

MINUTES OF THE STANTON DREW PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 6TH MARCH 2014 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr. J Chubb-Whittle (Chair), Cllr. M Elsbury, Cllr. K Mountford, Cllr. D Winstone, Cllr. M Naunton, Ward Cllr. J Sparks, Mr S Whittle (Director of Wansdyke Telecom Local Broadband) and thirteen parishioners.

14/16 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. G Roscoe and Cllr. J Swift.

14/17 – CODE OF CONDUCT – DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr. J Chubb-Whittle declared a non-pecuniary interest in the ensuing Broadband Presentation.

14/18 – WANSDYKE TELECOM LOCAL BROADBAND – PRESENTATION – MR S WHITTLE

Mr Whittle explained the objectives of the local group, which is an alternative provider to British Telecom who are the Government sponsored provider. He stated that they will, and can, provide a better, least expensive, faster broadband speed to the local community than that forecast by British Telecom mainly because the emphasis is on local. The group is now well established and their base has been located at Newton-St-Loe. They are now expanding by laying fibre optic cabling, initially to communities bordering the A368 and the A39, and mainly across The Duchy of Cornwall owned land for which they have received permission and encouragement.

The potential of easier and faster communication solutions for business opportunities, global markets, higher valuations of assets, etc, at affordable costs, has and will, encourage investors into our local area, and for other local land owners to support the initiative. Only local contractors have been, and in future will be, used for the extended installations. Investment in the company is also encouraged.

The chair thanked Mr Whittle for the presentation and invited questions, to which Mr Whittle provided responses.

14/19 – VILLAGE BROADBAND SURVEY AND REQUEST FOR SUPPORT – MR S WHITTLE

Mr Whittle stated that Stanton Drew Parish has seventy varying sized business' within the parish and to date has provided more interest, investors and local champions than any other small village, but progress needs to be maintained. He suggested that parishioners' talk to Wansdyke Telecom, the Local Champions, ask for a survey of their business or private address, communicate with their neighbours, establish the benefits and outlay and then decide whether to implement. Private investment in Wansdyke Telecom is also to be encouraged. He also offered to carry-out a parish survey. The chair again thanked Mr Whittle and it was agreed to take up his offer to carry-out a parish survey.

14/20 – URGENT BUSINESS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

There was no urgent business stated.

14/21 – MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2ND JANUARY 2014

The draft minutes, having been previously circulated to the parish councillors, were agreed and signed as a correct record.

14/22 – REPORT OF THE ADDITIONAL MEETING HELD ON 22ND JANUARY 2014

The meeting had been arranged to finalise two items that were not decided at the previous parish council meeting, council's budget and precept requirement for 2014/2015 and allotment rents for 2015. Six councillors and three parishioners had attended.

The Draft Budget, previously prepared by Cllr. J Swift, was agreed and a Precept Requirement of £8,976.00, the same as the previous financial year, would be applied for.

The Allotment Plot's Rental Charges for 2015 was discussed at length, it was explained that the major expenditure on the site was for maintenance work, in particular to the three metre wide strip of access land between the plots and the hedge. Plot owners present were asked if they could assist in the maintenance of the strip of land to keep costs down and thus avoid the probability of rent increases. They stated that they would help where possible and it was therefore agreed to keep the rental charge at £60.00 per plot for 2015.

14/23 – ACTIONS FROM THE 2ND JANUARY 2014 MEETING

Re:13/03 – The register of the Play Area as a Community Asset – It was reported that some final work on the document was still required.

Re:05/54 – The Play Area – Minor repairs at the tunnels/bridges area was still awaited, as was the picnic table replacement. No further reports of dog fouling had been reported, the clerk reported that The Dog Warden had inspected the area for assessment. No further vehicular problems had been reported.

Re:09/21 – Blocked stile/footpath at Stanton Wick – Cllr. Sparks and the clerk had asked the new PROW Inspector to investigate the problem. She had reported that she had visited the area, spoke to the relevant land owners and requested that a common resolution was reached; failure to comply will result in B&NES action.

Re: The Crescent Bus Shelter – The maintenance was still awaited.

Re:13/63 – The Replacement Defibrillator – The defibrillator had been installed and in depth first-aid training provision was being explored.

Planning decisions to date

11/05078/VAR – To increase the number of coach parking spaces from 12 to 20 at Filer's Coach Yard – Still no decision to date.

Up-dates on Parishioners Comments and Parish Ranger Requests – The Stanton Wick sign at the A368 junction had been located in its correct position. The pot-hole and reflective bollard at Stanton Wick Green had been repaired.

Attention to the blocked drains in Moorledge Lane and near Tynings was still awaited.

B&NES had inspected the bank erosion at The Causeway and had stated that there was no requirement for attention at present.

B&NES had inspected the damaged low railings near the bridge and had stated that the responsibility was with the land owner. Council felt that as the railings had been placed there by the old Wansdyke Council they were the responsibility of B&NES, they had been asked therefore to re-consider their statement, no reply to date.

Damage to the gate at the start of the Byway in Pensford Lane had been reported to B&NES, they had stated that the repair was the responsibility of the land owner. The land owner had been advised of the B&NES statement. It was reported, by a parishioner, that the gate appeared to have been repaired.

All the locations stated at the last meeting as being subject to an increase in dog fouling had been visited by the clerk and the B&NES Dog Warden, relevant signs will be placed where permissible.

14/24 – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

13/05410/FUL – Mr & Mrs J Farmer – Erection of a five bedroom detached dwelling on land at Greenhayes – Council had no objection, an observation was that the development appeared to be rather large for the plot size.

14/00358/TCA – Mr G Maxwell – To crown a copper beech tree at Rosedale – Council had no objection – Subsequently permitted.

14/00402/FUL – Mr R Young – Erection of a farm workers dwelling at Tynings Farm – Council had no objection.

14/00114/FUL – Mr & Mrs J Farmer – Erection of a detached garage at Keppel Gate, Bromley Road – The application was still in circulation, therefore no comments at this stage.

14/25 – THE PRIMARY SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE

The chair, also a School Governor, stated that B&NES Council had been informed that there could well be a big impact on Primary School places for the Stanton Drew/Bishop Sutton combination, especially with recent planning applications for an increase in housing in mind. Additional finance would need to be considered and there may well be a need for a new school.

14/26 – COMMEMORATION OF THE CENTENARY OF THE START OF THE 1914 – 1918 WAR

B&NES Council are inviting parishes to join in with their plans and have requested details of any local plans. It was agreed that council should liaise with other parish organisations to decide how to commemorate the occasion.

14/27 – REPORT OF THE PARISH SURGERY HELD ON 6TH FEBRUARY 2014

Three members of council were present and a parishioner delivered two items of correspondence. One referred to a possible development at the junction of Upper Stanton with Stanton Wick Lane. It was agreed that these comments would be forwarded to The Neighbourhood Plan Committee. The other was reference observations that the severe mechanical cut back of banks could possibly be

contributing to their erosion, particularly in Pensford Lane and at The Causeway.
The chair requested that The Parish Surgeries should continue, in particular with the on-going development of The Neighbourhood Plan in mind.

14/28 – CORRESPONDENCE

B&NES had acknowledged receipt of council's precept requirement and confirmed that their grant of £560 will be included in the total amount requested.

The Rotary Club of Stanton Wick had asked for nominations for their Community Award.

B&NES notification that Ms S Petherbridge has replaced Mr C Hudson as our area's PROW Inspector.

Dial a Ride had asked for a donation of £45, it was agreed not to donate.

B&NES Group of ALCA Meeting – 29th January 2014 – Chair and Clerk attended – Paperwork circulated.

B&NES notification that the appeal against the refusal of planning permission 12/05431/FUL and 12/05432/LBA at Parsons Farm had been dismissed.

The owner of Allotment Plot 5 had indicated his notice to quit, as there were no parishioners waiting for a plot at present the availability of the plot had been advertised in the parish magazine.

B&NES had forwarded advanced notice of a temporary road closure in Pensford Lane for essential repairs, official notification will be issued nearer the start date.

Police Parish Forum Meeting – 10th February 2014 – Clerk attended, paperwork circulated.

Chew Valley Area Partnership Meeting – 12th February 2014 – Clerk attended, paperwork circulated.

The main discussion point was the proposal to disband the partnership and form two sections, a Keynsham Group and a Chew Valley Group.

B&NES Chairman's Community Awards Ceremony – 4th February 2014 – The Chair and The Clerk had attended together with council's two nominations, Mrs S Edwards (Good Neighbour of the Year), which she won, and Mr C Osborne (Volunteer Leader of the Year).

Parishes Liaison Meeting – 19th February 2014 – The Chair and The Clerk had attended, paperwork and minutes circulated.

Other correspondence received for information purposes and circulated included: Clerk & Councils Direct. ALCA updates and The Future Police Operating Model.

14/29 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

A brief update was provided by committee members, four working groups had been formed to progress specific tasks and would report back to their next meeting to be held on 10th March 2014.

14/30 – PARISHIONERS COMMENTS AND VIEWING OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

General complaints were received of litter and garden rubbish left in Pensford Lane and on The Causeway walkway.

14/31 – CHEQUES FOR SIGNATURE

The clerk reported that £1000.00 had been transferred between accounts to balance. £690.00 Allotment rents had been received and £80.00 had been received from The Surgery Coach Honesty Box, having been donated during the previous four months.

J A Harvey	- Clerk's salary (Jan. to Mar.)	- £1,168.00
HMRC	- Tax due on clerk's salary (Jan. to Mar.)	- £ 292.00
Filer's Coaches	- Surgery Coach (Jan £100, Feb £100)	- £ 200.00
S Edwards	- Play Area Inspections (Jan. to Mar. – 12 weeks)	- £ 120.00
M Sherborne	- Cemetery Maintenance (Oct. to Mar.)	- £ 210.00
J Swift	- Repairs to The School Noticeboard	- £ 100.00

Proposed: Cllr. M Naunton, seconded: Cllr. K Mountford and agreed.

14/32 – DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Parish Surgery – Thursday 3rd April 2014, 6.00 to 7.00 pm.

Parish AGM, Council's Annual Meeting/Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 1st May 2014 at 7.30 pm.

_____ CHAIRMAN _____ DATE

The following agenda items were discussed 'IN CAMERA' after The Parish Council Meeting

14/33 – PARISH COUNCIL WORK FOR 2014/2015 – TENDERS

Cemetery Maintenance – One Tender received:

Mr M Sherborne - £ 450.00 per year.

Proposed, seconded and agreed to accept the tender of Mr M Sherborne.

Play Area Inspections - One tender received:

Mrs S Edwards - £ 12.00 per inspection per month.

Proposed, seconded and agreed to accept the tender of Mrs S Edwards.

Public Rights of Way Clearances – One tender received:

Mrs S Edwards - £ 10.00 per hour.

Proposed, seconded and agreed to accept the tender of Mrs S Edwards subject to a maximum of 20 hours' work.

Play Area Maintenance combined with Allotment Site Maintenance - One tender received:

Mr D Winstone left the meeting whilst this tender was discussed.

Mr D Winstone - £ 1,600.00

Mr Winstone was asked to forward two separate tenders, one for the Play Area Site and one for The Allotment Site, before a decision is taken by council, which he agreed to do.

14/34 – ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CLERK'S SALARY

The clerk left the meeting whilst this minute was discussed.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that an increase of 3% on the existing salary should be introduced to start from 1st April 2014. The new salary would then be £6,018.00 per annum (gross). The clerk expressed his grateful thanks and was in turn thanked for his efforts during the past year.

_____ CHAIRMAN _____ DATE

