**Stourpaine Parish Council**

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF STOURPAINE PARISH COUNCIL HELD VIA ZOOM on THURSDAY 21st January 2021 at 7.00 pm.**

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**Present:**  Cllr. Scott Norman – Chairman, Cllrs G Cowie, J Jakes, D Meaden, K Yarwood, and P Partridge

**In attendance:** J Fairman– Dorset Councillor S Jespersen, plus 1 member of the public

**Public Questions:** The Chairman opened the meeting and asked the member of the public present if she wished to raise any matters that were not on the agenda. The resident present wished to invite questions from the PC regarding the recent planning application P/FUL/2020/00011 concerning the erection of 4 Shepherd Huts. The Chairman confirmed that this had been discussed at the November meeting, the PC had no objection to this application provided there would not be future applications for further shepherd huts on this site. The resident confirmed that this would not be the case.

1. **Apologies for Absence.** None
2. **Declarations of Interest.** There were no declarations of interest..
3. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th December 2020. T**he minutes were approved unanimously and were signed by the Chairman.
4. **To consider any matters arising from the minutes**.
	1. **Landscaping Russell Place**. Clerk confirmed that Stonewater had emailed stating that they were awaiting an invoice to be issued to them from Western Power before they could remove the electricity box, and that the landscaping would commence in the spring. Cllr Jespersen commented that she was not familiar with Western Power and we should check with Stonewater that this information was correct and request their contact details that we might chase them regarding this issue. It was also suggested that we contact Highways as the wooden casing formerly protecting the electricity box was now creating a potential hazard to pedestrians. The Clerk had also written to the CEO of Stonewater regarding this matter but had not received a response. It was agreed that the Clerk would include Cllr Jespersen in all correspondence regarding this matter.

**Action: Clerk to contact Stonewater and Dorset Highways.**

* 1. **Hod View Grounds-** Cllr Cowie confirmed that the Portaloo and container had been removed from site and that the muddy patch had been reseeded.

**Action: Reseeded Area to be reviewed in the Spring.**

1. **Dorset Councillor Report:** Cllr Jespersen stated that the numbers of people being hospitalised due to Coronavirus are not falling as quickly as hoped and that the hospitals are running at 95% capacity. The Covid crisis has created financial shortcomings for Dorset Council resulting in an 80 million pounds overspend the Government assistance has only covered a small fraction of this figure resulting in a 5% increase in council tax this coming year.
2. **To consider development control matters as per the schedule.**

**P/FUL/2020/00330**- The Stables, Bushes Farm - Demolition of Existing Stable Block and Storage Building and Erect New Stable Block and Storage Building- This is an upgrade to current buildings-No Objection.

 **Action: Clerk to draft and submit appropriate comments.**

1. **Reports.**
	1. **Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.** Cllr. Partridge reported that there has been an increase in scams targeted at the elderly in connection with offering them the Covid vaccine and asking them for their bank details, please all be extra vigilant at this time.

* 1. **Highways.** The Chairman confirmed that he will be attending a meeting on the 27/01/21 to discuss the re-closure of Dinahs Hollow for 7 months and how traffic will be managed in the surrounding areas at that time.
	2. **Flood Prevention and Protection.** The Chairman reported that there had been a flood warning, fortunately this time it was not too bad as the water is now dissipating. During the bad weather the monitor has caused the setting off the phone alarm system. The phone had woken people to alert them when not required and had woken them to say the flood danger had passed. The Flood Warden had taken the matter up with the EA and hopefully resolved the issue. Flooding at the bottom of Hod view had been discussed with Highways who will be jetting out the gully. This situation to be monitored as a second gully may be required.
	3. **Trailway and Rights of Way.** The Chairman reported that there was a new gate at the bottom of Hod Hill.
	4. **Stourpaine Allotments** –The Chairman to meet with the Chairman of the Allotment Association to review the quotations for the compostable toilet. SPC approved the allocation of £1500,00**.** These funds will cover the purchase of the toilet/shed/installation and the laying of the concrete base.

The planning officers had confirmed that planning permission was not required.

**Action: Chairman to meet with the Charman of the Allotment Association.**

* 1. **Play Areas** – Cllr. Partridge confirmed that the play areas were both in good order. Grace Upward play area is looking smart however the fence had not yet been fixed. The fence is leaning into the play area as a result of the shrubs and other plants in the garden pushing it over. It was agreed that the Clerk would chase again. Sovereign installed the slide in Kidzone on 18th December 2020 which has been well received. The Chairman confirmed he had obtained 4 quotes from local companies for the solid wood gazebo. Cllrs Norman, Farwell and Partridge to meet to review the quotations and discuss how to move this project forward. The gazebo will stand on a (5m x 5m x 50mm deep) concrete plinth, SPC agreed they would set aside £1700.00 to pay for the concrete base. SPC to speak to planners to establish how to move forward with this as the Village Hall Charity owns the land that the gazebo will be placed. The Chairman also confirmed he had been unsuccessful in securing a grant for a defibrillator to be placed near the Village Hall however he was exploring other avenues and had found one company offering a £500.00 reduction on the cost. Chairman will also approach Tescos to see if we are eligible for one of their grants. It was suggested that we establish how long we would need to wait before applying again to the Big Lottery Community Fund. The Village Hall Committee had at a previous meeting suggested that they would be willing to pay for the maintenance and replacement batteries and pads. Cllr Partridge reported that the defibrillator situated at the White Horse is currently being repaired and we have been issued a loan defibrillator until our one is repaired.

**Action: Chairman to meet with councillors to discuss gazebo technicalities/Chairman to research grants for a second defibrillator at the Village Hall.**

1. **Finance**

**a. Invoices to be paid – as per Schedule.** The Clerk had circulated the Schedule showing the invoices paid since the last meeting and the invoices to be paid. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to pay the invoices set out in the schedule as follows:

* M. Wheatley – Zoom sub: £14.39.
* J Fairman £280.00 + HMRC PAYE £70.00
* T Thorne (Bus stop cleaning) £75.00

 **Action: Clerk to pay invoices and reimbursements**

**b.** **Cash and Bank Balance as at, 6th January 2021.** The available balance as at 6/01/2021 was £38,552.22.

**c. Budget 2021/22.** The Clerk had circulated a revised budget. It was agreed that the budget would remain the same as 2020-2021.

 **Action: Clerk to complete and send Precept Request Form to Dorset Council.**

1. **To consider any other matters arising from recent correspondence**.

**a.**  **Heating in Stourpaine, The Future:** The Chairman to circulate information regarding a Heating Scheme adopted by Swaffham Priory using ground sourced heating. This is to be discussed at the next meeting to ascertain whether this is something that would be suitable for Stourpaine in the future when existing heating schemes are phased out.

 **b. Dog Signage:** New Dog signage designed by school children to be printed and displayed around the

village.

**c. New Blandford Waste Management Centre:** Cllr Meaden attended a meeting regarding the plans for the new Waste Management Centre to be situated next to the Sunrise Business Park. Access will be via a slip road off the A354. The new centre has been modelled on the existing centre at Bridport and will be bigger and better organised than the current site. SPC agreed that they would not object to the plans.

**d. Dorset Council Planning Consultation:** This consultation is now live on the Dorset Councils Website. There are various ways to view the plans including webinars and podcasts, or you can view the documents online. This is a large but very-important document, as it will shape the future of development in Dorset. Not just with housing and employment but with also with proposals such as the introduction of windfarms etc. There is an 8-week consultation period which ends on 15/03/2021. Everyone is invited to view and make comment on the plan as it is an opportunity to have your say.

**e.** **Signage on the Shelf:** Cllr Jakes suggested that new signage is required on the Shelf, to advise drivers that it is a no-through road, that it is difficult to turn around and to specify the house numbers so that drivers do not enter unnecessarily. She asked whether SPC would consider paying for the new signage. The Chairman said that as this is a private road, we would need to look further into this, also Highways need to give permission for any new road signage. This item to be added to the next agenda.

1. **Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 9th February.** It was decided that in order to make it easier for Dorset Councillor Jespersen to attend more of SPC meetings we would change the date to the second Tuesday each Month. At present the advice is still that the Parish Councils should not hold public meetings but should continue to hold virtual meetings. The Clerk would let the Parish Council know if this advice changed.

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

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Date Chairman, Stourpaine Parish Council