

Minutes of a Meeting of Iwerne Minster Parish Council held in the Abingdon Hall on the 8th January 2018.

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

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

Public Questions: The Chairman wished everyone a Happy New Year. There were no questions from the public.

17/100 To take any apologies. Cllr D Croney will attend the meeting later.

17/101 Declarations of Interests and Requests for Dispensation.

There were none.

17/102 Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th December 2017.

The Chairman expressed his concerns over statements being read at the meetings by members of the public. The statements read out should only be relevant to the Parish Council's agenda and not on a personal view to other residents in the village. The Chairman suggested that if anyone has a personal issue with other residents in the village, they should approach them direct.

The amended minutes were proposed by Cllr P Le Prevost and seconded by Cllr B O'Lunaigh, that they were a true and accurate record and were duly signed by the Vice Chairman.

Cllr Nadin expressed his concerns over the notices being put up on the Parish Council's notice boards. This is a polite notice to residents of the village that only notices for events, local information and local interest should be put on the notice boards, **not** personal statements or commercial advertising. The notice boards will be monitored and any notices that are not acceptable will be removed,

17/103 Matters arising from the minutes.

Cllr Nadin reported that himself, Cllr Hooper, DCC Cllr Croney and Cllr O'Lunaigh attended the Regulatory Committee meeting at DCC County Hall on the 4th January and the proposed 20 mph zone was recommended for approval unanimously by the committee. The committee expressed great support for the way the local community had gone about developing and supporting the project. The recommendation will now go to DCC Cabinet on the 17th January. A big thankyou to DCC Highways team, Cllr Croney, Cllr Hooper and Mr Peter Finney.

17/104 To consider development management matters listed on the schedule.

Development matters: There were none listed on the Schedule.

Cllr Nadin reported that he will be keeping a close eye on the Stables application, to ensure that the Conservation Officer's comments are abided to.

17/105 to receive NDDC Cllr report – bullet points

Local Government Re-organisation

Following the Secretary of State's 'minded to support' announcement on 7 November 2017. We are now in a period of consultation, which ends on 8 January 2018. At the end of this period the Secretary of State is expected to make one of three announcements, having paid due regard to all the representations he has received: To make a final decision to implement the proposed change (option 2b). To make a final decision to implement change subject to a modification. Not to proceed with implementation.

Dorset County Council Budget

The latest forecast of outturn for the Authority indicates an over spend of just over £4.1m. This is a £1.9m improvement on the preceding month and a reduction of over £5.4m since the peak expectation in May. The work to bring stability to budgets and resilience to cope with increases in demand is critical over the next two years.

North Dorset District Council Budget

Although the financial environment is challenging the Council has a very good track record of balancing its budget. The partnership between the 3 Councils has enabled significant savings to be achieved and this has enabled frontline services to be protected. Comparing staffing levels in 2010 of the 3 separate Councils to the present Dorset Councils Partnership Senior Management posts have reduced from 76 to 17. This is a reduction of 59 posts or 78%. Overall the total workforce (including Senior Management) has reduced from 730 to 514. This is a reduction of 216 fte's or 30%. The forecast of the budget gap over the next three is about £2m with £1m falling within FY 18/19. To date, the budget for FY 17/18 and 18/19 has been balanced, and the settlement announcement in December was as anticipated for the District.

Headlines from the Local Government Settlement December 2017

There will be a new funding formula in place for 2020-2. Business Rates retention will be increased to 75% for 2020-21. This will incorporate existing grants such as Revenue Support Grant, Rural Services Delivery Grant

and Public Health Grant. The planned reduction of £15m in Rural Services Delivery Grant has been removed. For Dorset, this increases the grant by £281k. No new changes in New Homes Bonus. However the allocation for Dorset County is £230k less than anticipated. There will be a formal consultation launched in Spring 2018 about Negative Revenue Support Grant. This will look at "fair and affordable options". This will be key for DCC / new rural authority as we currently have projected minus £10m of RSG in 2019-20. The core referendum principles for Council Tax have been increased from 2% to 3% for 2018-19 and 2019-20. The maximum allowable increase in Council Tax would therefore now potentially be 5.99% for the County Council (3% core plus 3% Adult Social Care precept – subject to limit of 6% for ASC precept over 3 years)

A350/C13 Road Improvements (Community Stakeholder Engagement)

Three further three meetings of the above group to which you are all invited to attend. All three meetings will be held in Stourpaine Village Hall and will commence at 2.00 pm.

The dates are Monday: 15 January 2018 - 2.00 pm. Monday 19 February 2018 - 2.00 pm. Monday 19 March 2018 - 2.00 pm. The works are now well under-way and Parishes directly involved have been invited to attend regular monthly update meetings to ensure that the programme is on track and also, for the highways team to gain feedback on any issues that may arise with design and construction, as the project progresses.

Regarding the HGV one-way system: This was the subject of further decision-making through the County Council Cabinet. On 6th December, Cabinet supported the implementation of an upgraded one-way system (north on A350 and south on C13). It will remain advisory only but engineering improvements will be made in The Hollow at Melbury Abbas with better signage and close performance monitoring in conjunction with the emergency services. The systems operational performance will be reviewed in a year's time. Further, detailed information will be made available at the monthly update meetings as the project progresses.

The Full report can be obtained from the Clerk or is available on the Parish Council website.

17/106 Chairman's report.

No report given.

17/107 Finance.

The payment schedule for November for the sum of £464.41 had been tabled. It was proposed by Cllr P Le Prevost and seconded by Cllr C Nadin that the bills presented on the schedule should be paid.

17/108 To consider other parish matters.

Environmental Protection: Cllr Nadin reported the following:

- Fly tipping of a sofa on the road leading to Child Okeford from the A350 just North of Iwerne Minster. This will be reported to DCC waste management team.
- The grass verges in the village are being damaged by vehicles driving on them. It was suggested that perhaps the residents that own the verges could consider placing large stones on the verges, to try and prevent further damage from vehicles.

Highways: Cllr B O'Luanaigh reported the following:

- Dorset County Council will start resurfacing the A350 through the village on the 15th January. The road will be closed from 7pm to 7am until the 10th February. If there are concerns for access for carers/homehelp, then please contact Cllr O'Luanaigh or Cllr Nadin.
- It was reported that the gullies along Tower Hill still have not been cleared. This will be reported again to DCC.

Recreation: Cllr P Le Prevost reported the following:

- Richard Hood and the volunteer from the school have started work on the repairs needed in the Childrens Play area. The repairs will continue through Easter Holidays.
- The Dominey family have asked permission from the Abingdon Hall, to place a bench in the Abingdon Hall grounds, overlooking the burial area and the Chalk. Cllr P Le Prevost asked if the Parish Council would support an idea to remove the hedge around the old burial ground at Abingdon Hall, to open the area up, where fetes and other events could then be held on the land?. The Parish Council supported the idea.
- The Open Gardens will take place the 30th June and the 1st July.
- The Village Fair will be taking place on the 7th May, lots to do, Barn Dance, Fireworks and much more.
- The Village Club have agreed to erect a new porch at the front of the Club, this should be completed by the end of February.
- A meeting with NDDC tree officer will take place to discuss the maintenance of the trees behind the Village Club.

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

- Cllr Hooper will make the necessary repairs to the broken gate at New Road corner.

Village and District Liaison: Cllr Jones reported the following:

- The Government had promised a certain level Broadband service for villages. This is being looked into, to improve the supply in rural areas.
- There are ongoing consultations for all types of matters on the Dorset for You website. Please have a look and have your say. Cllr Jones can supply a link for those interested. There is an interesting consultation from Dorset Waste Partnership, regarding local recycling centres.

Neighbourhood Development Plan: Cllr Evans reported the following:

- Cllr Evans had nothing to report.
- Cllr Nadin reported that NDDC are reviewing the Local Plan. It has been reported that they are suggesting that villages may not be asked to build houses just for number, but to build houses on the basis of need. In the plan it has been suggested that the protected land which has been designated for possible bypasses for Shaftesbury and Spetisbury, is now being looked at for possible development. Cllr Nadin expressed his concerns over this matter, as if the land is allocated for development it will put a stop to the proposed bypasses. Please have your say on this matter by visiting the planningpolicy@north-dorset.gov.uk.

Cllr Nadin has circulated an email to the Councillors to consider sending information regarding this matter to as many residents in the village as possible. The Council agreed for the information to be sent to Cllr P Le Prevost (as the editor of the Village Diary) to forward this information on to the list of residents that are on file, for their information.

Community Resilience & Emergency Planning: Cllr K O'Connor gave the following report:

- There is a consultation taking place regarding Dog Control Orders, which is changing to a Public Spaces Protection Order. Please have your say at the Dorset For You website.

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

- There will not be any speed watches from next week until the beginning of March, due to the road resurfacing in the village.
- The old speed device has been sold for the sum of £75.77.
- The speedwatch team are now operating from a new site outside the entrance to the school sports hall, which was approved by the police.

17/109 To consider DAPTC matters. Cllr M Jones reported the following:

There was nothing to report.

17/110 To consider any other matters and recent correspondence. Correspondence had been circulated.

Agenda items for next meeting – TBA

At this point the Chairman asked everyone to stand in remembrance of Edna Slade and Geoffrey Spencer.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be Monday the **5th February 2018 at 7pm.**

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.16 pm

Chairman

Iwerne Minster Parish Council