

Minutes of a meeting of the Puddletown Area Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 13th November 2018 at Puddletown Village Hall

Present: Cllrs A. Sheppard (Vice Chairman), P. Churchill, J. Johnstone, P. Drake, A. Thorne, J. Ranger, P. Walton (left meeting at 9.25pm)

Chairman: Cllr S. Baynard

Locum Clerk: Mr C. Hampton

In Attendance: 13 members of the public, DCC Cllr N. Ireland (left meeting at 7.15pm), 3 representatives from Wyatt Homes.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that DCC Cllr Nick Ireland has another meeting to attend so will be invited to give his report first so that he can then leave. (*His report will appear in the Minutes in accordance with the agenda order - Clerk*). The Chairman went on to advise members of the public that he would only take questions during the open session on anything that is not covered by the agenda. The public will be invited to comment at the appropriate time on agenda items.

Public Participation Time

1. Mr Cox raised 2 issues: -
 - a. Budget for 2019-20 – when will this be discussed and the public given opportunity to comment? The Chairman explained that it is being compiled by the Finance Committee later this month and will be presented for review and approval by the full council at the December meeting.
 - b. Skate Park – when will there be any discussion on this subject? Cllr Sheppard explained that this is not a PAPC project and it will be subject to the normal planning procedure with full public consultation.
2. Cllr Walton raised concerns regarding the Southover Farm slurry lagoon. The owners are challenging the restrictions placed on traffic volume and times on the road when the planning application was approved. They want to increase the number of lorries from 2/day to 10 and change the times they are allowed on the road from 9am-5pm to 8am-5pm. He asked if the PAPC would support Briantspuddle PC in opposing these changes? Mr Francis felt there is mission creep occurring and the public is unaware of it. Mrs Francis added that the same company's application for a lagoon at Winfreth Newburgh had generated considerably more traffic movements, despite a promise at the time that it would not. Mr Banfield informed the meeting of the pressures farmers are under in coping with more and more new regulations controlling waste pollution and emissions. He cited the Poole Harbour Catchment Area pollution control initiative as an example of the challenges farmers are now facing.

Action: Clerk

Minute Number Comments

18/175 **Apologies for absence**

WDDC Cllr P. Cooke, Cllrs S. Langdon, M. Cooke, PCSO A. Donnison

18/176 **Confirmation of minutes of PAPC Meeting held 9th October 2018**

RESOLVED that the minutes for the PAPC Meeting held 9th October 2018 be approved and signed in the presence of the meeting.

18/177 **Matters arising from the minutes of the 9th October 2018 PAPC Meeting**

Open session (3) – the Clerk reported that he had contacted the agent for Ilsington Estate and been told Puddletown Forest had been sold. The agent has not divulged who the new owner is. Mr. Bamfield kindly gave the Clerk contact details for the new owner at the meeting.

18/178 **To receive Declarations of Interest** in accordance with S94 of the LGA1972 and consider any dispensations requested.

Cllr Thorne declared an interest in agenda items 8.2 and 8.3. Cllr Walton declared an interest in item 16.2 (Tolpuddle Village Hall grant cheque).

18/179 **County Councillor's report**

Cllr Ireland reported on the following: -

- DCC Chief Exec Debbie Ward leaving end of the month. I was present at the staffing committee (but not allowed to vote). To correct some misinformation, she is receiving no more than she would leaving April, when she would have been made redundant immediately (and paid her notice). Mike Harries will get paid at the bottom of the scale as interim Chief Exec but his position won't be backfilled, a slight saving to DCC/Dorset Council with not having to pay DW until the end of June and DCC not having to pay for his replacement until April.
- Dorset Council Tier 2 Officers – recruitment process underway – I'm part of the panel for the Child Services Director. New appointments to be finalised in December.
- DCC budget gap for 2018/19 was £18.8m. Likely to be overspent by £2.7m come April. Current major overspends are £1.7m for Adult and £3.6m for Child services. Savings being made elsewhere.
- Central government (MHCLG) have given permission for council tax harmonisation to happen on day one for Dorset Council; this is almost inevitable and will result in an approximate 4.49% increase for Puddletown Group residents. (Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole (BCP) Council are taking 7 years).
- New Dorset Council ward boundaries have been agreed barring the legislation being signed off. No change from the original proposal for this area - Puddletown & Lower Winterborne.
- "Fall over the line" – Dorset Council now a transitional organisation, not a transformational one! (That's bad – means change is being postponed). BCP are more advanced in their preparations.
- Recharging for elections. I raised this at the Shadow Exec yesterday. This is going ahead regardless with charging in the year of the election(s). Various other dubious decisions were also made.
- Dorchester Marathon - now a 1/2, being run by the same people who organise Ironman Weymouth and on the 19th May. Route mostly Dorchester, though still closed roads.
- Planning. Latest proposal is that there will be one Strategic planning committee for Dorset Council and three regional committees, namely West, Mid and East. Puddletown etc will come under Mid. This is all still in a state of flux and I've seen no detail. Presumably they need to keep to parish boundaries etc.

