

Minutes of a Meeting of Iwerne Minster Parish Council held in the Abingdon Hall on the 4th September 2017.

Present: Cllr J Hooper – Chairman, Cllr M Jones – Vice Chairman, Cllr Evans, Cllr P Le Prevost, Cllr K O'Connor and Cllr B O'Luanaigh.

In attendance: Mrs N Phillips – Clerk, Dorset District Councillor D Croney and eight members of the public.

Public Questions: There were none.

17/56 To take any apologies.

Cllr Nadin

17/57 Declarations of Interests and Requests for Dispensation.

There were none.

17/58 Minutes of the meeting held on the 7th August 2017.

It was proposed by Cllr P Le Prevost and seconded by Cllr A Evans that the minutes were a true and accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

17/59 Matters arising from the minutes.

Matters arising will be dealt with under Parish Matters.

17/60 To consider development management matters listed on the schedule.

2/2017/0733/FUL - Land at E 386803 N 114222 Watery Lane – appeal, no update received to date.

ENF/2017/0175 - 24 Oakwood Drive – fence. North Dorset Planning enforcement officers have apologised for the delay in looking at this matter, it will be looked at soon and a report will be given.

17/61 to receive NDDC Cllr report.

Home Farm. Home Farm highways have now been adopted by Dorset County Council.

Local Government Reorganisation. Central Government has still not given us the now long overdue response to our application to form two unitary Councils for Dorset. This delay and uncertainty is not helpful in terms of delivering reorganisation with the timescale to be up and running by April 2019.

Development and Planning. As has been widely reported, NDDC has announced that it can no longer guarantee to deliver the number of houses required over the coming 5 years. This is known, in planning speak, as the loss of the Five Year Housing Land Supply. This has come about because, for a number of reasons entirely outside the control of the Council, developers have failed to build the houses which have been given planning permission or are in the spatial strategy in our Local Plan. One of the functions of a Local Plan is to allocate sites to meet the objectively assessed housing need. If, for whatever reason, this housing is not delivered, the Local Plan is deemed to have failed under the terms of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and paragraph 14 of the NPPF is triggered. This paragraph defines a “presumption in favour of sustainable development” which requires that decision makers should look to grant permission unless “any adverse impact of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits”. This is the so called weighted or tilted balance which fundamentally alters the weight to be given to policies in our Local Plan as against the presumption in favour. This does not mean that all applications will be permitted. Policies in the NPPF and our own Local Plan relating to SSSIs; Local Green Spaces; AONBs; flooding and heritage assets, including listed buildings and conservation areas, remain in force. And other policies are not set aside, but they now have to meet the higher criteria of significantly and demonstrably outweighing the benefit of the proposed development. Settlement boundaries alone, for example, are now unlikely to carry sufficient weight to refuse a development. What does this mean for Parish Councils? Our advice to Parish Councils is to continue to comment on applications using the same policies and criteria you have always used. If you wish to support or object to a development under a policy in the Local Plan, do so. It will then be for NDDC, as the decision maker, to determine what weight can be given to these policies under the new “tilted weighting” regime. Shillingstone’s Neighbourhood Plan is now part of the Local Plan and will carry the same weighting as other policies. The designated Local Green Space will remain protected. Iwerne Minster and Pimperne should continue to work towards their NPs, the current position with regard to the 5YHLS will not last forever and the NPs are a long term gain. What can NDDC do about the situation? The only thing which can regain the 5YHLS is for the developers to build the required houses. NDDC is doing what it can to facilitate this including trying to bring forward some of the major schemes in the Local Plan Spatial Strategy, particularly in Gillingham. We have a dedicated Major Projects Team working with developers and we have secured £238,000 of government funding for Community Led Housing initiatives. The fact remains, however, that this situation has arisen because of conditions in the housing industry, both local and national, and there is little which we can do to change this in the short term.

Register to Vote. An annual audit for the Register of Electors is currently underway and NDDC is writing to all residents in order to check who is eligible to vote and ensure that the information held on the Register is

correct. We are running a £1000 prize draw to encourage residents to respond electronically, online or by text.

Single Person Discount Review. NDDC is carrying out a review of all council tax payers claiming a 25 percent single person discount on their council tax bill.

Funding to Help North Dorset Businesses. NDDC can support local start-up businesses with grants of up to £4000 from its Economic Growth Fund. Application is simple and includes advice from our Economic Development Officers on other possible sources of support and funding. Details can be found at dorsetforyou.gov.uk/north-dorset-economic-growth-fund. We also have grants to help local businesses, large and small, take on apprentices.

Blandford Town Centre Improvements. NDDC has funding available to make improvements to Blandford town centre. The funds have come from developer contributions following the completion of the new Lidl supermarket in the town.

A350/C13. The A350/C13 group will be holding a meeting on the 9th October at 2pm at Stourpain, with Highways Department from County Council, these meeting will be held monthly to ensure the Parishes are kept up to date with the works taking place. The maintenance works on the roads are due to start this month.

Hambledon Division Meeting. The next meeting will be on 6th October at 6.30pm, in Durweston village hall. The guest will be Simon Hoare MP. Open to all Parish Councils within the Hambledon Division, these meetings are opportunities to jointly discuss matters of interest and/or concern.

Community Bus Service. The service is being used and will continue to run as long as there is a need. The full report can be viewed on the Parish Council website, www.iwerneminster.info.

17/62 Chairman's report. Nothing to report.
There was no report given.

17/63 Finance.

The payment schedule had been tabled, the Clerk added an additional payment to Cllr A Evans, for the Neighbourhood Plan for the sum of £48.68, making the total payment of £1657.01 for August 2017. It was proposed by Cllr P Le Prevost and seconded by Cllr J Hooper that the bills presented on the schedule should be paid.

17/64 To consider other parish matters.

Environmental Protection: No report given

Highways: Cllr B O'Luanaigh reported the following:

- Blocked drains that have been reported have been cleared by County Council quickly.
- A notice has been put up in around the village asking resident to make sure overhanging branches are cut back off public highways. Clayemore School have acknowledged the issues of overhanging branches along the A350 and will be dealing with the matter as soon as possible.

Recreation: Cllr P Le Prevost reported the following:

Repairs to the front of the Village Club have begun. Cllr P Le Prevost asked for the Council to consider allowing the Village Club to slightly increase in size, which will be a benefit for the resident so of the village. The Council confirmed that they have no objection for the Village Club to increase in size, as long as details are given to the Parish Council before any work commences.

- Repairs to the Play equipment have started.
- Cllr P Le Prevost asked the Council to consider paying for the electric used for some outside Christmas Lights. The Council have paid this in the past and are happy to pay again.

Footpaths and Rights of Way: Cllr J Hooper reported the following.

- The Clerk reported that she has written to Iwerne Estate, to instruct them to clear the public footpaths on their land, but to date has not received a response. This will be followed up.

Village and District Liaison: Cllr Jones reported the following:

- Cllr Jones reported that in Christchurch District Council, their planning policy includes a requirement of a certain amount of letters or signatures with applications in order to trigger a site visit. Cllr Jones was concerned as to whether a similar system operated at NDDC, He was told "No, it does not".

Neighbourhood Development Plan: Cllr Evans reported the following:

- The date of the 16th October to complete the draft Neighbourhood Plan was agreed.
- The Clerk will write to all on the neighbouring Parishes to inform them of the draft Neighbourhood Plan.
- A big thanks to Ian Watson for all of his help.
- Following two Extraordinary Iwerne Minster Parish Council meetings, the Council unanimously approved the Draft Neighbourhood Plan produced by the NDP Team. Approval was also given to trigger off the start of the mandatory six week public consultation period. Specific approval was given to change the settlement boundary to include all of the developments identified in the Draft NDP except the area designated for Miles Field which is for social/affordable housing only. Support was

also approved to resist any development, by third parties, beyond the developments included in the Draft NDP.

- **RESOLVED:** to approve the Draft Neighbourhood Plan produced by the NDP Team and approved the start of the mandatory six week public consultation period. Approval was also given to change the settlement boundary and to support the approved resist any development, by third parties, beyond the development including in the Draft NDP. (2017/64 – NDP)

Community Resilience & Emergency Planning: Cllr K O'Connor gave the following report: There was no report given.

Homewatch/Speedwatch: Cllr B O'Lunaigh gave the following report:

- The Speedwatch team are continuing to holding 10 watches each month.
- **The Speedwatch team would like to recruit new members, if you are interested, please contact Geoff Peters on the following: Geoff.peters13@hotmail.co.uk or call on 01747811546.**
- Further discussions with Mr Geoff Peters, regarding the Homewatch Team will continue. There is a service offered to anyone from the police, to register for updates on local activities, this can be looked at through Dorset Alert, www.dorsetalert.co.uk.

17/65 To consider DAPTC matters. Cllr M Jones reported the following:

- Daptc will be holding a meeting on the 16th September 2017

17/66 To consider any other matters and recent correspondence.

An email received regarding Remembrance Day ceremony had been circulated. This was discussed and it was agreed that the Parish Council do not have any regulations over the ceremony and will suggest that they contact the British Legion for their advice.

Mr Brian Ward has kindly donated a book titled Iwerne Minster, which was found at his late cousin's home. The Council would like to thank Mr Brian Ward for this and will keep it safe for anyone to see.

At this point the Council stood for a minute silence in remembrance of the late Val Roberts and Donald Crammond.

Agenda items for next meeting - to be agreed.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be **Monday the 2nd October 2017 at 7pm.**

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.06pm

Date Chairman,

Iwerne Minster Parish Council