## STURMINSTER MARSHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.30pm on Zoom

**Present:** Chairman Cllr. Miss H Palmer; Cllr M Steel; Cllr Mrs S Cade; Cllr Jackson; Cllr H Fookes; Cllr S Gerry Cllr A Godfrey and Cllr L Seare

Also in attendance: Clerk Mrs Alison Clothier; Dorset Cllr R Cook

**MEMBERS OF PUBLIC** – There were 18 members of the public present.

A resident of Jubilee Way spoke objecting to the widening of Moor Lane and said that the proposal should put pedestrians first and not cars. The applicant does not own the road and the corners would be more dangerous for pedestrians. The member of the public noted disappointment that Dorset Highways had no objection to the application.

A member of the golf club objected to the widening of Moor Lane. They thought that the idea to improve Moor Lane was good in principle but it would need a footpath. They also identified that trees and hedges would be affected.

A resident of Elm Gardens spoke about the retaining wall at Bartons Ground which is leaning over and will block the drainage pipe. The owners of the property will contact Dorset Highways.

Another resident of Jubilee Way endorsed the comments about regarding Moor Lane.

A resident of the village supported the objection to the widening of Moor Lane.

A representative of the Churchill Arms Action Group asked if the Parish Council would support a Compulsory Purchase of the site which is becoming an eyesore.

A local pub owner confirmed that they were still interested in taking on the lease of the Churchill Arms.

## 1 APOLOGIES – MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

There were no apologies.

## 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

<u>The Parish Council meeting was suspended at 7.47pm whilst the Planning Committee took place. See minutes 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021 for details.</u>

The Parish meeting re-convened at 8.29pm

## 3 POLICE REPORT

The reports were circulated before the meeting and are attached as Appendix 1.

## 4 MINUTES

The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 were approved as true record of the meeting.

## 5 MATTERS ARISING

Clerk

A report from the Clerk which had been circulated was read by the Clerk and is attached to these minutes as **Appendix 2.** Ongoing issues from the Clerks Report are: i. Pill Box ii. Playground iii. Highways matters 6 COVID 19 i) The work of the volunteer group has largely stopped. The link with the Corfe Mullen food bank remains with a volunteer delivering food there from the Co-Op on a weekly basis. ii) A discussion was held about Zoom meetings and it was resolved to Clerk continue meeting in this way for the foreseeable future. 7 **AMENITIES AND FACILITIES** Pill Box – a planning application has now been approved for the interpretation sign. Clerk has had no response from the National Trust but will continue to chase progress. Clerk ii Playground –Huck have carried out the repairs the whirling climbing frame however it was noted that it does not work very well. Additionally the left swing has snapped. Cllr Steel to investigate. iii Bartons Ground – the surveyor is delayed in coming down to mark out the boundary due to Covid. Noticeboards – the cork for the noticeboards has now been ordered iv. and will be installed as soon as possible. ٧. Churchill Close Green – the No Parking signs will be put up as soon as possible vi. Maypole Green – Mr Miller has been asked to carry out the works to Maypole Green. vii. Johnnies Ditch – Cllr Gerry has removed the sign and is repairing it. It was agreed that the sign will be attached to the fence once it is repaired. Footpaths – it was reported that a gap in the fence at the Moor Lane viii. entrance to Footpath 1 was allowing motorbikes to gain access. Tree Clerk trunks are now laying across the path so the access is blocked. This now prevents scooter access. Clerk to investigate the cost of the gate suggested by Rights of Way as this would allow disabled access. The golf course has put nets up which makes access along the footpath difficult. The gate at the other end of the path at the Golf Course needs 6" of mud dug out to allow scooter access. Bridleway at Mapperton – the bridleway running past Mapperton Farm is being used as a cut through to Spetisbury by vehicles. It was suggested that the entrance to the bridleway be moved back down the road so that a gate can be put in. Clerk to arrange a meeting with Rights of Way officer. ix. Churchill Arms – there was a discussion about a new ACV application and it was concluded that the Parish Council would need to be presented with substantial new evidence in order for this to be moved forward. 8 **ENVIRONMENT** Wessex Water – any recent works have been routine maintenance. i. ii. Bins/Clothes banks – the first school have requested a clothes bank by the entrance to the school. Councillors noted that this was a good idea

in order to raise money for the school however there were concerns about the position and what would happen in the school holidays. It was suggested that it may be better if the bank were in the school grounds although this would mean that only parents can use it. Another option discussed would be to put an additional bin next to the existing air ambulance bin by the Memorial Hall. Cllr Gerry to discuss with Hall Committee.

A member of the public has asked that a new bin be situated next to the bench near the corner of Station Road and Railway Drive. Clerk to speak to DWP.

iii. Drainage Ditches – the ditches along Moor Lane are extremely blocked with trees. This is not Parish Council land but it would be within the interests of the village to clear them. Clerk to ask Keith Selby for a quote.

Clerk

### 9 TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

A31/A350 – the A31 road closures are ongoing. There are major drainage works taking place along the A31. The A350 group had asked about opinions on the new development near Pimperne and concerns were raised about the amount of traffic this would generate.

Clerk

- ii. Highways a meeting is taking place with the Communicy Highways Officer on the 12<sup>th</sup> January to raise a number of highways concerns in the Parish.
- SID it was agreed that the SID team survey 5 sites Newton Road,
  Dullar Lane, Straight Mile, Mill Lane and High Street. Clerk to ask if the project can be delayed until after lockdown.

Clerk

- iv. Removal of verge at King Street Clerk to seek a final opinion on this from the Community Highways Officer.
- v. Sign at Almer sign positioning and wording to be discussed with the Community Highways Officer.
- vi. Bailie Gate Roundabout to be discussed with the Community Highways Officer.

## 10 **REPORTS**

To receive reports from representatives of the following:

- i Alms House Charity meeting to take place in February.
- ii Memorial Hall meeting to take place in January. Problems with damp have been raised and also there is a proposal to turf the area to the left of the hall by the car park.
- iii. Sports Association nothing to report
- iv PACT nothing to report
- v DAPTC nothing to report.
- vi Flood Wardens continuing to monitor the situation.
- vii Dorset Councillor see Appendix 3.

#### 11 FINANCE

- Accounts for payment. To invoices and approve payments as per Schedule of payments. These invoices will be paid via bank transfer and the PDFs of the transfer will be printed out. Payments are still outstanding for East Dorset TIC as bank details have not been supplied.
- ii. DAPTC Subsciption it was agreed to approve the subscription for 2021.
- iii. Garden vouchers it was noted that the Wyevale vouchers are about to expire and would need to be spent soon.

iv. Auditor – it was agreed to ask Alan Breakwell to carry out the Parish Council audit for 2020/21.

#### 12 BUDGET AND PRECEPT

- i. The tax base has now been provided and is slightly lower than last year. This means the precept is now £50,372 with an overall increase of 5.34% or £3.18 on an average Band D property. The changes specifically are:
  - An increase in the Clerks Salary and Expenses to allow for the change in increment and for the national payrise.
  - An increase in the website budget to allow for changes due to the Accessibility Requirements
  - An increase in the War Memorial budget to allow for a professional clean
  - A decrease in money set aside for bench repairs
  - A decrease in money allocated for the Speed Indicator device, as this was higher in the first year to allow for start up costs.

The budget and precept were approved with all in agreement.

# 13 COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER

i. Dorset Council have acknowledged the delay in the transfers and aim to have these resolved by the end of the financial year.

# 14 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

i. The Call for Sites and Community Facility surveys are now complete. The Site Assessments technical package has been confirmed and this will start in the new year. The SEA technical package cannot be taken forward without a screening opinion from the Local Authority. A further targeted email regarding future land requirements will be sent to the school, Sports Association and Football club. The household questionnaire summary has now been published on the website.

## 15 CORRESPONDENCE

- Email regarding retaining wall at Elm Gardens this will be dealt with in the meeting with the Community Highways Officer
- DAPTC committee structure the survey has been completed.

## 16 PARISH MATTERS

• There were two points raised about the River Winterbourne. One was regarding the hand rails for the bridge which children can slip under and the other was regarding horse manure next to the river at Straight Mile.

### 17 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7.30pm

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.32

Signed Chairman 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021.