18/180 **District Councillor's Report**

None received.

18/181 **Police and Community Issues**

PCSO Donnison submitted a report which was read to the meeting by the Chairman. A copy appears in the Minute Book as Appendix A.

Cllr Churchill reported that large vehicles are parking near the junction of Athelhampton Rd and Rodhill Lane, adjacent to the Green and opposite the Surgery. This obscures visibility and is dangerous.

Cllr Drake agreed and said this was also the situation at the junction at the west end of The Green.

Mr Cox reported on his experience in having a white line painted where he was having problems with parking.

A member of the public asked if the Greenacres junction could be included in any action. Highways/PCSO to be contacted for advice.

Action: Clerk

18/182 **Planning Applications**

- WD/D/18/001124

Proposal: Erection of 41 dwellings, access, landscaping, public open space and associated works.

Location: LAND NORTH WEST OF, THREE LANES WAY, PUDDLETOWN.

The Chairman invited Wyatt Homes to give a short presentation on the main changes that have been introduced since the original application was considered by the council.

Cllr Churchill then spoke on the Local Plan, the proposal being outside of the defined development area, the effect on Article 106 land, the range of homes being proposed and the effect on local democracy if the development went ahead.

Cllr Walton queried the CIL entitlement?

Cllr Baynard expressed major concerns regarding the single point of vehicle access and the safety implications for children at the school.

Cllr Drake enquired if there had been any contact with the owners of the adjoining Judges Field? He added that he could see no connectivity with the rest of the village.

Cllr Ranger asked why no effort has been made to provide another access?

Wyatt Homes responded that the development does not affect Article 106 land; the Local Plan does not meet the government directive on providing land for homes therefore developers can be invited to step in to fill the gap; connectivity has been improved in the amended plan; the access has been approved by Highways; there will be 35% affordable homes i.e.14.

A member of the public questioned how the school was going to manage the extra demands on it?

The Chairman called for a vote which resulted in 3 supporting and 3 objecting to the application, with one abstention. The Chairman cast a deciding vote in support whilst at the same time emphasising the concerns expressed over the safety of the vehicle access point.

RESOLVED by 4 votes to 3 to support the application with a caveat expressing serious concern over the safety of the vehicle access to the proposed development and requesting that Highways review their response in the light of local concerns.

- WD/D/18/002360

Proposal: Conversion of redundant former agricultural buildings to 4 No. dwelling houses.

Location: WEST FARM, MAIN ROAD, TOLPUDDLE.

Cllr Johnstone observed that this is an application that has previously been objected to by the council and turned down by planners. He could see no difference between this new application and the old, therefore thought it should also be objected to.

RESOLVED by 5 votes to 2 abstentions to Object to this application.

- WD/D/18/002502

Proposal: Erection of a freestanding swallow hut structure for local biodiversity enhancement (retrospective)

Location: WEST FARM, MAIN ROAD, TOLPUDDLE

Mr Francis explained the reason for the swallow hut, for which retrospective approval was being sought, is to rehouse the swallows that are currently in the barn which is proposed for conversion in the previous planning application, linking the 2 applications. If the barn conversion is not approved neither should the swallow hut be.

RESOLVED that PAPC will submit a comment to this effect as their response to the application.

- WD/D/18/002539

Proposal: Erection of single storey garage/store and formation of off-street parking on land opposite No. 6 and erection of single storey garage to rear of No. 6.

Location: 6 NEW STREET, PUDDLETOWN, DORCHESTER, DT2 8SF

Cllr Sheppard considered that this application, if approved, would reduce the availability of parking at the site.

RESOLVED that PAPC will submit a comment to this effect in response to the application.

- Application Approved: WD/D/18/002002

Proposal: Erection of agricultural barn

Location: COOMBE BARN FARM, WHITE HILL, PUDDLETOWN

NOTED

- Application Approved: WD/D/18/001737

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension.

Location: 5 COOMBE ROAD, PUDDLETOWN, DORCHESTER, DT2 8RZ

NOTED

18/183 **Dog Walking on the Recreation Ground**

The Chairman read an email to the meeting from Mrs Kelsey, in which she made three proposals for the council to consider that would allow dogs to be walked off the lead on the Recreation Ground (a copy of the email appears as Appendix B of the Minute Book).

