

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 4th April 2012
At Toller Porcorum Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Ennals (*Chairman*)

Cllr R Knox (DCC)

Cllr J Miller (*Vice Chairman*)

Cllr J Haynes (WDDC)

Cllr P Rutherford

Cllr D Billen

Apologies: Cllr J Knowles

Cllr C Baker

Cllr P Davies

6 members of the public

Election and appointments for the year:

Election of Chairman:

Cllr Ennals was nominated as chairman

Proposed by Cllr Miller

Seconded by Cllr Baker

Resolved

Election of Vice Chairman:

Cllr Miller was nominated as vice chairman

Proposed Cllr Davies

Seconded by Cllr Baker

Resolved

Cllr Ennals received apologies for absence and welcomed the new clerk Mrs Michele Harding.

Declaration of Interest:

Cllr Rutherford declared an interest in item 12 as a member of the Village Hall, PCC and Recreation Area.

Cllr Miller declared an interest in item 12 as a member of the PCC and Village Hall

Cllr Ennals declared an interest in item 12 as a member of the PCC

Minutes: The minutes of the PC meeting on 1st February 2012 having previously been circulated, were signed by the Chair as a correct record of the meeting

Proposed Cllr Rutherford

Seconded Cllr Davies

Resolved

Matters arising: Cllr Rutherford reported on Item 6 Para 5 regarding the phone box, there is broken glass and is to be repaired, it was also reported that the phone box was dirty.

(PR)

Item 11- BOAT Cllr Knox (DCC) commented that this has not gone to committee yet, Cllr Knox report back to the council with an update, it was reported that members need to be aware that if this is approved motorcycles will be allowed on bridleways.

It was noted that the members would like a bus shelter for the parish. Cllr Haynes reported that funding could be obtained for a shelter if a suitable site was found.

Cllr Ennals would like it recorded that thanks should go to Mr Barry Rutherford for

stepping in as acting clerk over the past few months. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks on behalf of the council.

The Clerk would contact Mr Richard Miller of Symonds and Sampson regarding possible land for a bus shelter.

(MH)

Democratic Forum 15 minutes:

Cllr Miller has contacted, (her son) Mr Richard Miller, about the possibility of land for a Bus Shelter in the parish, but this was really to warn him that a letter would be received from the Clerk. (MH/JM) Members of the public asked the council to vigorously oppose motor vehicles on the bridleways.

County Matters: Cllr Knox reported that the tax element that was not raised in council tax. There has been a successful bid for superfast broadband match funded by central government. Problems still may occur when it has to go to each household known as the last mile.

The Fire authority would like to spread the word on fire prevention and have asked to sit in on some Parish Council meetings, Cllrs were happy for the officers to attend. Cllr Knox reported on the Mobile Library consultation that will be arriving shortly for the consideration by the parish. Also Countryside rangers have been set up to offer volunteer help in maintain/repairing footpaths. Cllr Knowles the FLO for the parish was absent. (Cllrs)

District Matters: Cllr Haynes reported on Weymouth and Portland and WDDC joining offices saving money this is taking some time. The new council offices should be ready by the end of the year as the current offices are not fit for purpose.

Cllr Haynes also reported on Localism/Neighbourhood planning and the Local Plan there are some changes to the planning rules and these will be very much at community level with WDDC at the forefront including the two pilot schemes with Cerne Abbas and Sherborne. The draft local plan has now been published. Neighbourhood plans can be put in place to extend development boundaries in parishes. Neighbourhood plans will need to meet the policies of the local plan.

To Consider the adoption of the Standing Orders:

The council discussed the draft standing orders that had been previously circulated. *Public participation-* Councillors agreed to keep this time to 30 minutes split in two sections at the meeting.

Committees- the council resolved to change the way they form groups from the council and will now change the status of the planning committee to a “planning working group” Cllr Peter Davies will take the lead. This will mean that meetings will not require notices and official minutes.

Codes of conduct- the council to keep the general principal until the new ethical standards are available. Under the new rules councillors will have to register the interests of their partners and these will be published on the internet.

Power of Well Being- this is no longer in place and will be removed.

Councillors offered storage of parish documents in the village hall if necessary; the clerk has collected all the parish council documents and will go through them and will store the documents at her address.

The standing orders with the above changes were approved.

Proposed Cllr Miller

Seconded Cllr Evans

Resolved

To reaffirm the representatives to the following bodies:

DAPTC Area Rep- Cllr Peter Davies

Proposed Cllr Miller

Seconded Cllr Ennals

Resolved

Village Hall Committee member- Cllr Miller

Proposed Cllr Ennals

Seconded Cllr Baker

Resolved

Parish Emergency Contacts –

Mr Paul Comer and Mr David Wallbridge

Finance: Cllr Ennals introduced Mr Mike Boardman to the clerk who is the parish internal auditor

Receipts- None Payments due:

Mrs M Harding

Clerks Salary and expenses

£101.52

HMRC

paye/tax

£15.80

The council considered the current bank account and the issues with Santander. Mr M Boardman recommended that the Parish Council open a Lloyds Bank account ASAP, and then write a cheque from the Santander accounts, leaving approximately £1 with Santander until it is closed. Council resolved to change the bank to Lloyds, Cllr Ennals will deal with the change as a signatory. **(DE)**

Proposed Cllr Ennals

Seconded Cllr Miller

Resolved

The Clerks contract- Cllr Ennals explained that there were a few changes to the clerk's contract

and the council were happy to amend these changes. The clerk will update and send to

Cllr Ennals and Miller.

