

WEST LULWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at West Lulworth Village Hall on 3 February 2014 at 7:30pm

Councillors present: Mr J Davey (Chairman), Mr N Miller, Mrs V King, Mr D Knight, Mrs M Colvin, Mr M Whittle, Mrs E Rudd, Ms C Matthews.

In attendance: County Councillor Mike Lovell – left at 9:15pm
District Councillor Barry Quinn – left at 9:00pm
Miss E Blake (Clerk)
Four members of the public

13/14/157 Public Questions and Discussions Period

PC Claire Jephcott of the Safer Neighbourhood Team and Sgt Jon McCarthy attended to discuss the work of the Safer Neighbourhood Team based at Wareham. A vast area is covered by the three officers of the team, ranging from Affpuddle to West Lulworth and stretching out to Wareham and Bere Regis, it is believed that fifteen parishes in total are covered.

PC Jephcott appreciated that people like to see a visible presence but due to the logistics of the area covered that is not always possible. However if there are any issues which arise she can arrange to attend a meeting – she will be attending East Lulworth meetings every few months and an open invitation was extended to all to attend there. There are several ways for people to get in contact such as the Purbeck Police Facebook page, which is becoming more popular.

Leaflets detailing contact details were handed out and the email address:

warehamwestsnt@dorset.pnn.police.uk is always checked when PC Jephcott is on duty.

Cllr King queried why crime updates from the Ringmaster service had stopped. It was advised that anyone interested in receiving the updates can complete an online form which can be found on the Dorset Police website, copies were given to the Clerk to register.

Cllr Matthews mentioned that it had been a long time with no police presence in the village. Sgt McCarthy explained that due to staff cuts they had to change policing style. He believes Purbeck accounts for approximately 3% of Dorset crime and West Lulworth would account for a very small portion of that. Cllr Whittle suggested the lack of police presence due to a lack of crime in the village wasn't necessarily a problem but the lack of contact and information was. Sgt McCarthy gave his email address: jon.mccarthy@dorset.pnn.police.uk and encouraged advertising it to the community in order that they could contact him with any queries or concerns.

It was accepted that summer tends to raise more issues in the Parish and therefore it would be useful for officers to attend a meeting at that time and Cllr Davey suggested attendance at the annual Parish meeting, which has an open door for all parishioners, on Monday 17 March would be beneficial to all. PC Jephcott is due to attend the Over 60's meeting at West Lulworth village hall on Thursday 17 April.

ACTION: Clerk to register for Ringmaster updates and forward responses to Councillors. Put Police contact details and advertise the Parish meeting in the Parish News. Cllr Knight to put link/details on the website.

Mr Andrew Lance, resident at The old Barn, is involved in the Neighbourhood Plan project and enquired how to obtain the most recent Electoral Register. It was advised that new Registers will be distributed to parish clerks on 17 February and a copy could be provided to Mr Lance to be used for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Mr Lance asked for an update on the issue of road signs near the Army camp which he had raised at a previous meeting. Major Barr had contacted Mr Lance to inform him the road signs had

been removed at the request of Purbeck District Council but no further information had been forthcoming and replacement signs were still absent.

ACTION: Clerk to forward copy of Electoral Register to Mr Lance. Clerk to find out what is happening with the road signs.

13/14/158 **Apologies**

Apologies received from Major Barr.

Cllr King noted that the Standing Orders require those who are absent to be recorded as such and proposed that future minutes should therefore detail absentees. Cllr Colvin seconded.

ACTION: Clerk to detail absentees in the minutes.

13/14/159 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Miller declared an interest in the planning application for fishermen huts at Lulworth Cove. Cllr Quinn clarified the rules on declaring an interest as being necessary only if it is a pecuniary (financial) interest. Advice from the Purbeck council solicitor was that even if an interest is not pecuniary it should be declared but it would not debar that Councillor from discussion or voting.

13/14/160 **Minutes**

The minutes from the meetings held on Monday 6 January 2014 were agreed as being a true and accurate representation of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

13/14/161 **Reports from District And County Councillor**

County Councillor Lovell distributed details of the proposed site for the new school. It shows all of the sites originally looked at and the site chosen as being most suitable is adjacent to the Youth Hostel. Plans are being drawn up to submit a planning application but there will be an informal consultation event beforehand, dates to follow. Contact details for Paul Scothern and Colin Eversden are given should anybody wish to discuss the proposal.

Cllr Lovell informed the meeting that the County had managed to balance the budget for the coming year but there would still be difficult times ahead. A group (Forward Together) has been set up to manage the budget.

Cllr Rudd commented that financial planning seems to be only year by year and no further ahead. Cllr Lovell responded that the Government could change in 2015 which means everything is up in the air.

Cllr Colvin remarked that all the money has been spent on new bins which properties have no space for. District Councillor Quinn interjected that the new bins are funded from the Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) and have been introduced to save money on landfill costs. If a property is unable to store the new bins alternatives are available.