Mr Cox argued that for many people dog walking is a recreation and the transfer deeds of the Recreation Ground allow for the space to be used for recreation, but has been banned by the council.

Cllr Sheppard pointed out that dogs are not banned but must be kept on a lead when walked on the Recreation Ground. Owners are expected to pick up after their dogs but unfortunately many do not, creating a health hazard for all users of the ground and making the playing of sports hazardous and unpleasant. It is for health reasons that dogs are banned from being walked off the lead and the council does not have the resources to police and keep clean the ground if the ban was lifted.

There was no support from the council for any of Mrs Kelsey's proposals.

18/184 **Puddletown Matters**

- Cllr Churchill handed the Clerk 281 signatures collected in support of extending the 30mph zone at The Coombe, which will be forwarded to Highways for consideration.
- Cllr Churchill informed the meeting that the Neighbourhood Plan is well advanced, however he is extremely disappointed by the outcome of the planning application at item 8.1. Cllr Ranger concurred.
- Cllr Churchill reported that the Community Café in the Village Hall is going well and that they are considering forming a Community Benefits Society.
- Cllr Drake raised the problems associated with the Old Hairdresser property at The Green and said that despite a planning enforcement order being made and the deadline for action expired, the situation is getting worse. The Clerk will contact WDDC Cllr Cooke to follow up with the enforcement officer.

Action: Clerk

- Cllr Drake also reported that the Puddletown Cricket Club is taking steps to improve it's facilities and is in touch with the English Cricket Board to see what financial support they may be able to offer. The ECB will need to be assured that the Recreation Ground is a long-term site for the club. The Clerk will write to the ECB with confirmation.

Action: Clerk

18/185 **Tolpuddle Matters**

- Cllr Johnstone said he is investigating the cost of a new Parish noticeboard as the current one is far too small. It will be for council notices only.
- Cllr Johnstone reported that the SID has been received and that training will take place for volunteers on Thursday 15th November at 10am for half an hour.

18/186 **Trees**

The Clerk has received guidance from the council's insurers reminding their clients of the need to establish a tree management strategy and framework and to ensure that tree inspections by an arboriculture expert are carried out annually on all trees that they are responsible for. The Clerk is to initiate this by obtaining quotations from qualified contractors to assess the scale of the work and cost.

Action: Clerk

18/187 **Rights of Way, Drains, Hedges and Roads**

Cllr Drake reported that a gully needs clearing along Rod Hill Lane to The Green.

Cllr Sheppard reported that there has been a diesel spillage between New St and the bottom of Butt Lane. The Clerk to liaise with the CHO to deal with these issues.

Action: Clerk

18/188 **Flood Warden**

It has been identified that the PAPC does not have a Flood Warden and there are currently no volunteers to fill the role. The County liaison officer dealing with local council preparations for flooding holds a list of contact details and location of sandbag stores, a copy of which appears as Appendix C of the Minute Book. Puddletown's store is at the Blue Vinny. The Clerk will act as the point of contact for the County.

18/189 **To consider any correspondence received since the agenda was set for discussion and possible inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting**

The Clerk tabled a list of proposed dates for 2019 PAPC meetings for members approval. It was agreed that the dates and venues were consistent with previous practice and could be published. A copy appears as Appendix D of the Minute Book.

18/190 **Accounts**

- The Clerk presented a Financial Statement for the 2nd qtr of Financial Year 2018-19, which had previously been withdrawn from the October meeting. The Clerk pointed out that the separate Orchard Meadow deposit account has now been closed and the balance transferred to the council's current account, as previously agreed at the October meeting. There were no questions relating to the financial statement, a copy of which appears as Appendix E of the Minute Book.

RESOLVED to accept the financial statement for the 2nd qtr of FY 2018-19.

- To authorise payment of accounts – the payments requested schedule for November and the donations requested schedule were circulated to members prior to the meeting and appear as Appendix F of the Minute Book.

RESOLVED to approve payments totalling £8025.73 in accordance with the schedules of payments requested.

18/191 **Items for Next Agenda**

To be sent to the Clerk, deadline for submissions Tuesday 5th December 2018.

Cllr Churchill asked for any contributions for the next Parish Newsletter as soon as possible.

18/192 **Clerk's Salary**

The Chairman presented a case for increasing the Clerk's paid hours from 30 to 40hrs per month.

RESOLVED to increase the Clerk's paid hours to 40hrs per month with effect from 1st November 2018

18/193 **Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 11th December 2018, 7.00 pm at Tolpuddle Village Hall

Meeting closed at 9.35pm

.....Chairman

Date: 11th December 2018

Stephen Baynard