this lockdown when it has been closed in previous ones. He added that people park on double yellow lines around the harbour when the esplanade closes and felt that it needed to be policed. Cllr Bolwell reported that Dorset Council have made arrangements to re-instate the bus stop in West Bay. The Dorset Councillors asked the Clerk to pass on their regards to Cllr Colfox.

0114 To receive and approve apologies for absence: Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Sir Philip Colfox which had been accepted. Get well wishes were expressed to Cllr Sir Philip Colfox.

0115 To receive Declarations of Interest: Cllr P Allen offered his declaration of interest to item 122 Symondsbury PCC.

0116 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2020: The minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2020 were approved and arrangements made for them to be signed in person when it was safe to do so and the current lockdown ended.

0117 Co-option of new councillor: Paul Hartmann was welcomed as a new co-opted Councillor after the voting process had taken place. Cllr Hartmann duly signed his Acceptance of Office in front of the Clerk whilst on camera.

0118 Planning Applications and to consider any other planning/enforcement issues: WD/D/20/002785 Land at Miles Cross, West Road, Bridport – change of use of land to form extension to the existing camping site – A tidy, organised and well run site. There are 'green gaps' that surround the area and are quoted within the Neighbourhood Plan. **Support.**

0119 Proposed Cycle Path: Report previously circulated by Cllr Ralph. Further progress will be provided in due course.

0120 Finance: a) **Bank Balances:** Current account: £9,730.76 Deposit: £25,568.09

b) **Payments of Account for approval:** i) Clerk's Salary ii) Clerks expenses £36.11 iii) HMRC £10.00 **Proposed by Cllr Allen and seconded by Cllr Streatfeild, all in favour.**

0121 Plans and Projects for 2021, Budget and Precept 2021/2022: The Clerk had previously provided the councillors with the proposed budget for 2021/2022. She advised that the proposed precept should remain the same as the previous year at £14,910 with no increase to Band D in view of the Covid19 Pandemic and the financial hardship that some parishioners may be facing. It was questioned why we are not reducing the precept, however, the clerk felt it more appropriate at this time to be in a financial position to help local organisations should they approach us in the future (The example of Bridport Leisure Centre requesting a grant was given). **Proposed by Cllr Streatfeild and seconded by Cllr Mawditt, all in favour.** It was noted that the noticeboard project could not be moved to the location previously advised (at Symondsbury Church). The noticeboards at both Symondsbury and at West Cliff need a re-varnish and the noticeboard at Symondsbury also the lock repaired; the lengthsman will be advised.

0122 Grant Request – Symondsbury PCC: A grant request had been received from Symondsbury PCC for £750 towards the maintenance of the churchyards. **Proposed by Cllr Roddy and seconded by Cllr Streatfeild, all in favour.**

0123 Climate Emergency Strategy Consultation: Cllr Ralph expressed his thanks on behalf of the Council to Cllr Mawditt for his work on this consultation. The proposed response had previously been circulated, adopting the response of Bridport Town Council with our own further comments. **Proposed by Cllr Mawditt, seconded by Cllr Streatfeild, all in favour.** He felt that our response should be circulated to other local councils. The Clerk reported that she will send our response to BLAP Parish Liaison Group.

0124 Projects: Defibrillator at Eype Beach: Nothing new to report. **Footpath from Dolton House:** Nothing new to report. **Bins:** Nothing new to report. **Noticeboards:** Already discussed in item 0121. Cllr Ainley asked, as there is currently no operational public house within Symondsbury, whether a bar could be set up run by volunteers when it was safe to do so in view of the current Covid 19 Pandemic.

0125 Reports from lead members had been circulated prior to the meeting and taken as read although the following amendments were agreed: Symene Voice: Articles required from Councillors. Include the volunteer run bar idea.

0126 Items for our next meeting in February: The Dorset Council Local Plan, Voluntary run bar within Symondsbury, Relocation of bin at Symondsbury.

0127 To confirm date of next meeting Tuesday 9th February 2021 at 7pm. **Meeting closed at 20:20 pm.**