Cllr Davey enquired if there was any update on the buses. Cllr Lovell answered that there is no change and nothing further will be known until the bus timetables are received from the bus companies.

Cllr King suggested a bigger bus is only required in the school holidays and on Saturdays. It has been brought to her attention that the current Damory coach has broken down twice in the last two months.

Cllr Lovell acknowledged that a bigger bus is required and added that the cost is not much more as the highest cost is the provision of a driver. A decision is due from cabinet next week but it is unknown what the bus companies will do. He is looking into the provision of a local runabout bus which would suffice if the number 40 and number 50 buses are lost as this could provide an option of transport after 5:30pm in areas where there is currently no provision.

ACTION: Cllr Knight to detail the school site proposal on the Parish Council website.

District Councillor Quinn mentioned the Government is talking about setting a lower rate of Council Tax. If a proposed increase is more than 2% there has to be a referendum and so it was increased by 1.94% last year. The Government is leaving it to the last minute to confirm what grants they will provide which makes it difficult for Purbeck to make a decision.

There is discussion on whether town and parish councils will be capped but there is a big difference in the size, for example, of West Lulworth Parish Council and Swanage Town Council. Unlike District Councils, Parishes set their precepts based on what they have to spend. There is an election for Cllr Quinn's seat this year which will be up for election again next year. He is currently checking legislation to see if this can be postponed until next year in order to save costs. Parish councils which are due for election this year will be elected for five years, rather than four, to bring them into line.

The Beach Café at Lulworth Cove was reported as suffering from subsidence due to erosion from the sea water. Cllr Quinn informed the building inspector who has been to examine it. The Weld Estate have arranged for building works to make it safe. Cllr Davey suggested warning signs be put around it. Cllr Miller had heard from Nick Kelly that builders will be attending on Wednesday to shore up the wall and a skip will appear.

While the building inspector was on site he found a couple of tiles loose in the toilets. Cllr Rudd commented that water is running continuously at the wall on the right of the ladies toilets. Last winter the Parish Council were informed the water was from a duck pond and could not be stalled. Cllr Quinn will investigate the situation and Cllr Davey suggested that Purbeck District Council (PDC) could contact the Weld Estate to pursue necessary repairs.

Cllr Miller stated the men's toilets are in urgent need of repair. There are no seats on the toilets, no toilet roll holders and no locks on the doors. The toilets are in an ongoing process of being handed back from PDC to The Weld Estate and it is believed it is due to this handover that money is not being spent. Cllr Quinn commented that PDC could not justify to the public that they had spent money on refurbishing the toilets when they are due to be handed over to The Weld Estate and possibly demolished.

Cllr Whittle questioned whether there is a need for the toilets and whether it is time to close them. Cllr Davey responded Lulworth receives half a million visitors every year and that PDC are responsible for the toilets at present and should therefore action necessary repairs.

Cllr Quinn noted that the tree at Burngate still required attending to. Cllr Davey wondered if Purbeck District Council could ask the Army to fix it or whether it could be fixed and the Army sent the bill. Cllr Quinn worried that the County Council would be stuck with the bill.

ACTION: Cllr Quinn to enquire about toilet repairs and report back before the next meeting. The tree at Burngate to be attended to.

13/14/162

Planning Applications / Updates on Previous Planning Applications

Cllr Miller left the room while the following application was discussed:

6/2014/0024 – Main Road, Lulworth Cove. Erect two fishermen's huts and create open space; form sleeper bridge access. Cllr Knight noted there were no dimensions detailed. He believed the huts need to be big enough to work in and have electric supply, Cllr Colvin suggested the supply of power is questioned. Cllr King added that for the fishermen to work in the huts they should be at least the same size as the fish shop which is used at present, the proposal appeared to be smaller and still left the winch outside. Cllr Colvin wondered if the fishermen should be asked if they believe the huts will be fit for purpose and Cllr Quinn interjected that he would assume dialogue had already been undertaken between the fishermen and the applicants,

The Weld Estate. Cllr Davey suggested the huts should be larger to allow the nets to be worked upon and the southern shed could be moved up to ensure that it is clear of the flood zone. Cllr Rudd suggested the fishermen could make their own objections to the application and Cllr Davey countered with “should we not support the fishermen?” Cllr Colvin believed that compared to the size of the previous shed this one was much smaller. Cllr Rudd would like to know whether the fishermen thought the size was acceptable and thought it would tidy up a very untidy area.

Cllr King thought that the concerns should be raised and Cllr Matthews added that as the sizing is not on the plans it may not be sufficiently big enough and this should be related back to the Design & Access Statement. Cllr Knight suggested the winch could be relocated to the back of the southern shed to be above the flood area. Cllr Quinn is concerned that this means moving the pulley in the road.

Cllr Davey summarised the response should be that the sheds are too small for the requirements of the fishermen, power supply should be provided and the winch should be relocated. Cllr Colvin seconded and all agreed.

ACTION: Respond to the planning application with the above summary. Draft letter to be sent to all Councillors prior to submission.

13/14/163 Applications for Tree Works / Updates on Previous Tree Works Applications

TWA/2014/0006 - Main road (Old Bakery Cottage). Row of mixed species trees – crown lift to 6m over drive only.

TWA/2014/0019 – 2 Beech Close, West Lulworth. Fell conifers and reduce conifer, eucalyptus, bay and pittosporum by up to 3m retaining form & shape of trees.

Cllr Knight welcomed an application seeking to manage a coniferous hedge. He proposed approval of both applications which Cllr Whittle seconded and all agreed.

13/14/164 Finance

Bank reconciliation to end December 2013 was noted.

The following were approved for payment:

Village hall rent – Oct to Dec 2013 inclusive	£24.00
Website maintenance (David Wheatley) – Sep, Oct & Nov 2013	£60.00
Website maintenance (David Wheatley) – Dec 2013, Jan & Feb 2014	£60.00
Clerks wages (January)	£198.20

The following receipt was noted:

Interest on Playground account	£0.19
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13/14/165 Consultations and New Items for Discussion or Report

a) Register of Assets – a copy of all the assets was distributed in order that any necessary amendments can be made. Cllr King noted that there are seats at the bus shelter, School Lane, on the corner of Sunnyside, by the sycamore tree /telephone box and 2 on the way to The Cove. There is also Jim Picton’s bench to add.

Cllr Rudd believed there were more dog waste bins. Cllr Miller suggested there were two at School Lane so there was actually six in total.

Cllr Norman pointed out that the swing had not yet been put up and he would contact Ray Derrick to arrange this.

Cllr King queried whether the footpath from Sunnyside Road actually belongs to the Parish

Council. Cllr Davey thought it best to check this and also whether we should have insurance cover for it.

Cllr Davey noted the emergency telephone is still listed as an asset. Cllr Whittle stated it is still in place but no longer connected. Cllr Davey suggested the office equipment would need amendment due to the provision of a new computer, the telephone should be removed as an asset and things should be added which were not already detailed.

He noted the bus shelter had never been insured but Cllr King believed it had been insured when it was first built. Cllr Knight suggested that when the new shelter is complete it could then be added to the schedule. Cllr Colvin wondered why it was not insured as a peppercorn rent had been paid and maintenance was carried out including rethatching. Cllr Miller suggested that if rent had not been paid for more than seven years the Parish Council could claim adverse possession. Cllr King added that pursuing adverse possession was not necessary at this point but advice did need to be sought from the DAPTC regarding the current situation.

ACTION: Update the Register of Assets and distribute to all Councillors. Check whether footpaths should be covered on the insurance. Swing fitting to be arranged. Advice to be sought from DAPTC about the bus shelter.

b) Illuminated Signs Policy – Cllr Knight stated this came under the umbrella of the Dark Skies Policy. He handed out draft copies of the background the policy and asked the Councillors to read it in preparation for the next meeting.

ACTION: Councillors to read the policy and make suggestions to Cllr Knight prior to the next meeting.

c) Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Mineral Sites Plan and Waste Plan – there are no proposals in the boundary of West Lulworth. Councillors felt that the Parishes involved would formulate a suitable response. Cllr Rudd took the information booklets for perusal.

13/14/166 Ongoing Actions/ Updates from Previous Meetings

a) Bus subsidy cuts – this was discussed by Cllr Lovell earlier in the evening.

b) New grit bin – Dorset County Council do not supply grit bins so the Parish will need to source a new one privately. Cllr Knight wondered if it would be worthwhile claiming for the replacement cost on the insurance. Cllr Davey believed the excess would be higher than the replacement cost. The Clerk had collated some quotes for grit bins but the size of the original bin needs to be determined.

ACTION: Grit bin size to be determined and replacement quotes sought.

13/14/167 Neighbourhood Planning

Cllr King thanked Amanda Crocker, Clerk to Bere Regis, for giving lots of advice about formulating a Neighbourhood Plan. A meeting needs to be called where details of the Parish Plan can be displayed and the public can be asked what, if any, issues have changed.

It was suggested that the Annual Parish meeting would be an ideal time to give a talk on the Parish plan and have some consultation. Cllr Matthews remarked that it should be advertised and Cllr King concurred that leaflets should be sent to all households.

ACTION: Draft a leaflet to notify households of the annual parish meeting and add to the Parish News. Ensure the hall is available for Monday 17 March.

13/14/168 Feedback from meetings

Cllr Colvin attended a recent training session at Purbeck Council offices which detailed planning appeals. She had copied the handouts received and distributed them to all Councillors. Useful information can be found at the website:

