

**Minutes of the meeting of Minterne Parish Council held on Wednesday November 13th 2013
at Minterne House at 8.00pm.**

Present: The Hon. Henry Digby Chairman, Mr. P. Goodfellow, Mrs. H. Smith, Mr. G. Stevenson, Mr. C. Saunders, Mrs. J. Haynes, County Councillor, Mrs. S. East, District Councillor and the Clerk, Mr. P. Horsington.

There were no members of the public present.

28. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs. C. Howard – Johnston, Mr. S. Tite, Mr. A. Chisholm, District Councillor & PCSO S. Pilcher.

29. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on September 4th 2013, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record.

30. Open Session

There were no issues raised.

31. Declarations of Interest.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

32. Police & Community Matters

Mr. Digby reported that sleepers had been seen being taken away from a property in Minterne, this had been reported and the Police had reacted quickly. However it was revealed that permission to take the sleepers had actually been given.

In the absence of PCSO S. Pilcher, her report was read, which stated that there had been one theft of diesel fuel in Minterne, two thefts in Cerne Abbas and thefts at Kettle Bridge, Cerne Abbas.

33. County & District Councillors' reports.

Mrs. J. Haynes, County Councillor, gave her report, which included, that the rollout of Broadband is going to Cerne Abbas and Up Cerne, but not beyond to Minterne, and there is no immediate plan for Broadband to reach the Parish. Mr. Stevenson asked who is paying for this work, to which Mrs. