

06/10/2013

## **Minutes of the Worth Matravers Parish Council Meeting held in Harmans Cross Village Hall on Tuesday 1 October at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT** Cllr Burden (Chairman), Cllrs Mrs. Meates, Mrs. Vosper, I Bugler, R Field, R Woolford, R Sandham, County/ District Cllr Lovell

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**055.** There were no apologies for absence

### **PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

There were 66 members of the public present.

**056.** Cllr Woolford introduced the highway and traffic concerns of the HX residents. He presented a large number of letters for reply addressed to Debbie Ward the Chief Executive of DCC. Cllrs confirmed these issues had now been outstanding for over 13 years and the success of the new Village Hall had made a resolution very important. Mathew Piles from DCC Highways accepted and would deliver these as he was tasked with reporting back to her. He presented the policies and position of DCC in respect of the requests made for a 30 mph speed limit, a pedestrian crossing facility and a safe route for pedestrians living or walking along the Valley Road. He stated he had been responsible for the original footway construction in HX many years ago and was therefore aware that it was not continuous with a large gap in the middle of the village. A zigzag back and forwards across the road was required to provide a footway route for residents to access the garage, shops, school bus stop or the many events held in new Village Hall in which this meeting was taking place. He had previously received a full briefing note from the Clerk of the highways issues previously raised by residents from obstruction to danger. He would respond to the Traffic and Safety issues but was unable to comment on any planning for, or provision of, any improvement scheme to provide the safe continuous footway needed by residents. He would refer these problems to the relevant officer at DCC to respond but indicated that finance was not currently available for such improvement schemes. Residents repeatedly pointed out the problems for pedestrians of all ages from schoolchildren to the more elderly trying to move along and across the A351 Valley Road and of the highway alignment and side road junctions having no visibility of oncoming traffic travelling within a 40 mph limit. These speeds were often exceeded as the limit was not enforced and the lack of safe stopping distances due to poor forward visibility created further dangers for all road users. The viewpoint from cyclists of the dangers they encountered due to existing speeds were outlined to the meeting and the problems of the conflict of higher summer traffic flows with increased numbers of pedestrians including children from the Haycrafts Lane camp sites trying to cross Valley Road crossroads to the Murco PFS shop. MP agreed he would be carrying out a review of the speed limit within the new People and Places DoT guidelines and would make arrangements to visit the road and walk along and across it to see how the guidelines for a 30 mph limit could be met. This lower limit could allow the provision of a pedestrian facility of a central ghost or physical island on the Valley Road near the crossroads. No other form of controlled crossing could be considered as such facilities with limited pedestrian flow below the national criteria created dangers and caused accidents. DCC would need to consider any speed limit proposal on a County wide priority basis regardless of whether the PC would contribute to the funding of the expenditure.

MP responded briefly that on the highways issues in WM of which he had been informed he appreciated they were still outstanding and that the PC was awaiting a reply. He undertook to report back on his investigations in HX and his possible attendance to do so could be at the 3 December or 7 January meetings of the PC which would be in HXVH.

**057.** The Clerk confirmed to a resident that the HX Poultry Farm site development proposal was shown as approved on the PDC Planning Portal.

The public session ended at 8.25 pm

### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

**058.** Cllr Field declared an interest in Agenda Item 7a.

## MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

**059.** The Draft Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 3 September had been circulated prior to the meeting. Subject to the inclusion of the initial A on item **036** Cllr Meates proposed, seconded by Cllr Vosper acceptance of these amended Minutes and these were passed by all Councillors present as a true record. The Minutes were signed by the Chairman.

## CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING

**060.** Margaret Cheetham from PDC Planning gave an introduction to the review of the existing and separate settlement boundaries in Worth and Harmans Cross villages. This review arose from an Inspectors consideration of Purbeck District Local Plan which highlighted certain elements which needed to be included in future in the Plan. One of these was a requirement to review settlement boundaries of towns and villages. Ultimately it is proposed to adopt this revised Plan in 2017 and the intervening period is for consultation with local communities to review in terms of development where and why any additional development should be considered. This would include for community facilities as well as market or other housing. Some villages were engaging in Neighborhood Plans to make detailed specifications of such development sites although there was no requirement to do so in WM parish. It was also an opportunity to review possible Rural Exception sites which may come available in the future plan period. She explained that new development within the boundary would be more likely to get favourable consideration. Outside the settlement the Rural Exception Housing Policy which restricts development to Social or Affordable housing including self-build would apply. She informed the meeting that the timescale from policy agreement to implementation of proposals on the ground could possibly be up to two decades and boundaries were intended to clarify future options for landowners and communities. The boundaries were also being reviewed from a landscape perspective at PDC. It was agreed that the detailed maps would be displayed at each VH and people would be given the opportunity to see and leave comments on them. It was suggested the appropriate forum would be prior to the respective PC meetings at WM and HX in the future. The PC thanked Margaret Cheetham for her attendance and patience in waiting the end of the public discussion period. She confirmed she would be available for any future workshop if required. **Action** Clerk Cllr Sandham

**061** The Clerk explained that details of the PDC Officers presentation were posted on the Parish Council notice boards a week before the meeting and were also posted on the WMPC web site along with all Agendas and Minutes of these meetings.

