

STURMINSTER MARSHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council on Thursday 4th February 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 42 members of the public present.

The Chairman of the Council outlined how the meeting would run for those who had not attended before. Cllr Cook offered members of the public a meeting with him to speak about the Local Plan.

18 members of the public present spoke and made the following points:

- The proposals in the Local Plan increase the size of the village by 50%. There are parking issues, drainage problems and not enough facilities.
- Para 25.10 of the Local Plan states the Golf Course is underused and this is incorrect. Dorset Council have been asked to remove this statement. The Local Plan also states that the Golf Course is not viable which is biased and inaccurate.
- An update on the Churchill Arms was requested. Tree surveys were also asked for on all the Local Plan sites
- The golf course is very busy and not underused. Access to 140 homes would be impossible.
- An update was given on the questionnaire handed out by a local action group. 156 responses had been received. 99% of respondents are against over 400 new homes being built. When asked to rate the sites in terms of preference to be development, Station Road was 3.7/10, Spingfield Farm 3.5/10 and Golf Course 0.6/10. 40 people have responded on paper and not online.
- The golf course benefits the wider community
- The need for outdoor recreation is high. The village should not lose a well established facilities which includes Bartons Ground. If development takes place then it needs to be affordable for younger people.
- The loss of golf course would be detrimental to the village as the value of exercise is very important.
- Traffic in Sturminster Marshall is an issues and no traffic survey has been carried out. It was questioned why Dorset Council would propose this development without carrying out a traffic survey.
- The type of housing proposed was raised – it should include affordable and social housing so that young people can afford to live here.
- Flooding was raised – this will get worse with additional development. Traffic is an issue and the application to widen Moor Lane would open up development to the Golf Course.
- The village has already increased in size significantly. All the homes in the new development will have cars. The Station Road site floods and people may not be able to get house insurance.
- This will be the third golf course locally which has been lost to development. It is a haven for wildlife.
- How will White Mill Bridge cope with extra traffic?
- A lot of traffic will be passing next to the school. The village has very limited public transport services and there are parking problems already.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walkers use Bartons Ground for access to the footpath beyond. The pond in Bartons Ground provides important drainage. • The loss of the golf course will take away an important local facility for the village – it is a less strenuous course and this would lose people to the sport. • It was claimed that the owner of the golf course has promised that a new golf club would be reopened in replacement to this one but it was questioned why this one should be lost in the first place. 	
1	<p><u>APOLOGIES – MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.</u> There were no apologies.</p>	
2	<p><u>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</u> There were none.</p>	
3	<p><u>POLICE REPORT</u> The reports were circulated before the meeting and are attached as Appendix 1.</p>	
4	<p><u>MINUTES</u> The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 7th January 2021 were approved as true record of the meeting.</p>	Clerk
5	<p><u>MATTERS ARISING</u> 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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Pill Box ii. Playground iii. Highways matters <p>It was agreed that the Item 12 would be moved to this part of the meeting to allow the member of the public a chance to leave the meeting afterwards if they wished.</p>	
12	<p><u>DORSET LOCAL PLAN</u></p> <p>The webinars provided by Dorset Council were discussed but it was felt they had been of limited help so far. All Councillors were encouraged to watch the South East Dorset webinar on the 11th February. Councillors stated that it was positive to see which a good response to the consultation so far and agreed with the concerns about the addition of the Golf Course to the plan. The total number of homes proposed in the village would be 475 including windfall. The addition of the golf course was questioned, particularly where the information came from to say that it was underused. The Parish Council has a meeting with Dorset Council on March 2nd and a list of questions for this meeting needs to be drawn up. Initial thoughts were traffic, flooding, sewerage and other infrastructure. Councillors urged members of the public to write to Dorset Council. Councillors asked whether the consultation could be extended due to difficulties in consulting during the COVID lockdown but Cllr Cook confirmed that no extension would be granted. The Parish Council’s response will be put forward at the March meeting and will be put on the website in advance of the meeting. If any members of the public require a meeting with Cllr Cook then they should contact the Parish Clerk to arrange.</p>	Clerk
6	<p><u>COVID 19</u></p>	Clerk

7	<p>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.</p> <p><u>AMENITIES AND FACILITIES</u></p> <p>i 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.</p> <p>ii Playground –Huck have carried out the repairs the whirling climbing frame however it was noted that it does not work very well. Clerk to find out when they are coming to fix this so Cllr Steel can meet with them.</p> <p>iii Bartons Ground – the surveyor is delayed in coming down to mark out the boundary due to Covid.</p> <p>iv. Noticeboards – the cork for the noticeboards has now been ordered and will be installed in Spring.</p> <p>v. Churchill Close Green – the No Parking signs will be put up as soon as possible</p> <p>vi. Maypole Green – the work will take place in Spring 2021.</p> <p>vii. Johnnies Ditch – no update.</p> <p>viii. Footpaths – the meeting with the Rights of Way team took place on 29th January regarding the bridleway at Mapperton. There needs to be another meeting with Highways as it would involve moving the unclassified road. This will cost about £3000.</p> <p>ix. Churchill Arms – a very constructive meeting was held with the individual that is looking to purchase the Churchill Arms. The site is currently pending a planning application. The options available are to move forwards with a new ACV but there would need to be new evidence for this to take place. Parish Council to defer this to next meeting.</p>	
8	<p><u>ENVIRONMENT</u></p> <p>i. Wessex Water – any recent works have been routine maintenance.</p> <p>ii. Bins/Clothes banks – school recycling bin – Highways have no comments on this. The Memorial Hall will not allow another recycling bin in the car park. Station Road – Clerk to find out costs of a new litter bin. 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.</p> <p>iii. Drainage Ditches – the Parish Council is awaiting a quote.</p> <p>iv. Flooding – blockage at Church Street – this has been passed to Highways.</p>	Clerk Clerk
9	<p><u>TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT</u></p> <p>i A31/A350 – the A31 road closures are ongoing. The road at Spetisbury will be closed – Clerk to put this on the website.</p> <p>ii. Highways – a meeting took place with Dorset Highways. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elm Gardens – Clerk to speak to Eton College about the retaining wall. Arrange for the ditch to be dug out. </p> <p>iii. SID – sites are confirmed and order placed with Dorset Council. To be delayed until after lockdown.</p> <p>iv. To discuss a 20mph zone- the first step with this is to have the</p>	Clerk Clerk

	<p>evidence from the traffic surveys and then have a discussion with Dorset Highways.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v. Removal of verge at King Street – Dorset Council Highways to action. vi. Sign at Almer – Clerk to contact sign shop about wording on the sign. vii. Bailie Gate Roundabout – awaiting action from Dorset Highways. viii. Road Closures – Dullar Lane closed on 9th February. ix. Surfacing at Stourfield, Back Lane – this has initially been discussed with Highways but needs a further meeting with the tree officer to discuss protection of the tree roots. The Aspen tree on the corner of Frog Lane also needs to be looked at. 	
10	<p><u>REPORTS</u></p> <p>To receive reports from representatives of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i Alms House Charity – a meeting took place and a new team have taken over. ii Memorial Hall – the Hall remains closed. There is maintenance taking place inside and quotes being received for putting solar panels on the roof. iii. Sports Association – nothing to report iv P A C T – nothing to report v DAPTC - nothing to report. vi Flood Wardens – continuing to monitor the situation. vii Dorset Councillor – see Appendix 3. 	
11	<p><u>FINANCE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i 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. ii. To ratify new phone contract for Clerk’s phone - The Parish Council phone contract has reached the end of a two year deal and has gone from around £20 up to £32 a month. The Clerk is experiencing issues connecting to Wifi calls. There is a new deal for a new iphone SE which comes to £24 a month with an upfront cost of £11.99 (these are both inclusive of VAT). iii. To receive update on Parish Council online bank card - despite advice from the Natwest in branch that an online bank card could be applied for on the Parish Council account, this has not been the case on further investigation. A debit card can be applied for. iv. To receive update on Parish Council audit for 2020/21 – Mr Breakwell is able to carry out the Parish Council Audit. v. To note changes to .gov.uk prices – these are increasing price to £65 +VAT for renewal every two years. vi. To receive quarterly report and bank reconciliation – the report was received and noted. See Appendix 4. 	
13	<p><u>COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Dorset Council have acknowledged the delay in the transfers and aim to have these resolved by the end of the financial year. 	
14	<p><u>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i A new Terms of Reference was adopted and this was ratified by Councillors. ii. The Site Assessment Technical package is now moving forwards after a 	

15	<p>letter was received from Dorset Council to state that the Neighbourhood Plan could consider alternative sites.</p> <p>iii. Discussion with Dorset Council - As above</p> <p>iv. There have been useful responses received from the community groups regarding future need.</p>	
16	<p><u>CORRESPONDENCE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorset Cultural Strategy – this was attended by Cllr Gerry • Second Phase of DAPTC Constitution Review - noted • DAPTC Training – Cllrs to contact Clerk with training requirements • Stour Valley Park survey – the upper limit of the park is around St Marys Church. Most of the environmental interest is around the river. Clerk to ask Mr Daniels to respond • Right to regenerate - noted • Dog fouling leaflet - noted 	
17	<p><u>PARISH MATTERS</u></p> <p><u>The Parish Council meeting was suspended at 9.23pm whilst the Planning Committee took place. See minutes 4th February 2021 for details.</u></p>	
	<p><u>The Parish meeting re-convened at 9.37pm</u></p> <p><u>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</u> – Thursday 4th March 2021 at 7.30pm</p> <p>There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.37</p> <p>Signed _____ Chairman 4th March 2021.</p>	