

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY  
19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2012 AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs P Stockley, B Legg, V Parsons, P Drake, M Piper, J Hopkin, S Baynard, C Leonard, M Crankshaw, A Soderberg, A Sheppard, M Cooke, N Pitman, P Cooke, D Foreman

**Chair:** Cllr S Buck

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** County Cllr D Crowhurst

**Public Session:** 30 members of the public, including Mr D Hunwick, Head Teacher Puddletown First School

347/387 Bus Service – Cllr Hopkin brought all members up to date with the current position. Cllr Crowhurst reported that Damory will not be entering into the tendering exercise which is currently going through. The school service will continue as normal. It is understood that the off peak daytime busses are still going through Bloxworth and Morden, but they are missing out Lytchett Matravers and Minster and going past Organford crossroads and into Poole. This is so as not to compete with the First Bus service from Poole to Lytchett Matravers. The bus timetable with the alterations is available from Poole bus station. The final position will not be known until after the tendering exercise is complete.

**11.160 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

None received. All members present.

**11.161 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Cooke and seconded by Cllr Legg that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

**11.161 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

No matters arising.

**11.162 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972**

No interests were declared at this stage.

**11.163 Reports from Meetings Attended**

DAPTC – Superfast Broadband J Hopkin - £38mill funding has been granted. Company to implement it has still to be appointed. A forum will be set up which will keep everyone informed and it should be up and running by the end of 2013.

**11.164 Puddletown Matters**

11.164.1 First School - The Chairman reported that he and all members had read the various e-mails that had been sent from the various concerned parents and villagers. He went on to bring the meeting up to date with all the events that had taken place since 2008. Mr Hunwick requested an amendment to the minutes of the December Extra-ordinary meeting regarding the proposed new school plans. The minutes read the number of children will increase to 220, this should read 150. Cllr

Piper that reported what happened at the Planning Meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> March. The purchase of the site is now virtually complete.

The question of the budget for the school was raised as was the comment regarding caravanners. The over-budget was created due to the fact that the access road, originally leading up to the original school site was vastly over budget. With regard to the caravanners – our concerns were not the fact that a few parents park in there for a short period of time, but that the area should not be relied on all the time as there needs to be access to the Recreation Ground for any events that may be occurring and at certain times the gang mowers need to get in and out. In addition to this, between 8 and 9am is the usual time for the caravanners to arrive and depart.

Mrs Stephens asked why the plans have actually been deferred. The Chairman then read out the Planning Committee reasons for deferment as set out in minute 17.28 of the Planning Committee minutes.

Mr Stephens – surely the planning application cannot be validated until a Traffic Management Plan is in place. Cllr Crowhurst reported that the Democratic Services have reported the planning application will be heard again in June. Everything else is in place; the capital finance is in place as is the purchase of the land. The members of the Committee made the decision to defer as the submission by Highways was not very impressive. Problems of safety were relied upon by saying nothing had happened in the area in the past. One of the key points is to move the 30mph out further in order to encourage vehicles to slow down earlier. The Committee also included the chairman of the West Dorset Planning Committee Mr Gardener and he was not particularly happy with the fact that little account had been taken of safety. If the Highway Officers come forward with something that will satisfy members, then the work will go ahead.

Mrs Miles reported that the path from the site leading towards the Recreation Ground is no longer going to happen. There will also no longer be any need for the buses to be parked on the road, or the cars belonging to the teachers as the plan will have sufficient spaces for them on site.

It was pointed out the residents of Greenacres are not against the school being built but they expressed their concern about the amount of traffic and the lack of child safety.

Mrs Stephens asked, regardless of the traffic issues, what can the residents do to make sure the Traffic Management Plan is in place. Cllr Cooke commented that the relationship between the officers, school and parents has not been particularly good over the last few years. He suggested that a joint letter should be sent to Jacqui Groves making sure the officers do their homework and get the right plan in front of the Committee in June. The Project Manager should also be included in the letter.

Mr Stephens felt that this could be an ideal opportunity to sort out the whole road problems throughout the village.

Cllr Leonard commented that it would be a mistake to extend the scope of any response beyond the scope of the Committee and asked if it can now be agreed that all parties present get back to the Committee with the list of requirements as set out in the Planning Committee minutes.

Cllr Sheppard felt that any additional letter now sent might water down our efforts to date.

Cllr Foreman agreed that a letter should go from the Parish Council to Miles Butler, Director, with a copy to Cllr Crowhurst.

Cllr Crowhurst reported that the proposal is now back to Highways who have to address the points raised by the Committee members.

The Chairman suggested that the Parish Council will write to Miles Butler saying that we agree with the points raised in 17.28 and would like these to be actioned.

Mr Hunwick said that he was grateful that the Parish Council is still behind the school and would not wish to see any disharmony within the community due to differing views. The school did not attend the Planning Committee as it was understood that everyone was in agreement with the application and there was unlikely to be any major issue raised. As Head Teacher it is disappointing that the planning application has been deferred as the new school will not now be available until January 2014 and will result in additional costs having to be borne to carry out repairs on the existing building. The design team has to come back with their concerns to the issues raised. They are restricted on what council policy is and they have already exceeded this by including additional staff parking in the current plan. He expressed concern that they have the parameters in which to work and this may result in the application being deferred again.

Cllr Crowhurst urged that any response sent should not include requests for something that is not in the report. Not every item raised on the list will involve the Design Team, the concerns are predominantly off site on the highway. The report to the Planning Committee states that details of a school Travel Plan should be in place and approved.

Cllr Pitman asked if there would be any way that Miles Butler could meet the Chairman, Cllr Crowhurst before the June meeting.

Cllr Crowhurst reported that, when the suggestion to move the 30 mph sign westward was raised, the officer concerned was not in the least bit helpful. He offered to speak to Miles Butler once the letter is received and try to organise a meeting.

Mr Hunwick will contact the Chairman of the Parish Council when ready and will sit down and put all the thoughts of the parents, governors, etc together prior to sending a letter.

At the May meeting perhaps all the thoughts could be shared.

Cllr Sheppard expressed concern that the planning application was already in place and perhaps any more dabbling may just result in the application being further delayed.

Cllr Crankshaw ended by reiterating that the Parish Council is very much behind the new school.

#### 11.164.2 The Old First School Building

As we looking to start the Neighbourhood Plan, we would like to have ideas of what we would like to see done with the building. It is currently owned by DCC so the Parish Council would have to raise the money to buy the building. The existing first school is listed and so cannot be knocked down and the facade would not be lost as a visual link to the High Street scene. The possibility of turning it into a community centre was raised, together with the possibility of using the grounds for the existing village hall for building in order to raise funds to convert the existing school. Cllr Leonard commented that, were such a course of action to be considered, it would be necessary to demonstrate that what the village hall committee would get in the new centre far outway what they currently have. As the building is listed, there would be a number of restrictions for use.

Heather Bull remarked that disabled access would be a problem for any development of the building. Offsted reports regarding the existing use did not require a change to the building to make it accessible.

Cllr Cooke commented that it would not be physically possible to create the same square footage of the village hall in the old first school.

Ray Stephens noted that any such project would be a massive undertaking but to acquire the building would be a great asset to the village.

Cllr Leonard suggested a skate park in the grounds.

#### 11.164.3 To consider the Carnival Committee's request to site a container on the Recreation Ground

Charlene Lewis reported that she had only just taken over as Chairman for the Carnival Committee and is trying to submit a planning application. Cllr Sheppard commented that, should we allow the Carnival Committee's request for a container, we should be prepared for other groups to come forward requesting the same and should decide how many containers are we going to allow at the Recreation Ground. Ms Lewis stated that the Carnival is an event in which everyone in the community gets involved and is therefore different from other groups that would only relate to specific sections of the community. In addition, the storage facilities currently being used in the Pavilion need to be vacated as a matter of urgency. The Chairman called for a vote to be taken. All those in favour of permitted a single container to be placed on the Recreation Ground for the purpose of storing Carnival equipment only – 8, subject to detailed conditions, 1 against, 1 non-vote, 5 abstentions. A letter agreeing to the placing of the container on the Recreation Ground will be issued. Cllr Soderberg will assist the Ms Lewis in the completion of the planning application.

#### 11.164.4 Library Update

Tracey Long and Mr Livers will be addressing the Friends Group on the 24<sup>th</sup> May. The intension is to go ahead with the Friends taking over the running of the library. Mike Chaney reported that the mobile library service is looking to go into Puddletown although it was not necessary. It already visits Tolpuddle so there is no need of the additional service.

#### 11.164.5 Olympic Torch Update

Cllr Parsons will be attending a meeting on Monday together with representatives of all the other villages involved. The Torch will be in the village at 12.32. She is still awaiting confirmation of the £400 funding to go towards the fun day at the Recreation Ground.

### **11.165 Tolpuddle Topics**

#### 11.165.1 To consider the purchase of litter bins

The Clerk met with Dan Carter of WDDC to see the possible site of the bin at the eastern end of the village. WDDC have agreed that they would supply and fit the bin at a cost of £160. Cllr Pitman will speak to the owners of the nearby property and confirm that they are happy with the proposed location before the bin is ordered.

#### 11.165.2 Update on the 347/387 bus service

Already discussed at public session.

#### 11.165.3 To consider reappointing the grass cutting contract for Orchard Meadow

Cllr M Cooke reported that the TOSCA committee had met to discuss the grass cutting contract and the way forward. They had concluded that they would support a tendering of the contract at the end of the cutting season i.e. October but, in the meantime, would wish to stay with the revised arrangements set up by Mr Burg in that Mr Simon Rolfe will take over the contract at a reduced cost of £1,520 from May to December 2012. The Parish Council will need to hold a copy of Mr Rolfe's insurance prior to him carrying out any work on the site. Our thanks are extended to Richard Burg for the fine work he has done for the Orchard Meadow site for the last two years. Councillors agreed that Mr Simon Rolfe would take over the contract.

#### **11.166 Rights of Way**

Nothing to report.

#### 11.167 **Drains, Hedges & Roads**

Nothing to report.

#### **11.168 To Consider Planning Applications**

No planning applications to consider.

#### **11.169 To consider the accounts**

##### 11.169.1 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments have been requested:

PRIDE	Caravan stand pipe repairs	200008	124.85
M J Tucker	Pavilion roof repairs	200009	130.00
Mrs I Stockley	Hours – Jan-March 2012	200010	302.65
R Burg	April 2012 Orchard Meadow grass cutting	200011	190.00
Mrs A Crocker	April wages, postage, stationery	200012	445.29
HMRC	PAYE April 2012	200013	29.80
SEB	Orchard Meadow 14/12/11-15/3/12	200014	37.89*
R W Cox	Hedge trimming Rec ground	200015	150.00
PRIDE	Electricity usage 15/12/11-15/3/12	200016	80.41
WDDC	Wheelie bin empties – March 2012	200017	46.75
Chris Larkham	Orchard Meadow electric testing	200018	60.00*

Total amount requested for April 2012 = £1,597.64, of which £1,499.75 will come from the Precept and £97.89 (marked with \*) will come from the Orchard Meadow maintenance fund.

It was proposed by Cllr Pitman and seconded by Cllr Foreman and agreed unanimously that the payments are made and the cheques were signed by the Chairman and Cllr Leonard in the presence of the meeting.

11.169.2 To confirm the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012

A copy of the reconciliation and financial statements had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions raised.

11.169.3 To confirm the position against budget for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012

A copy of the reconciliation had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions raised.

11.169.4 To confirm the reconciliation of accounts

A copy of the reconciliation had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions raised.

**11.170 To consider the production of a professional web site**

The Clerk reported that a quotation had been obtained from Mr Nathan Fairhurst for a professionally designed web site to be set up. Whilst the Parish Council already have one, it is very basic and not easily accessible or updated, nor does it hold the information it should. The quotation was for £260 which would cover the design for up to 10 pages, with the ability to update the pages and add posts through a web portal with authorised users. It was proposed by Cllr Sheppard and seconded by Cllr Parsons that the Clerk proceed with the web site.

**11.171 To receive correspondence**

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been circulated to members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made.

**11.172 To consider items for the May 2012 meeting**

- Election of members
- Dog fouling
- Year end accounts
- Chairman's report

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9 pm.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD ON TUSEDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2012 AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL, 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs P Stockley, B Legg, V Parsons, P Drake, J Hopkin, S Baynard, C Leonard, A Soderberg, A Sheppard, N Pitman, P Cooke, D Foreman,

**Chair:** Cllr S Buck

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** County Cllr D Crowhurst, Rob Aspray – WDDC Rural Housing Officer, D Hunwick – Head Master Puddletown First School

**Public Session:** 30 members of the public

The Chairman invited Mr Aspray to address the meeting.

Mr Aspray spoke regarding the affordable housing development in Tolpuddle at Paddock Row, explained that the site is being developed by a private developer. An issue has arisen relating to the mechanism in the agreement that allows persons from surrounding parishes and other parts of the District to purchase a property and WDDC are considering a request to vary the relevant clause. If you go strictly by the letter of the agreement, the homes would have to be completed before the cascade mechanism of sale is applied. This results in additional costs to the developer which he is entitled to pass on to possible purchasers. With this in mind, WDDC are considering revising the agreement to allow the first cascade (ie the offer to those persons having a local connection to Tolpuddle) to apply after three months from commencement of construction. The second cascade (persons from Puddletown and the adjoining parishes in West Dorset) would apply four months from commencement of construction. It is proposed that any such future arrangement would be managed in this way. If the Parish Council were in agreement, the developer would now like to begin marketing the properties outside of Tolpuddle as no-one had come forward from the village. Cllr Baynard commented that he thought there were some 30 people looking for low cost housing within Tolpuddle and the Area Parish. Mr Aspray responded that it is most probably down to the fact that the lenders are still requesting some 20% deposit on a mortgage which, for the properties in question, could be up to £25,000. This would still put the houses outside of many peoples' reach. The Parish Council had no objection to the proposal on the understanding that those with connections to Tolpuddle would continue to take priority.

Brymer Road planning application – Cllr Foreman reported that the documentation on this proposal had been reviewed by the Planning Working Group but was found to be so full of flaws and inconsistencies that it was not possible to pass comment on. The covering statement states that the proposal is not for affordable housing but each of the plans state that the houses are affordable. It is felt that this development should not be market housing but should be social/affordable housing. When a previous proposal to develop this site came up, the parish council stated that the site was suitable for only 2 properties. Insufficient parking has been provided and no parking survey has been included within the documentation. Whilst we reserve the right to make a comment, we are unable to do so until the correct information has been provided.

Those members of the public present at the meeting and living in the vicinity of the proposed development all agreed that no additional housing was wanted in the area as there is already insufficient room to park. Those residents living immediately alongside the proposed development expressed concern that they would not be able to access their driveway and that service vehicles, already finding it difficult to gain access, would have greater problems should any houses be built on the site. Already the coal vehicle is obliged to reverse into the current development and more houses will just exacerbate the problem. It is unrealistic to assume in this day and age that there will be only one car per household. With the constant reduction in bus services, most households in the village have at least two vehicles. Concern was expressed over the loss of privacy in nearby houses. At least one of the existing houses does not have rear access other than via the proposed development site. Public transport cannot access the road now, with additional houses and hence additional cars the area will become even more congested. A recent parking survey carried out by residents bore little resemblance to the survey carried out by the developer.

Mr Aspray commented that, as he understood it, the last parking survey for the site was carried out on one mid-week day between 7am and 7pm. Magna need to consult with the Parish Council before submitting a planning application for this site. He has been in touch with Magna regarding this development and pointed out that, should they put 3 houses on this site, one would have to be affordable. He will informally speak to Magna and take our concerns back but suggested the Parish Council would need to submit their own comments. Due to the lack of government funding, the housing associations are looking at the assets they own in order to supplement the building of affordable housing elsewhere. Cllr Soderberg pointed out that, should the market housing be permitted due to the current climate, there is a danger that land will be lost for future affordable housing. It is understood that another parking survey is being carried. It was stressed that it is important for the residents to write individually regarding their concerns over the safety of people moving around the area due to the quantity of parked vehicles, general access to the area and privacy of the gardens and dwellings around the proposed site. The Parish Council will object in principle saying that the information provided is a shambles and we would need more time to review the amended documentation. In the meantime, a letter will be sent to David Evans, Director of Environment, WDDC, regarding the lack of consultation from Magna prior to the application being submitted and requesting that they address the Parish Council.

The public meeting was closed and the Chairman read out his report covering the events and work undertaken during 2012. A copy is attached to the minutes.

### **12.1 Election of Officers:**

Chairman: S Buck has offered to stand again, should no-one else wish to do so. It was proposed by Cllr Foreman, seconded by Cllr Parsons and agreed that Cllr Buck will remain in the role of Chairman for the coming year.

Vice chairman: Two councillors have expressed an interest in taking this role: Cllr Foreman and Cllr Baynard. Cllr Foreman kindly offered to stand down and our thanks are extended to her for all her work over the last 4 years. It was proposed Cllr Foreman, seconded by Cllr Leonard and agreed unanimously that Cllr Baynard stand as Vice Chairman for the coming year.

Planning Working Group: Cllrs Soderberg, Baynard, Hopkin, Foreman, Leonard and Stockley have all expressed an interest in sitting on this working group. It was proposed by Cllr Foreman, seconded by Cllr Stockley and agreed unanimously that Cllr Hopkin take on the role of Chairman of the group.

Finance Group: Cllrs Baynard, Foreman and Leonard have all expressed an interest in sitting on this committee, together with the Chairman and Clerk.

Representatives to the Village Hall Committees: Cllr Leonard offered to remain in this role for Puddletown Village Hall and Cllr Foreman for Tolpuddle Village Hall.

Transport Officer: Although unable to attend the meeting, Cllr Piper had agreed to continue in this role for another year.

Rights of Way Officer: Due to pressure of work, Cllr Sheppard is unable to continue in this role. It was proposed by Cllr Sheppard, seconded by Cllr Hopkin and agreed unanimously that Cllr Drake take on the role. Our thanks are extended to Cllr Sheppard for all the work he has done to date.

Internal Auditor: It had already been confirmed in the February meeting that Henry Lovegrove of Accounts and Audit Services remain as the internal auditor.

DAPTC Representative: Cllr Hopkin had offered to remain in this role for the coming year.

Community Liaison Officer (Youth): It was proposed by Cllr Buck, seconded by Cllr Drake and agreed unanimously that Cllr Legg continue in this role for a further year.

Flood/Emergency Officer: As Mike Crankshaw had resigned from the Parish Council, this role is now vacant. It was proposed by Cllr Soderberg, seconded by Cllr Drake and agreed unanimously that Cllr Parsons take on this role.

Representative to the trustees of the Puddletown Charities: Mr Jim Wilson had kindly agreed to continue in this role for a further year.

PRIDE Management Committee: Cllrs Drake and Baynard both offered to represent the Parish Council on the PRIDE Committee although, according to their constitution 4 members of the Parish Council should be in attendance. Cllr Pitman offered to stand for the coming year and Cllr M Cooke had already said that he may be able to take on the role come September.

Orchard Meadow Liaison Group: Cllr Martin Cooke had offered to remain in this role.

Dorset Area Partnership: Cllr Foreman had taken on this role last year but had not been notified of any meetings or received any correspondence for the whole of the term so it was agreed that this role would be discontinued for now.

Neighbourhood Plan Co-ordinator: Cllr Soderberg agreed to continue in this role.

### **12.2 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies have been received from Cllr M Cooke (work), Cllr Piper (family matters).

### **12.3 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2012**

A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Baynard and seconded by Cllr Legg that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

### **12.4 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

Nothing arising.

### **12.5 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972**

No interests were declared at this stage.

### **12.6 Puddletown Matters**

- 12.6.1 Dog Fouling at the Recreation Ground – A letter had been received from the Puddletown Football Club regarding the amount of dog mess on the Recreation Ground and the need to clean the pitch prior to each and every game. Cllr Hopkin reported that she had acquired posters which have been made available from the “Keep Britain Tidy” campaign free of charge and has put them around the area. Cllr Drake reported that the notices on the Recreation Ground are continually ignored and, perhaps, the Parish Council should consider banning dogs from the Recreation Ground. However, Cllr Stockley pointed out that 90% of the caravanners do have dogs. Should we decided to go down this route, it would have to be policed, which would not be possible. Cllr Sheppard commented that the fairy poster is working at the moment but will only work for a short period of time. It would be necessary to keep replacing the posters. Cllr Drake suggested all the current signs at the Recreation Ground are removed and we start using the posters on a rotating basis. Cllr P Cooke proposed that the Clerk look into getting posters/ poo bags, etc and that they are rotated on a regular basis. This was unanimously agreed.

**ACTION: CLERK**

#### 12.6.2 The First School Update

Mr Hunwick informed the meeting that he has contacted Miles Butler and is awaiting a suitable meeting date with a representative of the Highways department. Once this date has been confirmed (which should be by the 12<sup>th</sup> May), he will contact the Chair. 2 additional parish councillors will also be invited to attend the meeting. Cllr Crowhurst will also pursue this.

Cllr Crowhurst reported that the next review of the plans would take place on the 15<sup>th</sup> June. He confirmed that the initial number of children will be 150 but the main structure of the building is sufficient to accommodate 220. Cllr Leonard clarified that the hall is being built for 220 but the rest of the building will be 150 children. Some additional plans have been received which address some of the problems raised. He felt that there should be a greater awareness of the 30mph limit. The revised proposal is for additional indicators and road markings to highlight the 30 mph limit. Cllr Sheppard commented that with all the additional road markings, DCC seem to be ignoring the rural roads protocol.

Cllr Pitman asked if it would not be possible to have an SID at the 30mph point to focus people’s awareness. The Clerk will follow this up with County.

**ACTION: CLERK**

- 12.6.3 Recreation Ground car park – Cllr Drake reported that he had been contacted by Mrs Carole Pay, the owner of Camelot Hair Fashions who had offered to pay for a solar light to be installed at the Recreation Ground car park. The area is dark and quite forbidding for people attending evening meetings as the nearest street light falls far short. The solar powered lamp over the pedestrian gate will provide reassurance and guidance and our thanks are extended Mrs Pay and Mr Pay who installed it. A letter of thanks will be sent.

**ACTION: CLERK**



## 12.7 Tolpuddle Topics

- 12.7.1 Tolpuddle Street Party -Cllr Pitman thanked everyone for all their help and work at the Street Party on Sunday and reported that £2,500 was raised in aide of the village hall and church.
- 12.7.2 Dog bin – A meeting will take place on site at the end of the month to determine the position where upon, WDDC will supply and install the bin and a notice will be put on or near it saying litter and dog waste accepted.

## 12.8 Rights of Way

All rights of way are clear other than the usual damp problems due to the weather conditions.

## 12.9 Drains, Hedges & Roads

- 12.9.1 North Brook Roundabout - Cllr Drake reported that the North Brook roundabout continues to cause problems where the eastbound traffic exits the dual carriageway. There is a tendency to come off at quite a speed and, those who do not know the area, are unaware of the roundabout at the top of the slip road. Although there have been no reported accidents, there have been many near misses. This topic was raised with Highways several years ago and their response was that there were sufficient warning signs and road markings, compliant with national guidelines. This, combined with the fact that this is not a known accident black spot, meant they were not prepared to do anything further. However, it would appear that the give way line is very worn out and could be refurbished and the visibility splays should be cleared. The Clerk will contact Highways accordingly.

**ACTION: CLERK**

- 12.9.2 Tolpuddle – Following the recent heavy rainfall, it became apparent that several of the drains were blocked. The Clerk will contact DCC to see if they can get someone out to unblock them.

**ACTION: CLERK**

## 12.10 To Consider Planning Applications

- 12.10.1 1/D/12/000450: Brymer Road, Puddletown – demolish garages & erect 3 dwellings – discussed during the public session.
- 12.10.2 1/D/12/000671: Field North of River Frome, Dorchester – extraction of alluvial gravels for use in local river restoration project.  
The Environment Agency makes a clear case for the project on environmental, hydrological and biological grounds. Minerals, in this case, gravels, that are being removed will be processed and re-used locally. The landowner approves of the scheme and the works will take around 2 weeks and be carried out sensitively. No objections were made.

## 12.11 To consider the accounts

### 12.11.1 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments have been requested:

DAPTC	HMRC Surgery	200019	10.00
Accounts & Audit	Internal audit y/e 31.03.12	200020	226.20
Mrs A Crocker	May wages, postage	200021	404.56

Total amount requested for May 2012 = £653.16 all of which will come from the Precept.

It was proposed by Cllr Baynard and seconded by Cllr Foreman and agreed unanimously that the payments are made and the cheques were signed by the Chairman and Cllr Foreman in the presence of the meeting.

12.11.2 To confirm the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012

A copy of the reconciliation and financial statements had been issued to all members in the April meeting. The Annual Statement had been issued prior to the start of this meeting. There being no questions, it was proposed by Cllr Baynard and seconded by Cllr Soderberg that the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012 are accepted and the statement was signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting. The auditor had not raised any points of concern.

12.11.3 To confirm the position against budget for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012

A copy of the reconciliation had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. The Clerk explained that the format was slightly different to take into account the monies held in the bank account as was suggested during the audit. This could then be cross-referenced with the Reconciliation of Accounts. There were no comments made or questions raised.

12.11.4 To confirm the reconciliation of accounts

A copy of the reconciliation had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or questions raised.

**12.12 To receive correspondence**

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been circulated to members prior to the start of the meeting. The Clerk drew members' attention to the notification received from WDDC regarding the naming of the Old's Garage site, Puddletown, and reported that correspondence had been received stating a preference for keeping the area named "The Moor" and numbering the houses accordingly. It was agreed unanimously that this name should be kept and the Clerk will contact WDDC.

**12.13 To consider items for the June 2012 meeting**

ACTION: CLERK

There were no items raised at this stage.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY  
7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2012 AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs B Legg, V Parsons, P Drake, J Hopkin, C Leonard, A Soderberg, D Foreman, P Stockley,  
N Pitman

**Chair:** Cllr S Buck

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** 17 members of the public

**Public Session:** A query was raised regarding when the building is likely to commence on the proposed first school. The chairman responded saying that no date was known as yet but there would be a meeting of the Committee on the 15<sup>th</sup> June at which point it was understood that, should the go-ahead be given, building would commence at the end of the year.

#### **12.14 To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Sheppard, M Cooke, P Cooke and Baynard.

#### **12.15 Declaration of interests in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972**

No interests were declared at this stage.

#### **12.16 To consider planning applications**

##### **12.16.1 1/D/12/000450 – Land at Brymer Road (amended plans) – demolish garages and erect 3 dwellings**

Cllr Hopkin ran through the council's response regarding the first set of plans that had been received saying that all these concerns still remained. The new plans still refer to "much needed affordable housing" within the design statement. Cllr Leonard asked if we knew what the intention of Magna was regarding building market housing. If it was to use the money to build affordable housing elsewhere within the village, the proposal may be a little more acceptable. Whilst not completely adverse to some sort of building in this area, it was felt that the quantity involved is far too high. The garages in question are all fully rented out to local residents and to remove them would exacerbate an already cramped area. One of the residents has a motor home and, should the development be permitted, reversing into their parking area would be extremely awkward and the risk of running over a child playing would be greatly increased. The current access would appear to be too narrow for an emergency vehicle, especially if vehicles park as they currently do around the entrance to the site. The design statement states that the land is underutilised which is clearly not the case. If land is so underused, why are they not looking to develop the land at the bottom of Butt Close? It was pointed out that it is virtually impossible to get through the road at about 3.15pm when the school is picking up. On a weekly basis, the dustcart is obliged to mount the pavement to get through. In the light of all of these comments, the Parish Council objects to this application in the strongest terms. A draft response will be sent to all councillors prior to submission and members of the public are encouraged to write in individually expressing their concerns. It was noted that letters previously sent it have not been published on the web site.

##### **12.16.2 1/D/12/00524 – Coombe Barn Farm – mobile home for agricultural worker**

The use of the word mobile was questioned as the plans suggested a more static dwelling, similar to those on a mobile home park. The building is not within the curtilage of the buildings and garden and some concern was expressed regarding the possibility of setting a president. It was felt that the size of the application was excessive and, although quoted as a temporary measure, no time frame is included within the application. Mr Ford informed the meeting that the spring crop was currently going in, once this was taken off turnips would go in and at this point some 250 calves would be put in the buildings. Patrick Woodford – Symonds & Sampson – pointed out that the law does not

distinguish between a mobile home and a temporary dwelling and the terms are interchangeable. In addition, this dwelling is smaller than what would be allowed should a permanent dwelling be applied for. Regarding curtilage, it is necessary for the workers to be in sight and sound of the animals being housed. To effectively meet the European guidelines for the welfare and husbandry of young calves and heifers, it is necessary to have staff living within view of the animals. The applicant would welcome an agricultural condition to be placed on the property. The Planning working group recommended that there is no objection with a proviso that the structure is temporary with a review in 3 years time and the Chairman asked if it would be possible for the Parish Council to be made aware of future alterations to the site before the local rumour mill began working.

#### 12.16.3 1/D/12/000572 – St John’s Church – extension to provide toilet facilities

It was reported that there are no gravestones in the area of the proposed extension but, should any be found, they will be treated appropriately. 2 members of the planning group objected strongly to the modern extension, whilst the others were in favour of it. Cllr Soderberg felt that the proposal ruins the setting of the two grand windows which would sit either side of it. However, it will not be visible from the road and the proposal uses a previously bricked up opening. This would appear to be the best location with the least amount of impact. The majority of those in the village who have attended the consultation process were in favour of the work and the PCC also backed it. The Parish Council has no objections.

#### 12.16.4 1/D/12/000718 – Waterston Farm, Higher Waterston – digestate storage lagoon

No objections to this – the lagoon will be well screened and lorry movements will be limited to between 1 and 3 a day. Cllr Leonard would like to record that the agent who produced the plans is a near neighbour and so he did not take part in the discussions.

#### 12.16.5 1/D/12/000771 – 55 Main Rd, Tolpuddle – remove render & re-render

No objection – this is a grade 1 listed building.

#### 12.16.6 1/D/12/ - 3 Heath Cottages, Bockhampton – extension

The only observation raised was with regard to the proposed side extension as it destroys the symmetry of the cottages. No objections but comment on symmetry.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:50pm.

### **MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2012 AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs V Parsons, P Drake, J Hopkin, D Foreman, M Piper, S Baynard

**Chair:** Cllr S Buck

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** 4 members of the public, Susi Calder – DCC, Superfast Dorset, County Cllr D Crowhurst  
Daniel Hunwick, Head Master Puddletown First School

**Public Session:** No members of the public wished to speak and the Chairman introduced the guest speaker, Susi Calder to talk about the superfast broadband.

Susi Calder gave a brief outline of the internet usage. There is currently 17% of Dorset that cannot receive the internet. There at least 50,000 people in Dorset that have never been on the internet. The benefits of superfast broadband are that it would offer faster connection

speeds, be more reliable and offer additional access to information and services. There are now more and more people working from home and using the internet. DCC plan to have SFB to 95% of premises in Dorset, the remaining 5% will get at least 2Mbps. The 5% area will get a basic service but there is only a certain amount of money to go round. The homes more than 2.5km from a green box will not get superfast broadband and will come under the 5% bracket as the deterioration of the signal is significant. However, the information, and hence the figures, is constantly changing. In Burleston only 50% of the properties will get superfast broadband. Athelhampton, despite previously being told no-one will get SFB, it is now possible that all properties will be able to receive it. In Puddletown, 4.5% of the premises will not get SFB but will only receive the basic service. DCC will be going out to tender for the work and until the provider is chosen and the plans confirmed, it is possible that those in the 5% bracket may well change. This project will not be rolled out to areas that already have superfast broadband such as Wimborne. If you are within the 5% there may be other ways of obtaining SFB such as: community financing (people paying for the work themselves), local labour (getting farmers to dig the trenches for example), demonstrate a high demand, negotiate directly with the supply, set up your own project (as they have in North Dorset). There are actions that can be taken in order to demonstrate a need – 1) complete the online survey at Dorset for You; 2) spread the word about the survey; 3) help DCC get everyone on line. The supplier will be looking for new markets as well as existing ones. Give an Hour Dorset – DCC are looking for Digital Champions to inspire people to get onto the internet. More information will be passed out as it comes in.

#### **12.17 To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Sheppard (work), M Cooke (work), P Cooke (Work), Leonard (holiday), Soderberg (holiday), Pitman (work) and Stockley (illness).

#### **12.18 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> May and the Extra-ordinary meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

##### **12.18.1 Minutes of the meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed by Cllr Drake to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and this was seconded by Cllr Foreman. The Chairman signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

##### **12.18.2 Minutes of the Extra-ordinary meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed by Cllr Foreman to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and this was seconded by Cllr Parsons. The Chairman signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

#### **12.19 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

No matters to report.

#### **12.20 Declaration of interests in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972**

No interests were declared at this stage.

#### **12.21 Puddletown Matters**

12.21.1 PRIDE AGM report from P Drake – Took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr Drake reminded members of the remit of PRIDE and how it is set up. He reported that he has taken over the role of secretary and Cllr Baynard took over the role of Chairman. Nigel Pitman and Mike Crankshaw have been co-opted onto the committee. A copy of the full report is attached. Cllr Baynard reported that it is intended for PRIDE to reinvent itself as it is underutilised as a sporting facility and clubhouse. There is a hope to promote additional sports facilities in the upstairs room eg. Snooker, table tennis, etc. but in order to do this, the Carnival Committee must remove the various materials stored here. They were given a deadline by which to remove them but nothing seems to be happening and no further news has been heard with regard to the planning application for a container on the Recreation Ground. A letter will be sent to the Chairman of the Committee asking for an update. Thanks are extended to Pat Stockley for the work he and Irene did to clear up the mess the travellers left behind. The travellers caused over £2500 worth of damage to the cricket matting which is covered by insurance and the brass handle was stolen from the tennis net. Mark Antel very kindly made a new one and this has been fitted.

12.21.2 Olympic Torch update – Cllr Parsons attended a meeting today at West Dorset and as a result of experience from other areas the torch has already gone through, it is apparent that the event must be policed. There will be 800 children lining the streets. There will be 13 police officers in attendance on the day and stewards from the community will be needed. Once the convoy has gone through the road is immediately open so care must be taken. The field at the bottom of Three Lanes End is to be used for parking thanks to Mr Needham. The First School will be having its sports day in the morning before the torch goes through and then holding a village fair in the afternoon. The County Council will sort out the grass cutting, litter picking and removal of graffiti before the day. An article will be put in the parish magazine explaining what will be happening on the day.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**ACTION: CLLR PARSONS**

12.21.3 First School update – Work is going ahead and the planning committee approved the application. Various conditions were imposed with regard to parking and traffic. Mr Hunwick expressed his thanks for the Parish Council's support and for the words Cllr Buck said at the Planning Meeting and reaffirmed that he is keen to work with all their partners and neighbours. The work being done at the

moment is in respect of the utilities which have to be done prior to the Olympics and the initial building work will commence in early August. Claire Campbell of Greenacres expressed her thanks to the Parish Council for their assistance during the planning process.

**David Crowhurst - Library** – Mike Chaney has written to Paul Leviars and Cllr Crowhurst has also spoken to him and things should be moving on. The library did not open on the Saturday due to some confusion regarding the librarian not being present.

Water theft - referred to Inspector Fry and this will be pursued.

## 12.22 Tolpuddle Topics

12.22.1 Tolpuddle Village Meeting – Cllr Hopkin reported that everyone was very pleased to see the bus service is continuing and the dog bin has been installed at the eastern end of the village. Car speeding continues to be an issue. Thanks were extended for all those who helped and supported the street fair which resulted in nearly £2,000 being raised. There are other events coming up and everyone is welcome. The Police reported that an elderly gentleman was caught by a distraction crime and some jewellery was stolen.

## 12.23 Drain, Hedges and Roads

Cllr Piper – the bus stop flooring has been installed in Athelhampton. Puddletown – the ivy has grown over the speed limit sign and Cllr Piper will clear it. *Post meeting note: Cllr Piper has now cleared the sign.*

The Back Water road sign has been smashed. *This has been reported to WDDC.*

Rights of Way – lack of direction on the path from the kennels to the forest. The path was altered a few years ago Cllr Drake has now waymarked it and cleared the style. The Ilsington path to Rod Hill Lane needs to be remarked – Cllr Drake will sort this out. The fingerpost at Ilsington is missing.

**ACTION: CLLR DRAKE**

## 12.24 To consider the proposal for a Lengthsman Scheme

Cllr Hopkin reported that she had attended a meeting regarding the Lengthsman Scheme. The proposal has been taken predominantly from the Bridport model. Dorchester is now looking at operating a similar project whereby they will employ the Lengthsman, dealing with all aspects of PAYE, etc but will charge his time out to the various parishes who may wish to use him. Under this scheme, the Lengthsman is only able to work on land owned or rented by the parish council. This would limit him to Orchard Meadow and the Recreation Ground. As grass cutting schemes are currently in place, the main use we would have of the Lengthsman could possibly be for him to take over the RoSPA reports and to carry out any repairs that may be needed to benches or bus shelters. It was agreed that, although we are unable to offer a set number of hours per week at this stage, an expression of interest should be put forward.

## 12.25 To review the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders

**ACTION: CLERK**

A copy of the current Financial Regulations and Standing Orders had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No amendments were made and it was proposed by Cllr Buck, seconded by Cllr Baynard and agreed unanimously that they are accepted in their current form.

## 12.26 To consider the accounts

### 12.26.1 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments have been requested:

DAPTC	Subscription 2012/13	200023	516.80
Devotec	Butt Close play area patch repair	200024	283.20
WDDC	Wheelie bin empties April 2012	200025	38.60
Hustings Electrical	Pavilion – smoke/heat detectors	200026	162.00
R Burg	May & June Orchard Meadow grass cutting	200027	380.00
BWBSL	Water OM 15/11/11-8/5/12	200028	99.59
WDDC	Purchase of litter bin for Tolpuddle	200029	204.00
Mrs A Crocker	June wages, post, phone calls, mileage	200030	478.73
HMRC	June 2012 PAYE	200031	4.00

WDDC	Wheelie bin empties May 2012	200032	38.60
DAPTC	Powers & Duties training	200033	20.00
DAPTC	Localism Update training	200034	30.00

Total amount requested for June 2012 = £2,255.52, £99.59 to come from the TOSCA funds and the balance of £2,155.93 to be borne by the Precept.

It was proposed by Cllr Baynard and seconded by Cllr Parsons and agreed unanimously that the payments are made and the cheques were signed by the Chairman and Cllr Foreman in the presence of the meeting.

12.26.2 To consider the reconciliation of accounts

A copy of the reconciliation had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made and no questions raised.

12.26.3 To review the current position against budget

A copy of the budget had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made and no questions raised.

**12.27 To receive correspondence**

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been issued to members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no points raised.

**12.28 Items for the July meeting**

- Invite Carl Winch regarding the Middle School becoming an academy.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Signed:.....

Dated: .....

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JULY 2012 AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL, 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs C Leonard, P Drake, J Hopkin, D Foreman, M Piper, S Baynard, M Cooke, P Cooke, A Sheppard, A Soderberg

**Chair:** Cllr S Buck

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** members of the public

**12.29 Public Session:** No members of the public were in attendance.

**12.30 To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Foreman (Illness), Legg (work)

**12.31 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed by Cllr Drake to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and this was seconded by Cllr Baynard. The Chairman signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

**12.32 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

12.32.1 Carl Winch was invited but, due to staff shortages and the fact that this is the last week of term, he was unable to come and no-one else was available. A invite could be sent out for either Mr Winch or one of the Governors to attend the September meeting if still required.

12.32.2 Lengthsman Scheme - We have received an acknowledgement to our letter and will be contacted again once Dorchester Area Community Partnership have had all the responses back.

12.32.3 Superfast Broadband - Cllr P Cooke reported that the District Councillors will be receiving another training session tomorrow. A vast amount of public money has been put up and it seems only rural businesses are suffering.

### **12.33 Declaration of interests in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972**

No interests were declared at this stage.

### **12.34 Meetings Attended**

Hardy's Birthplace Project – Cllr P Cooke attended. The project's aim is to improve visitor services at Thornicombe Woods and Hardy's birthplace. Cllr Cooke reported that the project was very worthwhile and long overdue.

### **12.35 Puddletown Matters**

#### **12.35.1 Puddletown Carnival/Youth Centre**

The Police have asked for a Risk Assessment as there were no stewards in attendance and it would seem no road closures had been put in place. Charlene Lewis had clearly worked very hard towards the day and she has managed to get all the equipment out of the Pavilion and it is now stored elsewhere. It would appear that none of her team turned up to assist on the day. In addition, there is no further movement on the placement of the container.

#### **12.35.2 Village Sign**

The sign is now in place and thanks are extended to Cllr P Cooke for the unveiling. It is a shame that the "All Routes" sign has been positioned where it has been but we are in the process of trying to get it removed.

#### **12.34.3 Olympic Torch**

Thanks are extended to Cllr Parsons and Mary Miles for making it a very memorable day. Thanks are also extended to all those who assisted with the stewarding.

### **12.35 Tolpuddle Topics**

#### **12.35.1 Tolpuddle Martyrs Rally**

Numbers slightly down this year. The weather held and there were no problems reported.

#### **12.35.2 Dog Bin**

A complaint has been received regarding the newly positioned dog bin at the eastern end of the village. It would appear that it is not being emptied regularly and, as a result, is in a poor, unsanitary state. WDDC will be asked to ensure it is cleaned. Cllr P Cooke will supply some toilet crystals to put in the bin and see if this stops flies.

12.35.3 Visitor Attraction Shire Hall – This is located in WDDC High West Street building and is part of a project to develop Shire Hall, Old Crown Court and Cells as an important heritage attraction for the town. Plans are progressing and looking promising.

### **12.36 Rights of Way**

#### **12.36.1 Home Farm Door**

This has been unlocked but is still in place. A sign is required at both ends highlighting it as a path – public footway. Vernon Phillips dealt with the adoption of right of way and this would be a completion of his task. In addition, the foliage on the path leading up to the gate needs to be cut back.

#### **12.36.2 Three Lanes End**

Path is impassable, as is Chine Hill Lane which has been reported.



A lot of the paths are suffering from being washed out, particularly Rod Hill Lane path. Cllr Drake will follow this up.

Tolpuddle through back of Burleston – Home Farm. – Cllr Drake will follow this up.

### **12.37 To consider the Local Plan Consultation**

Cllr Soderberg informed members that the majority of the new development is planned for Weymouth, Dorchester and Crossways. There is no change in the development boundaries for the villages. Cllr P Cooke reported that Sherborne and Bridport have also been allocated a large number of houses. If the parish feels it has been left out of the Local Plan, then we should say so now. Cllr Soderberg felt that, should we do this now without the Neighbourhood Plan in place, we may be opening ourselves up for a developer to take advantage. Cllr Hopkin felt that the future use of the first school should be mentioned. The initial plan had an area of housing between the surgery and the edge of the village – this is not now in the plan. Cllr Soderberg felt that any future development would need to be aware of the contours as we do not want to see houses rising up the hills. Cllr Leonard stated that he would not like to see the villages too restricted. Cllr Hopkin in turn reminded members that Tolpuddle no longer has a development boundary. It was agreed that this should be drawn into the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr P Cooke will ask if we could include this in the Neighbourhood Plan without it being included in the Local Plan.

### **12.38 The Neighbourhood Plan**

It is becoming evident that we need to determine what the District is able to support. A letter will be sent Hilary Jordan and Jo Witherden at WDDC asking for some clarification.

### **12.39 Drains, Hedges and Roads**

Nothing was reported.

### **12.40 To consider planning applications**

1/D/12/000948 - Tolpuddle Cottage, Burleston; to form an outdoor manege. This application only arrived on the morning of the meeting so members had not had a chance to review it. It was, however, noted that there may be a possible issue regarding trees in the area. If this is to be used as a business, this would be of concern due to the access. Cllr Baynard to speak to the applicant and the neighbour.

### **12.41 To consider the accounts**

#### **12.41.1 To authorise payment of accounts**

The following payments have been requested:

PRIDE	Elec/Water at Pavilion to June 2012-07-17	200035	598.13
R Burg	OM grass cutting – July 2012	200036	190.00
Mrs A Crocker	July 2012 wages, phone, 50% SLCC subs	200037	504.97
WDDC	Wheelie bin empties June 2012	200038	48.25
N Fairhurst	Web Site design	200039	200.00

Total amount requested for July 2012 = £1,541.35 to be borne by the Precept.

It was proposed by Cllr Ann and seconded by Cllr Leonard and agreed unanimously that the payments are made and the cheques were signed by the Chairman and Cllr Leonard in the presence of the meeting.

#### **12.41.2 To consider the reconciliation of accounts**

A copy of the reconciliation had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made and no questions raised.

#### **12.41.3 To review the current position against budget**

A copy of the budget had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made and no questions raised.

**12.42 To receive correspondence**

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been issued to members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no points raised.

**12.43 Items for the August meeting**

- Middle School to be invited in September – perhaps a parish councillor could sit on the board of governors.
- Dog bin

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.15 pm.

Signed:.....

Dated: .....

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY  
16<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2012 AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs C Leonard, P Drake, J Hopkin, D Foreman, M Piper, S Baynard, M Cooke, P Cooke, A Sheppard, V Parsons, B Legg, P Stockley

**Chair:** Cllr S Buck

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** 30 members of the public

**12.44 Public Session:**

**12.44.1 Milborne Wind Farm**

Tony Gould: clerk to the Tolpuddle Village meeting began by saying that there is by no means a united view through the village with regard to the proposed wind farm, but a meeting has been arranged for 7pm on 23<sup>rd</sup> August in the village hall. The main topic will be the wind farm. Notices will be put up in due course.

Julian Francis asked if the District Councillor would give his views on the proposal and if he had any additional information but would like to put forward his objection to the proposal. The Chairman informed the meeting that he had spoken to Mr Hayes of West Coast Energy who said that every household in the area would be issued with a notice of the exhibition but it is clear this did not happen and most people were unaware of the proposal and the exhibitions.

Richard Howard reported that he had been in touch with Dorset Against Rural Turbines. It is understood that DCC are proposing to have in the region of 180 wind turbines in Dorset by 2020. This is a strategy document and has yet to be issued. He presented the Council with a summary of the document.

Andrew McCarthy asked what the earliest date was that the council knew of this exhibition. The Clerk informed the meeting that this was the 8<sup>th</sup> August when an e-mail had been received; this had immediately been distributed to all councillors asking them to send it out to their contacts. There have been test masts on a local landowners land for the past 3 years. Cllr P Cooke reported that the planning application for the test mast was put forward for planning in order to gain detailed information regarding wind speeds, etc.

It was pointed out that the proposal is for 126 meter high turbines. This is the equivalent of a 40 storey building or, to put it into perspective, approximately the same height as the spire at Salisbury Cathedral which stands at 404' (126.25m).

Mr Slocock asked why the project is being called the "Milborne". The whole operation would appear to be very underhand and perhaps this is why it has not been called the Tolpuddle wind farm. He reported that he had recently visited Scotland and saw some turbines – when you are within 1km of them, they are massive.

Jeff Tizzard felt that we were fortunate enough to live in a wonderfully united village and hoped that this application would be considered on a sensible basis without falling out amongst each other. The exhibitions have been very restricted and little information was divulged. It would appear this site has been chosen as very few landowners within the area wished to have this development on their land.

Robert Dean said that he understood there to be issues if a turbine is within 1 mile of a house. Some of the turbines as portrayed in the exhibition will be within ¼ mile of the houses. The Scottish guidelines say there should be 2km between turbines – using this example, the site is clearly overly dense.

It is expected that a formal planning application will be submitted later this year although the exact date is not known.

Given the size and emotive nature of the project the minutes and agendas will be put on the web site as soon as possible after the meetings in order to keep everyone informed of the progress.

David Thomas informed the meeting that, whilst the site does present some issues of scale, the output is only likely to be about 7.5mega watts. Such an output does not equate to the visible intrusion. It is unlikely to provide power to more than a few people in the parish but it will be seen for miles. No noise maps were produced for the exhibition.

**12.45 To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Pitman (Holiday), Soderberg (holiday)

**12.46 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2012**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed by Cllr Leonard to be a true and accurate record of the meeting and this was seconded by Cllr Hopkin. The Chairman signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

**12.47 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

There were no matters arising.

**12.48 Declaration of interests in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972**

No interests were declared at this stage.

**12.49 To Adopt the Revised Code of Conduct 2012**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No questions were raised and it was proposed by Cllr Sheppard, seconded Cllr Legg and agreed unanimously that the new NALC model Code of Conduct is accepted. The Clerk reminded all councillors that they should complete and return the new Register of Interest forms as soon as possible.

**12.50 Puddletown Matters**

12.50.1 Home Farm gate – Kevin Perry, WDDC Enforcement Officer, reported that the gate was removed by Mr Hunt (the developer) and was promptly put back by a resident of the Catmead Estate. Having checked the planning permission, appeal documents and the Section 106 agreement, Mr Perry has confirmed that there should be a gate in the wall which has to remain in perpetuity as part of the Section 106. The responsibility for the maintenance of said gate is unsure. In the light of this, he can take no further action over the gate as it is not in breach of planning control. Cllr Drake reported that he had been in contact with Rights Of Way who have said that, once the path is adopted, the gate will be removed. It appears that the developer is obliged to put street lighting in and the path must be upgraded before it can be adopted. Cllr P Cooke will write to Mr Perry again saying that he would be happy to have a gate here but what is currently in place is a door.

12.50.2 Original new school site - Cllr Legg asked if, as work has now commenced on the new school, what is happening to the original site that was purchased some years ago alongside the Middle School. Although it is understood that the area is now under a nature conservation order of some description, the exact details are not known and the Clerk will write to the County Council to see if we can find out.

**ACTION: CLERK**

12.50.3 New First School- Cllr Hopkin applauded the commencement of groundworks for the new first school.

**12.51 Tolpuddle Topics**

12.51.1 Waste Bin - The bin to the eastern end of the village has been emptied and the problem seems to have been solved.

**12.52 Rights of Way**

12.52.1 Burleston Drove - Cllr Drake walked the path recently and found the finger post to be missing. A request will be put in for a replacement.

**ACTION: CLERK**

12.52.2 Richard Howard report that the shooting people have put up a notice by Southover saying dogs must be kept on leads – it should read “dogs should be kept under control”. *Post meeting note: the notice has been put up by the person responsible for the pheasant shoot and is on private land; they have now been asked to amend the wording.*

12.52.3 Southover – Cllr Hopkin asked why a new track had been cut through the corner of the field at Southover and was informed that the landowner had purchased a new combined harvester that was too large to negotiate the corner so he had cut across his field instead.

**12.53 Drains, Hedges and Roads**

12.53.1 Flooding - The drain outside the chapel is prone to flooding – this may be down to straw blocking the drain.  
- One at Brymer Road

The Clerk will find out when the council are next due to do the rounds of clearing the drains throughout the villages.

**ACTION: CLERK**

## 12.54 To consider the Milborne Wind farm

The Chairman asked councillors for their views on the proposal:

Cllr Sheppard – we have always been pro renewable energy in the past and have been supportive of things in neighbouring parishes so we should be careful of being against any such proposals within our own parish.

Cllr M Cooke – this affects different people in different ways and could be quite divisive.

Cllr Hopkin – it is very likely that there will be a different view brought about from the Tolpuddle Village Meeting and this may be different from those views of the Parish Council. Agreed that this is a very divisive scheme and it is a shame that this is happening. The notification time was very short - only found out about this when the Echo phoned for a comment. Any questions asked at the exhibitions were not answered and those present did not appear to be interested in people's opinions. There is still time to include this within the Neighbourhood Plan. It is of concern that this scheme is coming in between the end of one local plan and the commencement of the next in 2013. Agrees with the notion that the proposal is named "Milborne" as to call it "Tolpuddle" would more likely create a national outcry in a famous, historic village.

Cllr P Cooke – the Neighbourhood Plan would not be particularly relevant as it cannot include what we do not want and what is contrary to National Policy. The test masts were given permission as they were exploratory in nature but their size bears no resemblance to the proposed turbines.

Cllr Baynard – felt that the significant sums that were being bandied around were over £70,000,000 of which 10% would be coming back to the community. This seems rather fanciful. It should be borne in mind that this is a private enterprise scheme riding on the back of government policy.

Cllr Buck – reading through the paperwork that was available, it would appear that the community turbine give the parish council some £25,000 a year for use within the community. Although a nice thought, it does not seem very likely.

Cllr Leonard – it is far too early for us to form a view as this may be a kite flying exercise. At this point he would like to keep an open mind until more information is known. Not against wind farms in principle.

Cllr M Cooke – would like to have it renamed the Tolpuddle wind farm and perhaps some small groups should visit existing wind farms and build up some data so we are more knowledgeable when finally asked to comment on a planning application. There is also the option of a parish referendum under the Localism Act.

Cllr P Cooke – this consultation holds no weight with regards to the planning. This will take place once the planning application is submitted.

Cllr Piper agreed with all the previous points raised but expressed his concern and opposition to this proposal.

Cllr Sheppard – at this point no councillor should have a set view on this topic and it would appear that Cllr Piper may already have predetermined his answer. It may be appropriate if he does not take part in future consultation unless he is prepared to listen openly to all aspects of the argument.

Cllr Buck – we as a parish council need to find out more details. In the meantime, we will support the Tolpuddle Village meeting and form a sub group to look into the possible effect such a development would have on the community. **It is important to remember that this subgroup has a fact finding remit only and will not make any comments or imply any opinion on behalf of the Parish Council in pursuance of that remit. Any potential costs should be approved in advance.** The group will consist of Cllrs Hopkin, M Cooke and Baynard.

Before the September meeting all parish councillors are advised to go away and think out what questions they would like to put before the guest speakers from West Coast Energy at the September meeting.

## 12.55 To consider planning applications

### 12.55.1 1/D/12/000907 – The Moor, Puddletown: change of use to residential.

This site was previously an employment area and planning was only granted due to the office/workshop proposals. It is the opinion of the parish council that, without strong evidence that the offices/workshops have been realistically marketed for a longer period of time than the houses we must object to this application. This was an employment site and the parish council only supported part of the site going for housing on the condition that some employment opportunities remained. The parish council strongly objects to this application.

### 12.55.2 1/D/12/000978 – The Old Barn, Burleston: replacement roof

The proposal represents a vast improvement on the existing structure and is long overdue. It is sad to see a lovely old building falling into such dilapidation when it would be an ideal site for a house. The parish council supports this application.

### 12.55.3 Brymer Road – demolish existing garages, build 3 dwellings

Cllr Leonard attended the hearing regarding this application on behalf of the parish council and reported that the Planning Board had unanimously objected to the application on the grounds of the effects the proposal would have on the amenity if the area.

**12.56 To consider the accounts**

12.56.1 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments have been requested:

R Burg	OM grass cutting August 2012	200040	190.00
Mrs I Stockley	Cleaning April – June 2012	200041	475.01
Mrs A Crocker	August 2012 wages, postage, mileage	200042	427.88
WDDC	Wheelie bin empties July 2012	200043	38.60
Eyre Investments	OM annual rent	200044	1.00

Total amount requested for August 2012 = £1,132.49 to be borne by the Precept.

It was proposed by Cllr Foreman and seconded by Cllr Parson and agreed unanimously that the payments are made and the cheques were signed by the Chairman and Cllr Foreman in the presence of the meeting.

12.56.2 To consider the reconciliation of accounts

A copy of the reconciliation had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made and no questions raised.

12.56.3 To review the current position against budget

A copy of the budget had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made and no questions raised.

**12.57 To receive correspondence**

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been issued to members prior to the start of the meeting.

12.57.1 Proposed naming of the “Riverside Court” site

Members had received notification of the e-mail sent regarding the developers proposed name change of the site and the parish council’s objection to the name. As the developer has already erected a stone sign with the new name, it was generally felt that this had been done without waiting for any form of approval from the local community. Our objection and disappointment will be passed back to WDDC but the new name would appear to be a fait accompli.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**12.58 Items for the September meeting**

- Wind Farm – guest speakers
- Representative from the Middle School
- Library update
- PRIDE replacement fire alarm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Signed:.....

Dated: .....

## **PRESENTATION: Proposed Milborne Wind Farm**

94 members of the public were in attendance

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the guest speakers – Mr Steve Salt and Mr Matthew Hayes of Milborne Wind Farm – and explained that this was an open meeting, allowing members of the public and councillors to ask any questions they may have.

A brief presentation was given on the proposal. Attention was drawn to the Renewable Energy Policy for Dorset.

It is understood that the proposed tower height is 80m, with the blade tip height at 126.5m – slightly taller than the spire of Salisbury Cathedral. It was explained that the community benefit referred to would not relate to one particular turbine but would be the equivalent of a 10% share of the total profits from the whole site, increasing as the years go along. The planning application will be submitted within the next 2-3 months, with construction in 2015.

Following the presentation, the Chairman opened the floor to comments:

There are very few spaces within Dorset where wind farms can be built and this proposal would seem to undermine the County Council's strategy. Mr Hayes explained that Dorset has to bear its share of on shore wind farms in line with Central Government strategy.

What is the likely effect on property prices? Mr Hayes: this is not a planning consideration – the planning consideration is the acceptability of a wind farm on the area. There are properties around the UK that have had their rateable value amended because of nearby wind farms.

The process of creating the wind turbines is creating problems in the countries from which the material is brought. They are also known to have a devastating effect on wildlife, migrating birds, etc. Mr Hayes: the Environmental Statement that forms part of the planning application will deal with these issues.

Would wave power not be a better source of renewable energy? Mr Hayes: Wave power may well happen but at the moment the technology is not there and government policy is to develop on-shore wind turbines.

The wind speed at this site, according to the internet, is too low – hence the need to compensate for this by building the larger wind turbines. Mr Hayes: the wind speed has been recorded on the site for a considerable amount of time. As the developer, they do not get paid unless the turbines work. The size and scale of the turbines will ultimately be accessed by the District Council.

All the houses fall well within the recommended 2km guideline for wind turbines. Mr Hayes: there is no legislation in the UK that states wind turbines must be greater than 2km away from properties.

It was noted that there would appear to be some discrepancies in the information being given out here and that which had been given out at the Milborne meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

The proposed site of the wind farm is a night flying area for military aircraft. Has the MOD been approached and, if so, what has been their response? Mr Hayes: the MOD was consulted and no objection has been received. The turbine towers do not have flashing red lights on them anymore; they now have infra-red lights.

Additional information covered the proposed saving of 700,000 tonnes of Co2 emissions over the next 25 years was the wind farm was up and running – although these figures could not be substantiated. The farm would be connected to the National Grid by underground cables to the nearest electricity sub-station.

Transportation – the components would be brought in by road via Milborne. The abnormal loads would cause considerable disruption and concern was expressed as to whether or not the lorries would be able to negotiate the bends by the Post Office. The Police would have to be in agreement and traffic controls would be put in place. The movements would most probably take place at night in order to keep any disruption to a minimum.

The question of the effect turbines have on those suffering from illnesses such as Asperger's syndrome, autism was discussed and those present were informed that these issues had been discussed with the appropriate bodies and it had been agreed that the development could go ahead.

What will happen to the site when the life span is up or if the company should be dissolved for whatever reason? Mr Hayes: it is a government requirement that all companies involved with this field of development are required to put up a decommissioning bond. This money must legally be held in a completely separate fund and is to be used for any such eventuality.

Exception was taken to the name of the site as it was felt that, had the site been called the Tolpuddle Wind Farm, a national outcry would have ensued due to the important historical nature of the village. *Post meeting note: the name has since been changed to "The West Dorset Wind Farm".*

The Chairman thanked Mr Hayes and Mr Salt for taking the time to address the meeting and Cllr Hopkin, as head of the Planning Working Party, reminded members that, as soon as the plans are received, they will be scrutinised in detail as are all plans put before the Parish Council.

The Chairman then thanked residents for turning out and being polite and considerate when discussing what is clearly a very emotive subject. He then closed this section of the meeting and opened the Parish Council meeting at 8:40pm.

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012 AT  
PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 8.40PM**

**Present:** Cllrs P Stockley, N Pitman, V Parsons, B Legg, J Hopkin, P Drake, A Soderberg, M Piper, D Foreman, District Cllr P Cooke

**Chair:** Cllr S Baynard

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**12.59 Public Session**

12.59.1 Tolpuddle Village Meeting – Mr Gould, the clerk for the meeting, invited members to the Tolpuddle Village Meeting taking place on the 4<sup>th</sup> October, commencing 7pm.

12.59.2 County Councillor Crowhurst - reported that David Jenkins, Chief Exec for Dorset County Council, will be leaving and Debbie Ward will be taking his place from the end of October. He went on to report that the County Council has to find a further £17 million to save on the budget for next year.

**12.60 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies have been received from Cllrs Sheppard (work), M Cooke (work) and S Buck (holiday).

**12.61 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> August 2012**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Foreman, this was seconded by Cllr Drake and agreed unanimously.

**12.62 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

12.62.1 Home Farm Gate - Cllr Cooke reported that he had spoken to the Enforcement Officer, Mr Kevin Perry, who seemed reluctant to take this matter further. As far as he is concerned, the lock has been removed and people are able to use the path should they wish. However, it is felt that the very fact there is a door there puts people off using the right of way and it needs to be removed. It is understood that Dorset County Council are adopting the right of way but the path needs to be signed from either end. Cllr Drake will look into this and see what progress has been made. In the meantime, the original 106 agreement will be revisited to check the wording regarding the access. Vernon Phillips is the contact at County with regard to urban paths.

**ACTION: CLLR DRAKE/CLERK**

12.62.2 New First School - construction is finally underway and seems to be progressing well. Cllr Foreman reported that, unfortunately, the developers, who should be parking on the site are parking on the grass verges.

### **12.63 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972**

No interests were declared at this stage.

### **12.64 To consider the accounts**

#### 12.64.1 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments have been requested:

R Burg	OM grass cutting – September 2012	200045	190.00
Talk Talk	E Mail annual subscription	200046	43.20
WDDC	Wheelie bin empties – August	200047	48.25
PlaySafety	RoSPA annual play area inspection	200048	226.80
BDO	External audit fee y/e 31.03.12	200049	384.00
Mrs A Crocker	Sept wages, mileage	200050	419.94

Total amount requested for September 2012 = £1,312.19 to be borne by the Precept.

It was proposed by Cllr Foreman and seconded by Cllr Cooke and agreed unanimously that the payments are made and the cheques were signed by the Chairman and Cllr Drake in the presence of the meeting.

#### 12.64.2 To review the current position against budget

A copy of the budget had been issued all members prior to the start of the meeting.

#### 12.64.3 To consider items for next year's budget

This item will be transferred to the October meeting.

### **12.65 Tolpuddle Topics**

12.65.1 Affordable Housing – the development at the eastern end of the village is well underway and councillors were very supportive of the work to date.

### **12.66 Puddletown Matters**

12.66.1 Puddletown Middle School – as was reported at a previous meeting, the school now has Academy status. Cllr Parsons suggested that the Head Teacher, Mr Carl Winch, should be invited to the October meeting to explain what this means in respect of future attendance to the school and how it is likely to affect the children from Puddletown.

### **12.67 Rights of Way**

12.67.1 Druce Lane – the path is very overgrown with stinging nettles and the surrounding canopy is overhanging at quite a low level making passage extremely difficult.

12.67.2 Admiston Path – this path also needs attention as there is a fallen tree across it.

<b>ACTION: CLLR DRAKE</b>
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12.67.3 Potential Grant - the Clerk reported that there may be monies available from County if the parish council wishes to take on the responsibility for clearing the paths. If some quotes are submitted for the work, they can be passed to Rights of Way for consideration. Councillors are asked to inform the Clerk if they know of anyone who would be interested in quoting for this work.

#### **12.68 To consider planning applications**

There have no applications since the previous meeting.

#### **12.69 To receive correspondence**

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been issued all members prior to the start of the meeting.

#### **12.70 Items for the October meeting**

- Budget items
- PRIDE donation re fire alarms

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:10pm

### **MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2012 AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7.00PM**

**Present:** Cllrs P Stockley, J Hopkin, P Drake, M Piper, D Foreman, M Cooke, A Sheppard, District Cllr P Cooke, S Baynard

**Chair:** Cllr S Buck

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** 3 members of the public; Guy Bailey and Tom Dunn from Jonathan Dunn Architects Ltd, working on the Ilsington River Conservation Centre.

Mr Bailey gave a short presentation regarding the proposed conservation and education facility on the Ilsington Estate. There is a particular leaning towards the study and research of salmon. The proposal is for a small building containing three conference rooms. The facility will be made up of three facilities - one educational, one research and one fishing. Because of the sensitive nature of the site, considerable thought has been given to the ecology of the landscape and the reduction of the visual impact of the building within the landscape. The building is located on the flood plain so is raised above the existing flood paths to permit the normal flow of the flood waters. The finance for the building will come via the fishing recreational facility meaning the educational work can be free of charge and the whole project will be self funding. It is anticipated that the school parties will arrive by mini bus with groups being no larger than 50 people. Fishing is permitted on the river from March until August. Sewerage will be treated via a specially designed clean waste facility and there is already mains connection on the site. Energy will be ground source heat pumps. There may be the opportunity for an open day at some point for everyone to see the site, but this will be looked at later. The planning application will hopefully be through at some point in November but there is still some more information to be brought together beforehand.

The Chairman thanked Messrs Bailey and Dunn for taking the time to address the meeting.

#### **12.71 Public Session**

No members of the public wished to comment at this time.

#### **12.72 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies have been received from Cllrs Parsons (illness), Leonard (holiday), Soderberg (holiday), Legg (work), Buck (holiday).

### **12.73 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2012**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Baynard, this was seconded by Cllr Foreman and agreed unanimously.

### **12.74 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

12.74.1 Home Farm Gate - Cllr Drake has contacted Vernon Phillips of DCC requesting an update on the adoption of the path and a request for signage from both ends.

12.74.2 First School – the contractors are now parking on the site, rather than on the verge.

### **12.75 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972**

Cllrs Foreman and M Cooke declared an interest in the planning application for Trent Road as they both live in the road and know the applicant and will take no part in the discussions. Cllrs Drake and Baynard declared an interest in item 12.76.2 as they are both members of the PRIDE committee. No further interests were declared at this stage.

### **12.76 Puddletown Matters**

12.76.1 First School Update – setting the foundation stone – the Chairman and Cllr Drake attended the ceremony this morning.

12.76.2 PRIDE – to consider a contribution towards the cost of the smoke detectors

Cllr Drake explained the current situation in that, now the Carnival Committee had removed their items, use was to be made of the upstairs room. He explained that, when the Pavilion was designed, the roof space was made deliberately large to accommodate future use. Members were reminded that the building is owned by the Parish Council and, should PRIDE ever dissolve, the care and upkeep of the building will come back to the Parish Council. Until that time, the Parish Council does have a duty to ensure the building is kept in good order although PRIDE is responsible for the day to day running costs. The bill for the smoke alarms amounts to £539 inc VAT. Cllr Sheppard asked whether or not the building needed a fire certificate and, if so, is it included within the cost. In addition, should the building be checked by a Fire Officer? Cllr Drake replied that the recommendation for the installation came from a retired fire officer and the room complies with the current regulations. Once implemented, up to 50 people would be permitted use in the room. Cllr Baynard, Chairman of PRIDE said he would look into this further to see if a Fire Risk Assessment was required. Cllr Foreman proposed that the Parish Council make a 50% donation towards the cost and this is seconded by Cllr P Cooke on the understanding that PRIDE ensure that all the relevant inspections are carried out and the Parish Council is furnished with copies of all the relevant certificates, including risk assessments and fire inspections.

### **12.77 Tolpuddle Matters**

12.77.1 Tolpuddle Village Meeting

30 to 40 residents attended. One of the proposals brought up was the separation of Tolpuddle from the Puddletown Area Parish Council. This is to be investigated and will be reviewed at the next meeting in February. In the meantime, various points need to be considered to see if this is viable and it will be necessary to determine if there are 150 electors in the village. There will be a presentation at the February meeting.

12.77.2 Grass Cutting Contract for Orchard Meadow

Cllr M Cooke reported that, at the recent TOSCA AGM, it was agreed to dissolve the committee. It is hoped that the volunteer input into maintenance will be continued with insurance responsibilities now under the auspices of the Parish Council. These volunteer sessions will be co-ordinated by Cllr M Cooke with assistance from members of the Tolpuddle

community. The day to day running will continue as normal and the money currently held in the account, amounting to about £1800, will be passed back to the Parish Council to go into the TOSCA fund and be added to the £11,000 currently being held.

#### **12.78 Rights of Way**

Cllr P Cooke felt the Parish Council should be putting pressure on the County Council to be doing clearing the rights of way. However, the County Council does not have the man power to do all the paths to the level we would like. Cllr Drake will draw up a list of paths and we will approach a local contractor to quote for the work before putting it before the Council.

Highways will be asked to take a look at the Southover Lane as the potholes have got out of hand and need filling and the lane needs regrading.

Gaddy's Lane – there is a proposal to make this bridleway into a BOAT. In places the lane is 30' wide and runs from Druce just after the row of cottages to Yellowham Woods then the bridleway to the old A35. Ilchester Estates have employed an expert to put a case against it. Although it has bridleway status at present, it has the probability of becoming a Restricted BOAT which still means no motor vehicles but allowing horse drawn traffic.

#### **12.79 Drains, Hedges and Roads**

Nothing to report.

#### **12.80 Meetings Attended**

##### **12.80.1 DAPTC quarterly meeting - attended by Cllr Hopkin**

Tess James from Dorset Area Community Partnership reported that the proposed Lengthsman scheme is not viable or cost neutral and will not be taken forward.

Kate Hinson WDDC gave an update on local issues including the fact that the Local Plan will not be adopted before 2014. Cllr P Cooke reported that the consultation period has ended and the census figures will be available at Stratton House in the next couple of months. There is a new housing strategy coming up which will concern organisations like Magna Housing. One of the key elements of the strategy will be the removal of the "house for life" policy in order to prevent one person remaining in a house large enough to be a family home. Other items covered included the cut in Council tax benefits money by 10%, and The Waste Partnership which may now be in place by 2015. The Chair of Crossways Parish Council, who also attended the meeting, highlighted the number of houses the Local Plan proposed for their parish over the next 15 years amounting to 1500.

The Piddle Valley gave a presentation of the Neighbourhood Plan, putting forward arguments for and against the plan. 50% of the working group are going to step down due to the number of hours of work that is likely to be involved. The general feeling is that the plans involve an incredible amount of work for very limited effect.

#### **12.81 Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Soderberg was not present and there was nothing to add at this time.

#### **12.82 To consider planning applications**

##### **12.82.1 1/D/12/001291: 8 Trent Close, Tolpuddle – construct granny annexe**

Although it is a substantial development outwards and upwards there is no impingement on light or privacy of the neighbours. Both neighbours have been consulted and neither have any objections to this. It was noted that this would mean the loss of another bungalow. No objection.

##### **12.82.2 1/D/12/001365: Laycock Farm, Higher Waterston – change of use, erect stable & extend garden area**

No objection – the proposal will result in the area being tidied up.

### 12.82.3 Land at Brymer Road – Appeal

Cllr Hopkin proposed that Cllr Leonard’s comments are appended to any comments the Parish Council have. (A copy is attached to these minutes). In addition, it was noted that one of the drawings submitted with the application is inaccurate, showing the boundary to be in the wrong place. Cllr P Cooke reminded members that the planning committee refused the application. The inspector will now reconvene all the information that the planning officers have submitted. We, in turn, must go through the report and highlight where we believe there are any inaccuracies - we do not need to restate our case. It is necessary to go to the original planning officer’s report and attach any additional evidence we now have. The boundary dispute is a civil matter and not something that is entirely relevant in this instance but can be brought to the attention of the officer. Cllr Hopkin and her team will work with Cllr P Cooke to produce a response. Mr Hewitt will be provided with a copy of our response.

## 12.83 To consider the accounts

### 12.83.1 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments have been requested:

SEE	Orchard Meadow electric 3/7 – 21/9/12	200051	12.84
R Burg	Orchard Meadow grass cutting October 2012	200052	190.00
PRIDE	Caravan electricity usage – 27/6 – 13/9/12	200053	351.36
DAPTC	50% Clerks Seminar fees	200054	15.00
WDDC	Wheelie bin empties – September 2012	200055	38.60
Mrs A Crocker	October wages, phone calls, postage	200056	445.86
Mrs I Stockley	Cleaning July – September 2012	200057	543.10
Broker Network	Insurance premium 10/12/12-9/12/12	200058	1974.62

Total amount requested for October 2012 = £3,571.38 of which £12.84 will be borne by TOSCA and £3,558.54 will be borne by the Precept.

It was proposed by Cllr P Cooke and seconded by Cllr Sheppard and agreed unanimously that the payments are made and the cheques were signed by the Chairman and Cllr Foreman in the presence of the meeting.

### 12.83.2 To review the current position against budget

A copy of the budget had been issued all members prior to the start of the meeting.

### 12.83.3 To consider items for next year’s budget

Suggestions received included the purchase of a new bus shelter to replace the wooden one by the new first school. The Clerk will check with DCC to see if they still have a grant scheme. The Finance Committee, consisting of the Clerk, the Chairman and Cllrs Leonard and Baynard will meet on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October to for a first draft of the budget. *Post meeting note: having checked with DCC, there are no grants of any sort available from County Hall at the moment.*

## 12.84 To receive correspondence

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been issued all members prior to the start of the meeting.

**12.85 To consider dates of meetings for 2013**

This item will be moved to the November meeting.

**12.86 Items for the November meeting**

- 2013 meeting dates
- Confirmation of the 2013/14 precept

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35 pm

**MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2012 AT  
PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7.00PM**

**Present:** Cllrs P Stockley, J Hopkin, P Drake, M Piper, D Foreman, A Sheppard, District Cllr P Cooke, S Baynard, V Parsons, C Leonard, A Soderberg, N Pitman

**Chair:** Cllr S Buck

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** 4 members of the public;

**12.87 Public Session**

Mrs Francis spoke with reference to agenda item 8. She reported that a retrospective application has now gone in for the anemometer, this time in the name of West Coast Energy (WCE). When the application for the 2<sup>nd</sup> anemometer was put before the District Council, the officer expressed concern over the visual impact of masts in the area. The officer also reported that there was conflicting information regarding the masts, with WCE saying that the 2<sup>nd</sup> mast was not under their control. Mrs Francis asked that the Parish Council oppose this application when it is received on the grounds of visual clutter. This is the second time that there has been a breach of planning regulations regarding the anemometers. Secondly, Mrs Francis spoke regarding a scoping opinion request. This was submitted to North Dorset in September 2011, despite the site clearly being in West Dorset. The final document was produced by both North and West Dorset District Councils combined. Cllr P Cooke explained that opinion is sought from relevant authorities only and this would not normally include a parish council. Cllr Hopkin referred to a letter from the planning officer, David Hodges, in response to West Coast Energy and the question was asked as to why the application went to North Dorset and why it is not possible to find the document?

Cllr Buck reported that in October 2011 we received a letter from WDDC containing a scoping document but it did not mention a 15 turbine farm or contain any maps or layouts. He went on to state that, when contacted, the District Council had said that we should not have received the document and should probably return it. It was passed to Cllr Soderburg who deals with such items in her daily work and she had a colleague comment on it. Some discussion took place regarding the actual nature of a scoping document and what its intention is, together with who would normally receive one. It is now common practice for such a report to be sent out prior to most planning applications being submitted but it is not the norm for a parish council to ever see one. We would only become involved once a planning application was submitted.

Mr Slocock informed the meeting that a recent application for turbines in North Dorset was turned down partially due to the existing Parish Plan. He asked how our Neighbourhood Plan coming on and will it be completed in time to oppose this application for turbines.

**12.88 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies have been received from Cllr M Cooke (work).

**12.89 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2012**

Copies of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting by Cllr Foreman, this was seconded by Cllr P Cooke and agreed unanimously and the minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

**12.90 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

There were no matters arising.

**12.91 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972 and to consider the Grant of Dispensations received**

Dispensations had been received from members in respect of item 5 on the agenda to discuss the precept. All dispensations received were granted. There were no additional interests declared.

**12.92 To consider the proposed budget for 2013/14**

A copy of the proposed budget had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. The Finance Committee, consisting of Cllrs Buck, Baynard and Leonard, together with the Clerk had met and drafted them out. The Clerk ran through the budget proposal. Cllr Leonard proposed that the budget is approved in its present form, with the precept set at £16,000.00, in the hope that the cost of the new bus shelter could be met by 106 monies. This was seconded by Cllr Hopkin and agreed unanimously. Cllr Drake requested that next year's precept should include a tender to cut the edges of the Recreation Ground and those areas that the Dorset County Works do not get their gang mower into.

**12.93 To consider the accounts**

**12.93.1 To authorise payment of accounts**

The following payments have been requested:

R Burg	OM grass cutting November 2012	200059	190.00
Dorset CC	Rec Ground grass cutting 2012/13	200060	1590.02
WDDC	Wheelie bin empties October 2013	200061	38.60
Victoria Parsons	Refund of Olympic Torch costs	200062	277.00
Tolpuddle Village Hall	Annual payment	200063	105.00
Puddletown Village Hall	Annual payment	200064	310.00
PRIDE	Annual donation towards maintenance	200065	515.00
St John's Church	Annual donation towards maintenance	200066	556.00
St Mary's Church	Annual donation towards maintenance	200067	556.00
Mrs A Crocker	November wages, mileage, post, phone calls	200068	442.19
Mrs I Stockley	Caravan collectors fee	200069	482.15

Total amount requested for November 2012 = £5,061.96 all of which will be borne by the Precept.

It was proposed by Cllr Soderberg and seconded by Cllr Parsons and agreed unanimously that the payments are made and the cheques were signed by the Chairman and Cllr Foreman in the presence of the meeting.

Cllr Drake raised the point regarding the door to the public toilet at the Pavilion. Youths are able to fiddle the door and open the bolt and gain access to the Pavilion roof. Dorset Locksmith is happy to come along, replace the lock and handles for £160 + VAT. It was proposed by Cllr Pitman and seconded by Cllr Foreman that the work goes ahead. As this is the public area, the cost will be borne by the Parish Council.

**12.93.2 To review the current position against budget**

A copy of the budget had been issued all members prior to the start of the meeting.

**12.94 Puddletown Matters**

**12.94.1 The Coombe - Cllr Leonard – Ryan Gambling reported a tree at the top of the Coombe on the verge of falling down – it is cracked at the base and is only being held up by the telephone wire. He has offered to cut it down. Cllr Pitman**

suggested informing BT to see if they can get someone down there to sort it out. The Clerk will contact BT and report back to Cllr Leonard.

- 12.94.2 The Moor - Cllr Parsons reported that she had visited the site and the Environment Agency were in attendance at the Moor in case of flooding. They are ensuring the bridges are kept clear and the flow of water is not blocked by debris.
- 12.94.3 Rights of Way - Cllr Drake reported that the County Council Rights of Way team have done the bridleways as requested after the last meeting and they have made a very good job of it.
- 12.94.4 Street lighting – One of the street lights in the Square is defective. Cllr Drake has telephoned Scottish Electric who have promised to sort it out within 5 days.

## **12.95 Tolpuddle Matters**

### **12.95.1 Waterbarn Farm anemometer**

A letter had been sent to the Enforcement Officer, Kevin Perry, as the mast should have been removed by the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2012 and the land restored to its former state. Notification has been received from Mr Perry to say a planning application has been submitted requesting an extension for a further 6 months to continue gathering data.

Cllr Pitman reported that there is a great deal of ill feeling in the village regarding the way West Coast Energy have treated this whole situation. Cllr Soderberg suggested that the site in question is one of the very few sites in Dorset that could house wind turbines and WCE are a very small company. Care should be taken that any objections must be planning founded and not just based on residents' view of the company.

- 12.95.2 Orchard Meadow - Cllr Hopkin reported that Cllr Cooke will be requesting various improvements are undertaken at Orchard Meadow and will do a presentation at the January meeting. The community event in November went very well with 12 volunteers turning out to help with weeding and hedge cutting. The site looks very good and thanks are extended to all those who helped.
- 12.95.3 Paddock Row is now being marketed - £169,000 for a 3 bed semi for families with a local connection. This represents about a 25% reduction on full market price. The first families move in next week. It was noted that the families have to be on the housing list in order to apply for one of the homes and must have a local connection.

## **12.96 Meetings attended**

### **12.96.1 DAPTC AGM – October 2012** - attended by Cllr Hopkin

Various motions were submitted by member councils to go before the NALC board and all carried. Speakers then covered topics relating to renewable energy resources and the possibility of community ownership of projects. Thanks were extended to Cllr Hopkin for taking time to attend the meetings on behalf of the Parish Council.

## **12.97 To consider planning applications**

### **12.97.1 1/D/12/001367 – 7 Catmead; alterations to existing garage to form habitable space in roof & new external staircase**

It was felt that the application was in keeping with the existing building and would in no way affect the other properties. It is a well planned addition and the Planning Working Party recommended no objection. This was unanimously agreed.

### **12.97.2 1/D/12/000450 – Land at Brymer Road**

Notification has been received that the appeal has been withdrawn and that no further action will be taken on it. It should be noted that this does not mean further planning applications will not be submitted for the site.

**12.98 To receive correspondence**

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been issued all members prior to the start of the meeting.

**12.99 To consider dates of meetings for 2013**

A list of the proposed dates had been issued to members with the agenda and these were approved.

**12.100 Items for the January 2013 meeting**

- Wind Farm
- Home Farm gate – a letter will be sent to Vernon Phillips at WDDC in the meantime requesting signage.
- Neighbourhood Plan

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm

**Minutes of Puddletown Area Parish Council Extra-ordinary meeting on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2012, held at Tolpuddle Village Hall and commencing 7pm**

**Present:** Cllrs C Leonard, P Drake, P Stockley, A Sheppard, J Hopkin, A Soderberg, N Pitman, M Piper (7.30pm)

**Chair:** Cllr S Buck

**Clerk:** Cllr B Legg

11 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited members of the public to speak, reminding them that they can have 3 minutes each to raise any concerns they may have.

**12.101 Public Session**

Concern was expressed about the application for the anemometer at the previous meeting and a reply had been received from the Enforcement Officer, Mr Kevin Perry, regarding the breach of the planning law on the retrospective planning application. The Landscape Officer made comments regarding the visual impact to the landscape and the rights of way. Mrs Francis requested that this application is heard by the Development Control Committee.

**12.102 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies have been received from Cllrs Foreman, Baynard, Parsons, M Cooke and P Cooke all with prior engagements. Apologies have also been received from Mr Tony Gould – clerk to the Tolpuddle Parish Meeting.

**12.103 To receive Declarations of interests in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972 and any Dispensations submitted**

No interests were declared and no dispensations had been received.

**12.104 To discuss planning applications received**



12.104.1 1/D/12/001613 – Land at Waterbarn, Burlleston – to retain 40m met mast for 6 months – retrospective application

The Planning Working Group expressed concerns regarding this application as the original application had been from the landowner, whilst the two retrospective applications are both from West Coast Energy. The application is in breach of planning laws and seems to be incompetency by a professional company. The Working Group recommended that the application is refuse as they felt that the application was not transparent and they wanted honesty and conformity with the planning laws. (A full copy of the Working Group's comments is available on request).

The Landscape Officer commented on the proliferation of masts in the neighbouring areas and had concerns on the intrusion on the landscape and rights of way.

Councillors wished to know on what element to object to, considering the Parish Council had not objected to the first application when it was submitted by the landowner. The fact that the subsequent applications have been submitted by West Coast Energy who, it is known, wish to put up a wind farm, is not grounds for an objection. The proposal is for a temporary structure.

It would be necessary to use the Landscaping Officer's comments as a basis for objection on planning grounds.

Cllr Leonard commented that, if the application is refused and the applicant appeals against the decision, the Parish Council does not want to be judged as unreasonable. As it is a temporary structure, would the planning officer not consider this intrusion as a reason to refuse the application. The Parish Council cannot lose credibility by our views on the proposed wind farm. Is the retrospective application a genuine lapse or does it create a view of a devious and irresponsible developer?

Cllr Soderberg questioned the need for another mast being needed to collect data and Cllr Sheppard asked if they needed more data to prove that the turbines are viable.

Cllr Hopkin reminded members that knowledge of the wind turbines could not be used as a reason for objecting. Any reasons must be due to a breach of planning laws only and to cover the period originally asked for. The application should not be considered in such a light and the Parish Council needs to be seen as competent and to use the comments made by the Landscaping Officer on the visual intrusion on the sky line and rights of way.

Cllr Pitman agreed with the comments and added that it was important not to set a precedent allowing developers to use retrospective applications in our parishes as a way of getting around the planning laws.

Cllr Buck summed up the councillors comments by saying it is important for the parish council to make our dissatisfaction with the process known, for the Parish Council to be listened to and not to be undermined by developers using retrospective planning applications.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council's comments would make clear our dissatisfaction on the second retrospective application which undermines our confidence in the applicant. We would draw attention to the length of time that has elapsed since the previous mast should have been removed – this point having been brought to our attention by villagers. In addition, the comments will suggest that this is in breach of the original planning application conditions and the Landscaping Officer's comments on the visual impact on the surrounding area and that the mast should be dismantled will also be noted.

12.104.2 1/D/12/001502 – The Old Mill, Tolpuddle – install split heat pump system

The Working Party were satisfied that any visual impact would only be seen from the house. It is in keeping with the building and would be more energy efficient. There were no objections.

**12.105 To confirm payment of accounts**

The following payment requests had been received:

Purbeck Arborist	Remove tree from Coombe	200070	125.00
PRIDE	50% of smoke detector cost - minute No. 12.76.2	200071	270.20
R Burg	OM grass cutting - December 2012	200072	180.00
BWBSL	OM water usage 9/5/11 - 19/11/12	200073	123.11

Total amount requested for December 2012 = £1,149.73 all of which will be borne by the Precept.

It was proposed by Cllr Leonard and seconded by Cllr Pitman and agreed unanimously that the payments are made and the cheques were signed by the Chairman and Cllr Leonard in the presence of the meeting.

Cllr Leonard reported that a car had been abandoned in the village hall car park. The Police had been informed but they are unable to do anything as it is on private land. The vehicle is not registered or taxed. Cllr Leonard has downloaded a form to find out the previous owner but this will need to be a justified disclosure because of Data Protection laws.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.45pm.

### **MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2013, TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs A Sheppard, P Stockley, P Drake, S Baynard, M Cooke, M Parsons, P Cooke, N Pitman, B Legg, J Hopkin, D Foreman.

**Chair:** S Buck

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** Vickie Hedges, County Cllr D Crowhurst and 8 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked any members of the public if they had anything they would like to ask or concerns they would like to raise.

#### **12.106 Public Session**

12.106.1 Mr T Gould, clerk to the Tolpuddle Village Meeting, reported that the question of Tolpuddle splitting from the Area Parish Council was raised at the recent village meeting. It was agreed that things should remain as they are. However, several of the residents of Tolpuddle had felt that the performance of the Parish Council regarding certain topics had been disappointing and it seemed to take such a long time to get anything to happen.

12.106.2 Communication – It was felt that there was still a lack of communication. The Parish Council had been talking about a local plan for a number of years but still nothing had happened. The Clerk explained that this was currently down to finances as the district councils would not commit themselves to supporting a plan and experience had shown it was likely to cost approximately £8,000 to produce one. With the precept for Puddletown Area being set at £16,000 for the coming year, it was not reasonable to expect the money to come out of the Precept or to increase the Precept to be able to cover the cost. It was also noted that the web site was out of date and the Clerk said she would bring this back up to date as soon as possible.

#### **12.107 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllr C Leonard. The Chairman informed members that Cllr Victoria Parsons had resigned from the council as she is moving out of the area. Our thanks are extended to her for the hard work she put in during her time on the Parish Council, taking on such tasks as the Olympic Torch Day and that of the Flood/Emergency Officer. We wish her well for the future.

#### **12.108 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012 and the Extra-ordinary meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2012**

Copies of both sets of minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Sheppard proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meetings and this was seconded by Cllr Hopkin. The Chairman signed both sets of minutes in the presence of the meeting.

### **12.109 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

Cllr Drake reported that the locks has now been installed on the Pavilion door and an invoice would be presented shortly.

### **12.110 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972 and any dispensations submitted**

Cllr Piper declared an interest in item 6.1 – the Tolpuddle Orchard Meadow grass cutting contract. No other interests were declared at this stage and no dispensations had been received.

### **12.111 Puddletown Matters**

#### 12.111.1 Rod Hill Lane

Mr Ford addressed the meeting and highlighted the continuing problem of dog mess in Rod Hill Lane and asked if it would be possible to have a bin positioned at the bottom of the lane so dog walkers did not have any reason for not clearing up after their animals.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Parish Council has spent a great deal of time trying to get people to clear up after their dogs – people had objected to the poster campaign used last year. Mr Ford reported that he farmed the Coombe and, whilst in the past, the fields had been used as a play area for dogs, this could no longer continue as the fields were in use for either cows or sheep. The hedge alongside Rod Hill Lane is to be laid and fenced, all the rubbish will be cleared up from the lane and all the property owners would be contacted and asked not to tip their garden rubbish over their fence. Mr Ford and his workers will do their best to clear the path and will put up signs informing people that dog mess will cause the cows and sheep to abort. Cllr Pitman reported that dog mess is a constant problem throughout the villages. PCSO Vickie Hedges said that she was able to supply signs for Mr Ford saying that dogs are not permitted to run over his land. Cllr Drake said that, whilst he agreed totally with the state of Rod Hill Lane, Mr Ford should be aware that the gate at the top of the lane between the posts is only 4' wide and should be 5' wide as it is a bridleway. Also the barbed wire is a problem on the straining post. Mr Ford will look at this. PCSO Hedges will liaise with Mr Ford with regard to his possible course of action.

In the meantime, Cllr Foreman proposed that we go ahead and organise a bin for the bottom of the lane and this was seconded by Cllr Baynard and agreed unanimously.

Cllr Legg informed members that the Coombe Road bin has disappeared. The Clerk will speak to WDDC and see about getting it replaced.

**ACTION: CLERK**

#### 12.111.2 Puddletown old First School

The Chairman invited County Cllr David Crowhurst to address the meeting.

Cllr Crowhurst reported that he had spoken to Peter Scarlet and Richard Walker at DCC. They had told him that the school is owned by Salisbury Diocese and DCC has no interest other than it being used as a school at present. Once vacated, the building will either be transferred to DCC or will be put on the market and DCC will receive any funds from the sale. Cllr Crowhurst had also spoken to his colleagues in Children's Services and they had said they have no immediate plans for the building. Peter Scarlet had said that the Dorset County Property division have taken a very preliminary look at the property, in case it should be transferred to DCC. It is their belief that the building could be sympathetically turned into residential properties whilst maintaining the facade. DCC would be very willing to hear any views the Parish Council may have regarding the use of the building. The Parish Council needs to give consideration to what they would like to see on the site.

Cllr Foreman reminded members that the building would need a lot of money spent on it to bring it up to a reasonable standard. Cllr Sheppard suggested that an alternative would be to let the building go and concentrate on what we would like to use the fore area for. Cllr Hopkin suggested a steering group might be set up to look at the future of the site. It was agreed that the group would consist of Cllrs Soderburg, Hopkin and Baynard and Cllr Leonard would be approached upon his return. Any action needs to be taken quickly as, once the children move to the new school, DCC will move very fast to deal with the building.

**ACTION: CLLRS HOPKIN, BAYNARD & SODERBURG**

Cllr Legg asked what is happening to the original site that was purchased for the school. The Clerk will try to find out.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### **12.112 Tolpuddle Topics**

Cllr Piper withdrew from the meeting whilst discussion on this topic took place as he had a pecuniary interest, being one of those who submitted a quote.

#### **12.112.1 To review the Orchard Meadow grass cutting contract tenders**

Cllr M Cooke reported that 5 quotations had been received and a table setting out the various qualifications and licences for all of them was passed around to each member for review. Cllr M Cooke proposed that Company E is appointed to the contract. This was seconded by S Baynard and agreed unanimously.

Cllr Cooke went on to explain that a small project will be undertaken at Orchard Meadow looking at improving the basketball area and setting up a petong area. This will be carried out with the assistance of Caroline Sharp of Landform Architects. It is hoped that most of the cost will come from WDDC Leisure Development Fund but the Parish Council will also be asked for a contribution. Work should commence in the early part of this year.

Cllr Piper re-entered the meeting.

#### **12.112.2 Anemometer**

Despite WDDC rejecting the planning application, the structure is still in place. A letter will be sent to the Enforcement Officer requesting it is removed immediately.

**ACTION: CLERK**

#### **12.112.3 Tolpuddle Village Meeting**

Cllr Pitman reported that other issues had been raised in respect of separating from the Area Parish Council. One of the main reasons for staying together was the additional financial burden that would be imposed on the electorate of Tolpuddle were they to stand alone. The perceived lack of action from the Parish Council

regarding current issues, eg wind turbines, was touched on and the fact that villagers felt Tolpuddle was seen as a much more dynamic village than Puddletown and the two villages have very different objectives. There was a general recognition of the wealth of knowledge the long standing councillors of Puddletown brought to the meetings. This episode should be regarded as a wakeup call to the Parish Council and note should be taken of what was said. Cllr Pitman went on to say that Tolpuddle people felt that a vote should have been taken at the December meeting to start working against the turbines rather than wait until the planning app came in but this had been advised against on the grounds of possible predetermination.

Cllr Sheppard reminded members that the parish meetings are designed to feed into the Parish Council and they have no regulatory teeth. It is important that councillors are careful of not being seen as pre-determined about their comments in relation to planning applications. Cllr Hopkin felt that, if there is ever going to be conflict within the Parish Council, it is most likely to be over planning issues. In future, should there be controversial views expressed, all future subjects should go to a vote. She also stressed the need for the Parish Council to be better communicators. Cllr Sheppard reminded members that it is up to all councillors to pass back to the Clerk any information that should go onto the website.

Cllr Foreman pointed out that it is perfectly feasible for Tolpuddle to draw up its own Neighbourhood Plan.

#### 12.112.4 Tolpuddle debate on the future

Already covered under previous topics.

### **12.113 To consider planning applications**

#### 12.113.1 1/D/13/000013 Manor Farm, Waterston – minor amendment to 11/000553

This has already been built but was an amendment required following revised regulations governing the health of cattle and new feeding regulations in order to qualify for a grant.

#### 12.113.2 1/D/12/001714 8 Coombe Rd, Puddletown – proposed extension

The Planning Working Group felt that, although this application represented a considerable amount of external additions to the property, there were no objections. The plans matched well with existing materials and the proposal does not interfere with the neighbour's access. All work is to take place within the boundaries of the existing bungalow.

#### 12.113.3 1/D/13/000005 Puddletown First School – retention of 3 temporary classrooms

The Planning Working Group recommended no objection.

#### 12.113.4 1/D/12/001708 Land adjacent River Frome, Common Drove, Tincton – erection of single storey building to provide conservation centre.

The Parish Council had already received a presentation from the Project Management Group in October 2012. The Planning Working Group were very positive about the project. The applicant has carried out extensive consultation with all local educational facilities and groups within the area and the PWG recommended no objection. Cllr Drake raised the question of open days which had been mentioned when we had the original consultation. This will be raised with the developers rather than the WDDC planning department.

### **12.114 Rights of Way**

#### 12.114.1 Gaddys Lane Update

Cllr Drake began by explaining the location of this bridle way. This has been a bridleway for a large number of years and the application was to change it from a bridleway to a byway. There was sufficient evidence presented for it to be created into a byway but a restricted one for horse drawn vehicles only. The panel went against this and ruled to maintain the status quo.

#### 12.114.2 Middle School Path

There have been problems with dogs using the path through the school. The dogs have been allowed off the lead and are going into the field to the higher side of the school buildings and owners are not clearing up after them. As a result, the school is going to fence this area. They are in the process of carrying out the work now.

#### 12.114.3 Rights of Way fliers

At present, there are no leaflets showing public rights of way or walks within the parish. It was suggested that such a leaflet would be of benefit not only to those who live in the parish but to visitors as well. Cllr P Cooke felt this would be the sort of project the Puddletown Society could take this on with the support of the Parish Council. If something like this is produced, people may be less inclined to go off the pathways. Cllr Drake will liaise with the Puddletown Society to produce a map of the rights of way throughout the Area Parish.

#### 12.114.4 Dog Warden

Cllr Sheppard asked if would be possible to get the Dog Warden to do something about the on-going problem of people not clearing up after their dogs. The Clerk explained that there is now only one Dog Warden who covers the whole area but a request could be made.

<b>ACTION: CLERK</b>
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### **12.114 Drains Hedges and Roads**

Cllr Pitman reported some flooding coming into Puddletown from the East just after the bus stop at the western edge of Athelhampton. Similar problems had been experienced at the top of Church Hill in Tolpuddle. The original problems of flooding in Burleston seem to have been resolved.

### **12.115 To consider the Risk Assessment**

A copy of the Risk Assessment had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No changes were necessary at this stage and Cllr Sheppard proposed the present Risk Assessment is accepted for the coming year. This was seconded by Cllr Foreman and agreed unanimously.

### **12.116 To confirm the Financial Regulations – lasted updated February 2012**

A copy of the current Financial Regulations had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. The Clerk reported that these had last been updated in February 2012 and there had been no changes in procedure since that time. Cllr Buck proposed that the Financial Regulations were accepted for the coming year. This was seconded by Cllr Foreman and agreed unanimously.

### **12.117 To consider the accounts**

#### 12.117.1 To authorise payment of accounts

The following payments have been requested:

WDDC

Wheelie bin empties – November 2012

200075

48.25

PRIDE	Electricity to 11/12/12 & water 22/6-12/12/12	200076	112.13
Hustings Electrical	PAT test re caravan hook-ups	200077	150.00
Mrs I Stockley	Cleaning Oct-Dec 2012, turf & cleaning equipment	200078	343.55
DAPTC	Councillors Update course 22/11/12	200079	20.00
WDDC	Wheelie bin empties – December 2012	200080	38.60
Hustings Electrical	150watt metal halide fitting	200081	131.30
Southern Electric	OM 22.09.12 – 02.01.13	200082	22.87
Mrs A Crocker	January/February 2013 wages, post	200083	890.09
Puddletown Library	Donation	200084	500.00

The total amount requested for February is £2,256.79, of which £2,233.92 will be covered by the Precept and £22.87 by the TOSCA funds.

#### 12.117.2 To consider the current position against the budget

A copy of the current position had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No queries were raised or questions asked.

#### **12.118 To receive correspondence**

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been distributed to members prior to the start of the meeting. No queries were raised.

#### **12.119 Items for the March meeting**

- Old School
- Wind Turbine application

The Chairman informed members that, on the 15<sup>th</sup> March, Julian Fellowes will be coming to the Library - £12 per ticket to include light supper – everyone welcome.

PCSO Vickie Hedges announced that she will be leaving to get married and will be moving to America. PCSO Mark Jones will be taking over and PC Jerry Cuff will also be available.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

### **MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2013, AT TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs S Baynard, D Foreman, J Hopkin, B Legg, A Sheppard, P Cooke, M Cooke, A Soderburg, M Piper

**Chair:** S Buck

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 50 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded members of the public they would be allowed to speak for up to 3 minutes per person. This would not be a question and answer session, merely a forum for them to express their views on a subject. As no-one wished to speak about anything other than the wind farm, it was decided that they would be invited to speak at that point in the agenda when the topic was raised.

#### **12.120 Public Session**

No-one wished to raise any points other than regarding the wind farm.

### **12.121 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs C Leonard, P Stockley (prior engagements), P Drake (illness), N Pitman (family commitments).

### **12.122 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972 and any dispensations submitted**

None were declared at this stage.

### **12.123 To consider planning application no. 1/D/13/000183: Land south of A354 & north of A35, 9 turbine wind farm, associated parking, 80m anemometer, substation control building, new entrance junction off A354**

The Chairman opened the meeting to the public, asking for a representative of TAINT to address the meeting. Richard Slocock Chairman of TAINT – asked if the Parish Council could bear in mind that, although there are not too many people here this evening, past meetings had been very well presented with nearly 100 villagers attending each time.

Martin Usherwood – The planning application states that, by losing one turbine and moving another by 100m, has meant that the visual impact is now minor and non-overbearing. The technical specifications quoted within the body of the application are based on a Danish turbine and show a saving of 639,000 tonnes of carbon over the years. The application states that the damage to the land will be minimal as the turbines are in the middle of the fields, they are away from public footpaths and the public will benefit from the net profit created. The figures quoted are spurious and the applicants state that they have not made up their mind which turbine type will be used. If this is the case, how is it possible to provide figures. Using their graph, the community benefit will not kick in until after 15 years but the Danish turbine recommended only has a life expectancy of 15 years.

As no other members of the public wished to speak, the Chairman asked councillors for their thoughts.

Mark Piper – Whilst being pro renewable energy he would prefer to see solar energy – no noise pollution and less visual impact. Getting the materials for a solar farm to site would be much easier. Due to the size of the turbine sections, there would be havoc on the roads whilst the pieces are being moved into place. The size of the proposed turbines is so large that there is bound to be a visual impact for many miles.

Martin Cooke – The turbines are out of context and out of scale. They will have far too dominant an effect on the landscape and will be seen as far away as the Purbecks.

Stephen Baynard – Having canvassed the opinions of all the residents in the hamlet of Burleston, there is an almost overwhelming objection to the application. It is a rural hamlet – no mains gas, intermittent mobile telephone signal, few buses and often intermittent electricity supplied. The area may not be part of an ANOB but it is an area of outstanding beauty and one of outstanding interest. An industrial wind farm of this scale would be a complete anathema. On behalf of the residents of Burleston, he strongly objects to the application.

Alan Sheppard – Taking Cllr Pipers point; what do you do with the land under photovoltaic panels, at least it is possible to carry on farming with the turbines. Should the Parish Council decide to reject the application, the reasons must be carefully reviewed. Visual impact is only a minor planning implication. Any objection should take into account the health implications of the turbines.

