

Stratton Parish Council

Official Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Stratton Parish Council
held on 20th March 2018 at the Stratton Village Hall

Present

Cllrs A Aylott, C Hobbs, A Wheeler, P Hallett, C/Cllr J Hayes, D/Cllrs T Yarker & F Horsington, and four members of the public.

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies

Nil

91/17 Public Participation

Dorset County Council Update by C/Cllr J Hayes

Secretary of State's has approved the local government reorganisation in Dorset with the creation of two new unitary councils for Dorset, which will replace Dorset's nine existing councils. The two new councils are due to go live in April 2019, in the meantime a Shadow Authority with a new leader will be in place.

Dorset County Council are investing in a modular housing scheme for people with social care needs.

There will be a judicial review of the reorganisation of Dorset's hospital services in Poole and Bournemouth. This will not affect any plans for Dorset County Hospital in Dorchester.

West Dorset District Council Update by D/Cllr T Yarker

West Dorset District Council's budget agreed for the next year despite continuing financial challenges

W.D.D.C. to set up a Local Authority Trading Company with plans to meet the housing need at a local level.

Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) spend is well within budget

Public Input

A case was put forward for a defibrillator in the village, at an approximate cost of £1800 + vat, supported by the ambulance service for four years. Ongoing maintenance requirements and costs were not known. Currently no councillor has the time to take on a lead role, though collectively the Parish Council generally supports the idea. One member of the public has volunteered to investigate if the village would support the formation of a defibrillation group.

92/17 Code of Conduct/ Declaration of Interest

The Chairman reminded the Council of the need for Councillors to declare if they had any interest in any of the items to be discussed in the agenda which had not already been entered in the Member's Register of Interests. There were no declarations.

93/17 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Stratton Parish Council

The Chairman asked if there were any reasons why the minutes of the meeting of 16th January 2018 should not be signed as a true record. All Councillors agreed the minutes and the Chairman duly signed and dated the minutes.

94/17 Finance

a) Income and Expenditure

Accounts to 20th March 2018

(Monies in the Village Green account cannot be used for any other purpose)

Account	Parish	V/Green	Parish Plan	VAT	Balance
Balance b/f	9,472.09	34,083.66	837.94	421.57	43,972.12
Receipts	6,771.00	186.46	0.00	0.00	6,957.46
Payments	0.00	140.00	250.00	50.00	440.00
Balance c/f	16,243.09	34,130.12	587.94	471.57	50,489.58

PAYMENTS IN

WDDC - Planning Gain	6,771.00
National Savings - Interest	186.46
TOTAL	£6,957.46

PAYMENTS OUT

Kevin Kirk (Village Green hedge cut) Inv 34	140.00
Traffic Monitoring (Dorset County Council)	300.00
TOTAL	£440.00

b) Budget Monitoring and Virement

Current expenditure and income was reviewed against budget targets. Due to the change of the Village Green maintenance contract with its consequent overspend against the budget, the Parish Council agreed to a virement of £800 from the New Services budget to the Village Green budget.

c) Planning Gain Wishlist

Under the rules of receiving a Planning Gain payment, the monies cannot be put indefinitely into a bank account but must be used for the benefit of the village. Initial ideas discussed as possibilities were:

		<u>£ Approx</u>	<u>Decision</u>
Tennis Court	Repaint the court lines	£300	Agreed
Village Green	Replace existing wooden posts	£300	Agreed
Play Equipment	Pay off the current deficit	£1,300	Agreed

		<u>£ Approx</u>	<u>Decision</u>
Manor Close Bus Shelter	Replace both noticeboards and reuse one board in the Almshouse bus shelter. Feasibility and costs to be determined.	£300	To be reviewed
Village Green	Replace the village map. Dependant on finding the original artwork, determining the cost of printing and lamination	£3,000	To be reviewed
Children's Christmas Party	Assume financial help would be required for 2018 if a party was to be organised	£300	To be reviewed
Traffic Speed Initiatives	"Drive Safely" stickers for wheelie bins, dependent on approval by DWP	£160	Agreed
	Village "entrance gates". Requires further investigation and costing		To be reviewed
Defibrillator	Subject to a village group being formed to investigate further, provide costings and commence fund raising	£500	To be reviewed

d) Donation to Mosaic and the Dorset Youth Association

Mosaic is a Dorset wide charity offering support to bereaved children, young people and their families. Councillors unanimously agreed to make a £50 donation in memory of Councillor Hannah Richardson

The DYA is currently providing vital support for 65 youth groups across the county. During the past three years it has been extremely difficult for the DYA to attract new monies to Dorset to support young people and youth groups, however, the demand for support has increased and is predicted to do so for the foreseeable future. The DYA have reviewed their services and reduced costs, but still need to raise £20,000 to continue to provide support for clubs and groups next year. Councillors agreed to make a £50 donation.

e) New Audit Arrangements

Council representatives attended an afternoon session of the Introduction to the New External Auditor & New Limited Assurance Regime. Smaller authorities with a Gross income and Gross expenditure below £25,000 are eligible to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review, however must comply with proper practices, complete and approve an Annual Governance & Accountability Return, and provide for public rights.