**062** The Clerk had just before the meeting confirmed that Corfe Castle PC had agreed to the transfer of the five houses in Hill Bottom into the WM parish. The replies from the four of these, all favourable, were also forwarded by WMPC to PDC to support this change under their current Governance Review.

**063** The order for outstanding trees and replacement trees for those that had died would be placed shortly. Letters to donors would be sent out once the Begbie orchard was substantially completed  
**Action** Clerk

**064** Proposals for the new WM property location sign would be pursued. **Action** Cllr Sandham

**065** The PC reviewed the large size and extent of documentation supplied by Navitas Wind Park developer and agreed that the photomontages were still unsatisfactory. They did not accurately represent the existing situation with for example the Isle of Wight as seen from Swanage presented in their photographs as being so much smaller than can be easily seen on a clear day from further away in the WM area. No confidence could be had in their perspectives of the likely visual impact of the giant turbines they were proposing if their representation of the existing views of the Needles was so limited. The Clerk had attended the exhibition at Swanage and reported back on the immense size of each turbine being 155 metres in span (width of blades) and 200 metres in height. There had been no changes to the location of the wind park with the closest turbines some 8.9 miles from shore. The developers had agreed that the naked eye could see more distant objects out to sea like the IOW as larger and with far more clarity than shown on their photomontages but stated that they were the best available representation according to the guidelines they had to work to. The PC agreed they would continue to object to the adverse visual impact of these proposals. Cllr Lovell informed the meeting of the Special Planning Board set up to discuss these proposals at PDC on the 10 October am and another meeting in the afternoon of DCC at Dorchester which he as a County Cllr would Chair. **Action** Clerk

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**066** The PC noted the Clerks report on progress on Action points arising from the last and previous meetings which had been circulated to all Cllrs before the meeting.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

**067** The PC noted from County Cllr Lovell that DCC were proceeding with the withdrawal of DCC subsidies with substantial cuts to bus service through WM parish and the removal of all long distance routes through HX. The bus company Dorset and Wilts did not have to cross subsidise the 40 evening route from Swanage to Poole with their profitable daytime services. If current DCC proposals were implemented there would be no 40 buses leaving Swanage after 1704 and Poole after 1730.

## **HIGHWAY MATTERS**

**068.** The PC noted the DCC presentation and public discussion of HX and WM Highway matters and that the DCC Highways representative had promised to report back. Cllrs noted that DCC had just renewed the white give way by the Square and Compass when other markings were in worse condition.

## **PLANNING AND TREE WORK APPLICATIONS**

**069** PA6/2013/0508 Bonvils Road (2), Worth Matravers Minor material amendment to PP 6/2011/0020 (Erect a house with attached garage. (Revised scheme to PP 6/1995/0679) to remove condition 4 (all new windows and doors are to constructed with timber) and amend condition 2 to allow slate tiles for the roofing material No Objections

**070** TWA Woodside Tabbitts Hill Lane HX Crown reductions of Golden and English Oak trees. Concerns were expressed at the scale of these cut backs and their effect on the landscape at HX. The Clerk would co-ordinate a further reply to PDC with comments from Cllr Field as PC Tree Officer and any further comments from HX Cllr Woolford and Cllr Bugler.

**071** The Clerk confirmed he had forwarded on to the PDC Planning Enforcement Officer using the new PDC forms the complaint he had received and confirmed of a caravan being located behind a hut in the AONB in open fields opposite Winspit.

## **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**072.** Payment of donations and invoices received and checked 4 August to 1 October 2013

R Khanna

Clerk's PAYE, Salary and expenses

I Bugler

Grass cutting

**073** The PC noted the end August WMPC Accounts reconciliation previously forwarded.

**074.** **Confidential Minute**

**075** The PC noted that a contract for once a day cleansing of the WM toilets had been let to JD Facilities. The firm had been on site and cleaned up the toilets on the weekend of the 30 September removing all mold and making the block much more presentable. It was agreed that minor renovation to provide half height white tiling would cover areas of paint spalling and be a considerable improvement visually. It was agreed to use the approved WMPC minor works contractor BBS to do these works subject to approval of the estimate by the Clerk. **Action** Clerk

## **PERIOD OF DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION**

**076** The PC noted the request to name the Kingston to Worth road as it enters WM by the car park. It was agreed not to proceed as a previous naming proposal had led to too much time discussion and argument on alternatives which were subsequently unresolvable.

**077** It was agreed to cut back the overgrowth on the bund at HX car park. **Action** Clerk.

**078** The broken self-closure mechanism at the WM phone box was reported and would need to be taken up with BT to repair. Cllrs would confirm that the telephone box was still operational as it is required to be functional in an area with no or very limited mobile signal. **Action** Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.45pm