(MH, DE, JM)

Proposed Cllr Baker

Seconded Cllr Billen

Resolved

To consider the adoption of the Financial Regulations:

The councillors discussed the draft financial regulations that had been previously circulated.

Cllr Davies asked that a financial risk assessment be prepared-

(MH)

Cllrs approved the financial regulations

Proposed Cllr Miller

Seconded Cllr Rutherford

Resolved

The clerk would look at the Parish Council insurance and gather quotes as necessary.

Consider grants to the following beneficiaries:

The Village Hall - £275.00

The Church- £200.00

The Recreation Ground- £125.00

Proposed Cllr Baker

Seconded Cllr Davies

Resolved

Update on the Parish Plan, Neighbourhood plans and Localism: The Parish plan is being prepared and a presentation will be at the Annual Parish Assembly.

Cllr Haynes (WDDC) spoke on Neighbourhood plans (NP) and explained that a NP could be built on the Parish Plan, Parish plans are a wish list and a NP deals specifically with planning issues. Cllr Haynes explained that until the Local Plan is complete there was not a real need to start a NP. Initially the parish council would lead on this, write to WDDC and agree a neighbourhood area. The WDDC would be able to assist with advice and possibly some costs, an independent examiner and the referendum. The Parish would have to pay for the process, consultation, printing and analysing of the plan. Cllr Ennals said this would be discussed further and this would be considered if this should be included in the precept for next year.

The clerk has arranged for Jo Witherden of WDDC to come and speak at the Annual Parish Assembly on 9th May about neighbourhood planning.

(MH)

Cllrs considered being an “eligible council” and there are certain criteria for this, a qualified clerk, two thirds of the councillors trained and the council would have to be elected. The clerk is currently studying for her CiLCA and the council can work towards their training.

Cllrs proposed to consider a neighbourhood plan.

Proposed Cllr Davies

Seconded Cllr Ennals

Resolved

Planning:

Post Office and Affordable Housing: Cllr Baker reported that a meeting has been held with Mr Watson from Community Land Trust and Robert Aspray from WDDC-Housing to discuss setting up a small group to consider a new post office and affordable housing on land that has been given for this purpose.

Old Swan: Cllr Ennals explained that there has been a planning application submitted as was expected so nothing further to consider at this time.

(CB)

Highways: Cllr Davies explained that he had reported using the Dorset for You website the potholes and the gulleys had been emptied. Cllr Davies also explained he would be attending the APTC Area West meeting and would report next time.

(PD)

Report on the Flooding Workshop: Cllr Davies reported on the recent flooding workshop and that the responsibility has gone back to DCC instead of the environment agency. A strategic plan will be produced; the council discussed the Flood Management plan and it being adopted by the council when in place and circulate to the village.

Grants can be obtained for up to £5000 from Defra to assist those who are at most risk of flooding.

To consider funding plans for the Queens Jubilee: The Clerk has applied for funds from WDDC on behalf of the council for equipment and expenses incurred for celebrations of up to £250.00. Cllr Miller explained that mugs are being donated by a village resident to all the children of the village and the Parish Council will purchase these mugs. They will be presented on Sunday 3rd June, there is expected to be sports on the field a tea party, and hopefully some entertainment. A small working group will be formed.

(JM)

Correspondence: The clerk had only received a few items of correspondence since taking over, Cllr Ennals read out the letter from the MC Car Club explaining when they would be coming through the village.

Arrangements for the Annual Parish Assembly: The Councillors discussed the various reports at the meeting, refreshments, the naming of the river, the speaker Jo Witherden, the Parish Plan presentation around the room and the Chairman's report.

(DE, MH)

Cllr Rutherford explained that when the residents have chosen the name of the river from the list that has already been considered then a letter to DCC would be sent

confirming the naming and then it will be actioned.

(PR)

Date of the next meeting: The Annual parish Assembly will be Wednesday 9th May at 7pm. The clerk will forward a list of dates for the forthcoming year.

(MH)

Items for the next meeting:

Post Office and Affordable Housing

Democratic Forum:

The meeting regarding the Post Office/ affordable housing was the first meeting of the steering group and there are 19 members. Members of the public asked about the consultation of the parish plan. Members also asked if the naming of the river could be part of the parish plan and would there be the opportunity to have other suggestions not necessarily for the jubilee.

Cllr Ennals thanked the public for their comments and that they have been noted.

Meeting closed at 9.04pm

TOLLER PORCORUM PARISH COUNCIL