Ann Soderberg – Coming from Denmark where 14% of all energy comes from wind power it is difficult to object to turbines. However, with this proposal, there are a disproportionate number of turbines. Having read through all of the documentation, there is nothing unusual or untoward in the submission, other than some minor discrepancies. There are very few places in Dorset that are suitable for wind turbines and this is one



such site. However, to propose 126m high turbines at one of the highest points in Dorset is out of proportion. We do need to beware of nimbyism.

Patrick Cooke – Declared an interest in that he owns an historic house and business in the area but not a pecuniary interest. The applicant has been very underhand in the way photo montages have been taken from his property. They give the impression that only one turbine will be seen when standing at the front of the house. However, by moving slightly in one direction or another, it is clear that 8 out of the 9 turbines will be visible. English Heritage have stated that the applicant should review the visible impact the turbines will have from anywhere on the property. One of the officers dealing with scheduled ancient monuments has just come down from Yorkshire and is very experienced in dealing with turbine applications. He will be reviewing all the other tumuli and sites of historical importance in the area as well as Athelhampton House. Cllr Cooke stated he had no objection to the small individual turbines in the area such as that at Tincton, which allows the individual to gain benefit. He will be doing everything possible to resist industrial turbines.

B Legg – Had visited the Carland Cross site in Cornwall. The original 15 turbines were in the process of being replaced with 9 126m turbines. After 15 years on the same site, it was noticeable that there was a substantial amount of concrete around the sites. The villagers in the area are very worried about the noise from those turbines currently being installed and the local community had received no money from those that were being replaced.

D Foreman – It would appear that this site has been chosen by default due to the lack of other possible sites in Dorset. It is not an AONB. As there is insufficient wind at the site, it is necessary for the turbines to be higher, thus causing a greater visual intrusion locally and meaning they will be visible from surrounding AONB sites. To say the site is temporary is a misnomer. This is not temporary – it is for 25 years and, once the time comes to reinstate the site, it may well open the door to other developers to do similar within the area.

J Hopkin – Began by saying she was submitting her remarks as a Tolpuddle resident. Having read all the submissions in the application, attended the 3 meetings, and read all the comments submitted by residents, it is clear that the size of the turbines and the scale of the development would have an overbearing impact on the area. The visual and noise pollution would be excessive, especially for those residents at the eastern end of the village. The visual intrusion from the impact of 9 turbines and 1 80m high met mast. The proposal is out of scale with the rural character of the area. It will dominate the views of the AONBs in the surrounding area. The village is in a conservation area with several listed buildings and many visitors to the area. There are less obtrusive types of renewable energy with which the village could take a sense of ownership. The developer admits that there would be damage to the natural habitats in the area and a management plan for protection of the natural environment is to be subject to a planning condition. Any of the turbines could be moved up to 30m away from that given in the application. Heritage – the area is rich in architectural evidence. These were well documented in 1999 and there are bound to more which a desk study and walk over view could not possibly have highlighted. The view from Weatherby Castle would be damaged. The area is covered by bridleways and public rights of way. This scheme will remove the horse rides within the area of the scheme and there are 3 equestrian centres in the area. The impact of road and traffic on the area will be considerable during development. According to the proposal, Tolpuddle falls within the 35 to 40dB desirable development. This is deemed to be acceptable even though the type of turbine has not yet been agreed upon. Existing turbine developments at Rogershill and in north Devon have proven to be far noisier than originally thought. Cabling and concrete foundations below ploughing level will be left in situ when the site is decommissioned. Can there really be any guarantee that the landscape is likely to be put back into pristine condition after the 25 years.

S Buck – The application will result in the desecration, not only Tolpuddle, but the whole of Dorset. This will be visible for miles, from anywhere with any height. There is unlikely to be any chance for employment even within the construction period for the local community, it will not assist tourism and will have no benefit.

Cllr P Cooke proposed the Parish Council object to the application. This was seconded by Cllr Foreman and was agreed 9 in favour of the proposal, none against and 1 abstention.

Cllr Hopkin, with assistance, will put together a proper letter of objection over the weekend and pass it to the Clerk for forwarding on to councillors. It will then be put before the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March.

P Cooke stressed that all those who have not yet written in must do so by the 15<sup>th</sup> March. The planning officer is duty bound to read every comment received by that date.

The Chairman then read out a letter received from Oliver Letwin MP regarding the recent meeting and the turbines. Once produced and accepted, a copy of our response will be forwarded to Mr Letwin.

Richard Slocock asked if the Parish Council could put a in a request that letters received after the closing date will still be counted.

Cllr Hopkin informed members that, at the Tolpuddle Village meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2012 a vote had been taken regarding the proposal – in favour 8 – against 61 – abstentions 8. Perhaps this should also be included within the response.

Cllr Sheppard said that, with the knowledge that this will be going on for some time, it is hoped people will act reasonably and sensibly at all times and not resort to the heavy handed tactics used recently in a nearby parish.

### **12.123 To consider the West Coast Energy Community Benefit Forum**

The Chairman informed all those present of the request received from WCE regarding the forum. Steve Salt of WCE had stated that it was purely coincidental that this request and the planning application should arise at the same time.

S Baynard – felt that this “offer” was dubious but it would be folly not to be involved at early stage. The Parish Council should send a representative to find out what is happening behind the scenes.

D Foreman – suggested that the representatives should consist of a parish councillor and a representative from the village.

P Cooke – felt that the forum is not relevant until the planning application is approved. If it is a condition of the planning approval, then WCE would have to speak to the Parish Council once the application is approved.

J Hopkin – would like to know who else is going to sit on this forum. Would this commit the parish council to something should we attend it.

Nick Gore (Chairman of Affpuddle Parish Council) – informed the meeting that he had received a similar invitation and had taken advice from both DAPTC and PDC. Their response was that the parish council should not send any councillor who held strong views either way or send the Clerk as an independent. As yet, the parish council has not decided on their course of action.

S Baynard – offered to represent the Parish Council in a forensic capacity.

M Usherwood – reported that he had spoken to Steve Salt and asked him how much and to whom they have paid money from their other developments. To date no response has been received. He also pointed out that Chapter 8/3/11 of the application states that anybody who takes financial gain from the company will accept a 10dB raising of the noise level.

S Buck – informed members that the web site for the Rogershill turbine states that between £3500 and £4000 is being given annually to the local parish council. This is not the case – no monies have been received.

P Cooke suggested that he and the Clerk will draft a request for advice from WDDC and report back next Tuesday.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:50pm.

## **MINUTES OF PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2013, AT PUDDLETOWN VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs S Baynard, D Foreman, J Hopkin, B Legg, A Sheppard, A Soderburg, M Piper, P Stockley, C Leonard, P Drake

**Chair:** S Buck

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 1 members of the public, County Cllr David Crowhurst

### **12.124 Public Session**

Nothing to raise at the moment.

12.124.1 Cllr Crowhurst reported he had received a complaint regarding the clearing of the grips along rhododendron mile. No-one else has received any complaints. He will respond accordingly direct to the resident.

The new director for Adult Services will start this week.

At present, there is a team of members from another authority looking at the way in which services for the elderly, those suffering from disabilities and victims of domestic violence are handled by this authority. This is a fact finding mission and DCC often reciprocate by sending their officers out to other authorities with the same remit.

The budget was presented and agreed and has been well covered in the press.

2<sup>nd</sup> May – elections.

### **12.125 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs P Cooke, M Cooke, and N Pitman.

### **12.126 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> February and the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> March**

Copies of both minutes had been issued to all councillors prior to the start of the meeting.

#### **12.126.1 Minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Legg to be a true and accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Sheppard and agreed unanimously.

#### **12.126.2 Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Soderburg to be a true and accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Baynard and agreed unanimously.

Both sets of minutes were then signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

### **12.127 Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

12.127.1 Rod Hill Lane – the bin is now in place.

12.127.2 Gaddys Lane – an appeal was made on the 8<sup>th</sup> February by Mr Oickle, regarding the County Council's decision.

12.127.3 Orchard Meadow Grass Cutting Contract – the contract has been issued to Christopher Johnson Gardening Services and he is liaising with Martin Cooke with regard to the work necessary.

12.127.4 West Coast Forum – David Hodges was contacted regarding the potential involvement of the parish council in the forum. It is his understanding that the District Council has no policy basis for requiring the applicant to enter into any financial agreement, it would be of their own volition to do so. He has asked his legal

department if such an agreement was completed whether it would actually be a "material consideration" but has yet to receive a reply.

ClIr Leonard felt there was no reason not to get involved with the forum, so long as we do not sign anything, although there is concern regarding the acceptance of the higher level of noise as set out in 8.3.11 of the applicant's statement. If the development is going to be thrust upon us, we should get some benefit out of it. ClIr Drake – agrees but we should state that any involvement is without prejudice.

ClIr Sheppard – felt that the parish council could be getting into something that may or may not happen as there is no certainty at this stage that the application will be accepted. However, there is no reason not to get involved.

ClIr Hopkin – would plead caution and would want to know a great deal more about what the forum will entail and who is likely to be part of it. Other parish councils have been advised to send people who are not councillors, i.e. to send the clerk. Would like to know how the forum is likely to be constituted.

ClIr Foreman – agrees but would also like to know what teeth the forum is likely to have.

ClIr Baynard – feels it is a fact finding mission. He would not want to jeopardise the parish council's position in any way by attending.

ClIr Soderburg – agrees to sending someone and would suggest sending the Clerk and possibly Tony Gould, secretary to the Tolpuddle Village Meeting.

ClIr Buck – felt that if we do not attend, we may miss something.

ClIr Leonard – would like to get more information regarding the set up of the forum.

ClIr Soderburg – still need to bear in mind that the company involved in the Rogershill turbine are advertising they are donating to the local community but they are not. West Coast Energy has not endeared themselves to the residents with their attitude to date and it has led to villagers questioning everything they do.

ClIr Buck will inform Affpuddle that the Clerk will be attending in the first instance.

The Clerk will submit a reply to West Coast Energy in the first instance saying that she will attend on behalf of the Parish Council and, at the same time, will request some additional information regarding the forum's make-up, expectations, etc.

<b>ACTION: CLERK</b>
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#### **12.128 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972 and any dispensations submitted**

No declarations were made at this stage and no dispensations have been received.

#### **12.129 To report on meetings attended.**

12.129.1 Bus Service - ClIr Hopkin attended on behalf of the Parish Council. The whole network is in the process of being reviewed by external consultants. DCC's current budget is £2.7million p.a. and they have to save £1.1million. The purpose of the consultation is to find out from the representatives who uses the service and relies on it. This will be achieved, in part, by asking users to complete a questionnaire. The consultation lasts until end of April, after which a new set of proposals will be submitted. The 387 and the 183 services are going to be funded until September. In the urban areas, public transport usage has increased by up to 60% and is being used far more by the youth. In rural villages it will be necessary to keep the profile up to ensure the service continues.

#### **12.130 Puddletown Matters**

12.130.1 Coombe Trees - The Clerk has been approached by Mr Ford regarding the over-hanging branches at the Coombe. He has offered, with the Parish Council's permission to cut them back from the road. ClIr Soderburg will check the Coombe and let the Clerk know which trees and branches need cutting back. It will be agreed but only if a chainsaw is used rather than a flail.

<b>ACTION: CLLR SODERBURG/CLERK</b>
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#### **12.131 Tolpuddle Matters**

Nothing to report.

### **12.132 Rights of Way**

Nothing further to report.

### **12.133 Drains, Hedges & Roads**

Nothing to report at this stage.

### **12.134 To Consider Planning Applications**

#### **12.134.1 To confirm the Parish Council's response in respect of the 9 Turbine Wind Farm application**

A copy of the suggested response, produced by Cllr Hopkin, had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

Cllr Drake – although not present at last week's meeting, he had commented that the main area of objection would be based around landscaping. The area in question is a site of typical lowland agriculture and of no particular interest. He felt the response is more like that of a pressure group rather than a response from a parish council and could be seen to devalue the main objection.

Cllr Soderburg – worried by the fact that the language is a little too colourful and should be kept more factual. The response is more passionate than it should perhaps be. Horse riders will be able to use bridleways near the turbines.

Cllr Hopkin reported that she had spoken to two equestrian centres in the villages and they felt that it would be too dangerous to walk horses past the turbines.

Cllr Baynard – felt the suggested response covered the points that were made at the meeting and would not water this down in any way. Response by committee is always difficult.

Cllr Hopkin – what has been recorded is her attempt to put down what was said by those at the meeting last week and she would be prepared to stand by all the comments at a Planning Committee or a hearing should it go that far.

Cllr Sheppard – little bit passionate and well worded but needs to be toned down.

Cllr Soderburg – should be more objective and precise with the comments.

Cllr Buck suggested Cllr Soderburg re-writes in a format that will be more professional and liaise with the Clerk accordingly. In the meantime, thanks are extended to Cllr Hopkin for producing the initial response at very short notice and giving everyone else a basis form which to work.

**ACTION: CLLR SODERBURG/CLERK**

#### **12.134.2 1/D/13/000191: 2 Riverside, Athelhampton Rd – certificate of lawfulness of existing use**

It is understood that, in the 1980s the resident applied for planning permission to build a substantial extension but built a separate dwelling instead. They then rented out various parts of the property over the years. The owners now wish to sell it as two separate properties but do not have the legal right to two dwellings. It was generally agreed that the Parish Council could not object to this. Most residents have known of the situation for the last 20 years and this is really a legal matter for WDDC. The Clerk will respond accordingly.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### **12.135 To consider the accounts**

#### **12.135.1 To authorise the payment of accounts**

The following payments had been requested:

Dorset Locksmith	Cylinder locks for Pavilion outside toilets	200085	180.00
Barry Knight	Manhole cover at Rec ground	200087	85.55
WDDC	Wheelie bin empties – January 2013	200088	28.95
Mrs A Crocker	March wages, expenses	200089	457.57

Total amount requested for March 2013 - £752.07, all of which will be borne by the Precept.

It was proposed by Cllr Foreman, seconded by Cllr Leonard and agreed unanimously that the payments are made. The cheque were then signed by Cllr Foreman and Cllr Buck in the presence of the meeting.

#### 12.135.2 To consider the reconciliation of accounts

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No queries were raised.

#### **12.136 To receive correspondence**

A copy of all correspondence received since the last meeting had been issued to all members in advance. The Clerk highlighted a letter received from Life Education Wessex who have requested a donation towards the costs of providing health and drug prevention education to 152 young children at Puddletown First School. Members were asked if anyone knew anything about this or if they had heard of the company. No-one had. The Clerk has contacted the school asking for more information and, should a response be received, the request will be submitted to the Parish Council at the April meeting.

<b>ACTION: CLERK</b>
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#### **12.137 Items for April meeting**

- Planning application at West Gable in Athelhampton – no application received to date
- Year end accounts

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:10 pm.