95/17 Speed of Traffic Update

The results of the speed survey from 5th to 11th February 2018 were presented.

The table below shows the number of vehicles recorded:

<u>Direction of Travel</u>	<u>0 to 20 mph</u>	<u>20 to 30 mph</u>	<u>Over 30 mph</u>	<u>Total</u>
Heading towards Dorchester (West to East)	1613	877	22	2512
Coming from Dorchester (East to West)	1139	889	66	2094

<u>85th Percentile Comparison</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
West to East	31.3 mph	23.6 mph
East to West	32.0 mph	24.9 mph

The highways criteria for a speed indicator device requires a 85th percentile speed of 35mph, this means that Stratton would not be eligible, even if an application was made.

96/17 General Maintenance

a) Review Maintenance List

A revised list of actions and dates were reviewed.

b) Maintenance Contract Update

The Parish Council have contracts in place with Dorset County Council Landscape Services for the Recreation Field grass cutting, and with Kevin's Garden Services for the Village Green maintenance and Playing Field hedges and drainage ditch. These will commence from the 1st April 2018.

97/17 Highways

a) Road Gullies, kerbing and hedge work

The clearing of gullies in Stratton are now carried out on an "as and when basis". Council representatives met with the Community Highways Officer and requested the emptying of blocked gullies along Dorchester Road close to the junction with Sawyers Lane, the clearance of the over grown hedge on The Rise junction and repairs to the kerb on the corner of the village green.

Since the first lot of snow, a request has been submitted for the grit bin at the east end of the village to be refilled.

Dates when these works will be carried out are unknown at the moment.

b) Road speed signs

Unfortunately due to Community Highways Officer being on sick leave we have no answer as to why the 30mph roundels were painted instead of "slow".

98/17 Planning Matters

The following notices have been received:

- a) Decision Notice WD/D/17/002318 Manor Farm, Grimstone
Refused by W.D.D.C.
- b) Decision Notice WD/D/17/002676 Langford Farm, Sydling St Nicholas
Approved by W.D.D.C.
- c) Stratton Consultation (Adjoining Town/Parish) WD/D/18/000296 Erection of 52 dwellings on Land West of Charminster Farm Industrial Estate.
Councillors to feedback with comments to the Parish Clerk by month end.

99/17 General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) represents the most fundamental shake-up of data protection law for over 20 years. This affects any organisation where any personal data is processed and establishes data protection as a fundamental right for individuals.

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) have produced a new toolkit to help parish and town councils navigate through the changes to the General Data Protection Regulations.

The Parish Clerk will be attending a short afternoon presentation on GDPR.

100/17 Parish Councillor Email Addresses and Website Update

To have an email address associated with the Council website address, the annual charge would be £36 + vat per email address. Councillors agreed not to pursue this approach and continue with their own personal email addresses.

All Councillors agreed to have their address and telephone numbers published on the Parish Council website.

101/17 Village Spring Clean / Litter Pick

General opinion of the Council there's no litter problem to warrant a spring clean, agreed to defer to the next meeting.

102/17 Christmas Carol Event (2018)

Comments received that the 2017 event wasn't well attended and people had left early during the band's refreshment break. The 2018 event requires a "rethink" over timings. The Durnovaria Silver Band to be booked.

103/17 1918 Centenary Working Group

No volunteers have come forward. Celebrations of the centenary event will be left with the Beacon fire only.

104/17 Correspondence

Planting a Tree

A Stratton family have requested the possibility of planting a tree on the village green in Stratton (or elsewhere in the village) to mark the birth of their son, maybe in exchange for a donation.

Councillors agreed in principle subject to agreeing the location and type of tree.

Democratic & Electoral Services

Email received from the Democratic & Electoral Services outlining the charges for administering town and parish by-elections together with a breakdown of approximate costs for a contested election not combined with any other election. Details noted.

Development Management and Building Control

Email update regarding the forthcoming new online planning system for West Dorset District Council and Weymouth and Portland Borough Council. Details noted.

105/17 Items for the Next Agenda

Village Spring Clean / Litter Pick, Christmas Carol Event (2018) and Planning Gain Wishlist

106/17 Public Participation

Members of the public present raised concerns over the allocation of the building gain funds to maintenance projects and in particular to a provisional allocation of £3,000 towards the village map. The Chairman responded that using this fund to clear debts and do vital maintenance would benefit the Parish when considering future precept requirements.

A concern was raised regarding giving approval of additional trees on the village green without constraint, in case of tree planting abuse in the future.

107/17 Dates of the 2018/19 meetings

Tuesday 15th May 2018 at 7:00 pm

Tuesday 17th July 2018 at 7:00 pm

Tuesday 18th September 2018 at 7:00 pm

Tuesday 20th November 2018 at 7:00 pm

Tuesday 15th January 2019 at 7:00 pm

Tuesday 19th March 2019 at 7:00 pm

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm

DRAFT