

**Minutes of the Minterne Magna Parish Council held on Wednesday May 9th 2018
at Minterne House at 8.00pm.**

Present: The Lord Digby, Chairman, Mr. P. Goodfellow, Mrs. C. Howard-Johnston, Mrs. H. Smith, Mr. C. Saunders, Mr. G. Stevenson, Mr. S. Tite, Mrs. M. Penfold, County Councillor, Mr. A. F. Horsington, District Councillor, Mr. T. Yarker, District Councillor, PCSO Sarah Pilcher and the Clerk, Mr. P. Horsington. Four members of the public attended.

The Council remembered the late Lord Digby who passed away on Easter Day, April 1st.

1. Apologies

Mr. J. Baker sent his apologies.

2. Election of Officers

On the proposition of Mr. Goodfellow, seconded by Mr. Stevenson, Lord Digby was elected Chair of the Council. Lord Digby signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

On the proposition of Mrs. Howard - Johnston, seconded by Mrs. Smith, Mr. Goodfellow was elected vice – Chairman.

All other positions were re-elected en bloc being -

Lord Digby	Finance
Mrs. Howard - Johnston	Rights of Way
Mrs. Smith	Highways
Mr. Tite	Highways
Mrs. K. Beard	Internal auditor

It was agreed to ask Mrs. K. Beard to continue as the Internal auditor. The Chairman indicated that she will be willing to continue.

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on January 24th 2018, having been circulated, were signed as correct.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5. Open Session – Police & Community matters

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The Clerk reported that he had attended a meeting held by Somerset District Council to go through the details of the the new General Data Protection Act, which is to come in force from May 25th. It has been agreed by Parliament, that Parish Councils are now exempt from appointing a Data Protection Officer, as it is now the full Council as a body who have that role. The recording of minutes, without permission being given by those present, record names of the public, and the Council need to evaluate their policy reference contact lists. As the Clerk has attended training, then the Council is showing that it is being compliant at this point.

The Chairman welcomed PCSO S. Pilcher to the meeting, who informed the meeting that during the past six months there had been only one incident, involving a motor vehicle.

PCSO Pilcher highlighted the need to be aware of potential Scams both by online & telephone contact and use of fraudulent Emails. The meeting was told that the number of PCSOs in Dorset have been greatly reduced. Details are to be supplied of the NED website.

Mr. House, Middlemarsh informed the meeting that the traffic lights operating in Middlemarsh, are as a result of tree removal works, with Mr. Goodfellow adding that there are works being carried to the Mains water supply. This was noted.

Mr. Stanzl drew attention to his Emails sent to WWDC reference the use of Bridgewood, Middlemarsh, to which he had received no response, asking when there will be a formal planning application to be able to discuss the activities being carried out on the site.

Mr. Yarker, District Councillor stated that there are volunteers working to help restore the woodlands, and Mr. Sherry has permission for 28 days per year for his operations. However a WWDDC Officer is to visit the site and the meeting was informed that the Highways access is a civil matter between the interested parties, the access to the A.352 is not impacted.

These comments were noted and it was agreed that there could be no proper debate by the Parish Council, until an application has been received. The Chairman assured all present, that the Parish Council will hold an extra meeting to consider the planning application, when received by WDDC.

6. County & District Councillors' reports

Mrs. Penfold, County Councillor informed the meeting that there are no potholes within the Parish. However the problem of flytipping regrettably is on the increase.

The week commencing May 14th is being designated Mental Health week.

Mrs. Penfold highlighted a case of 'Alabama rot' disease in a dog at Hermitage.

Mr. A.F. Horsington, District Councillor reported that the Secretary of State had formally announced the formation of a Unitary Authority. It is proposed to have 82 seats on the new Authority. At present, there are 180 seats and the Boundary Commission are holding a public consultation determine the warding of the new Authority. It is proposed to aim for an average number of 3,700 electors per ward member.

Mr. A. F. Horsington stated that there is to be a public consultation on housing.

Mr. Saunders asked if WDDC had been reimbursed the costs involved with the issues at the Stables, Middlemarsh, to which it was stated that there was nothing to report at present.

7. Financial matters

The Chairman read & signed the Statement of Governance.

8. Other Financial matters

The Council noted that the Balance at March 31st 2018 was £2,788.01p.

Receipts – £28.68 VAT reclaim & £850 WDDC half precept

Payments - £341.71p Clerks expenses, £171.60p Vision ICT Ltd & £232.18p BHIB insurances

The Chairman gave each member a copy of the annual accounts showing figures to March 31st 2018.

The Chairman reported that he is in contact with the Internal auditor confirming that she is to inspect the accounts for the year ending March 31st 2018, and confirm all was in order and also sign the Annual Internal audit report.

On the proposition of Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Saunders, the Council formally approved & adopted the Annual accounts.

Lord Digby read & signed the Annual return & exemption certificate for return to External auditor.

It was noted that the Public notices will be displayed as prescribed.

9. Planning matters

The Council noted that application WD/D/17/002618 on land south of Manor Farm Cottages, access to Hurdley Moor Farm for installation of new track with turning circle / storage at northern end of Bridge Wood had been withdrawn.

The Council noted that WD/D/18/000078 on land south of Manor Farm Cottages, access to Hurdley Moor Farm to widen access did not require formal planning.

The Council discussed application WD/D/18/000303 (retrospective) at Lyons Hill Farm, Lyons Hill Farm Access for Change of Use of land to site caravan, with Mr. Goodfellow expressing concern over the application not being for full time workers, impact on the landscape and the actual position of proposed site. It was agreed to support the application, but raise the Council's concerns.

The Council discussed and supported application WD/D/ 18/000551 at Lyons Bungalow, Lyons Gate for the erection of ground floor extensions, first floor extension, single detached garage and first floor alteration to garage to form an annexe.

The Council noted application WD/ D/ 18/000852 on land south of Manor Farm Cottages for erection of forestry shed/store again did not require formal planning.

The Council noted that the Parish Council will hold an extra meeting to consider the planning application for Bridgewood, Middlemarsh, when notified by WDDC.

10. Rights of Way

Mrs. C. Howard-Johnston highlighted an issue of plastic bags of dog detritus being left hung on hedges and left about on footpaths. It was agreed that this is not acceptable.

11. Highway issues

The Clerk reported that Dorset County Highways had confirmed that after investigation, the County Council will not reduce the speed limit in Middlemarsh from 40 MPH to 30 MPH. It was reported that there had been a serious accident in Middlemarsh, but fortunately there were no fatalities.

It was noted that the Police had attended and used speed cameras to monitor the speed through Middlemarsh.

12. Flooding issues

There were no issues reported.

13. Correspondence

The Council noted Clerks Direct.

14. Items for report, or for the agenda of the next meeting

There were no matters raised.

15. To confirm the dates of the next meetings

The Council discussed and agreed that following dates for the coming year, being -

September 12th at 8.00pm,
November 28th at 7.30pm,
January 23rd 2019 at 7.30pm
& May 15th 2019 at 8.00pm

The Council confirmed the date of the next Parish Council meeting for Wednesday September 12th at 8.00pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending, and closed the meeting at 9.10 pm.

Signed:

Date: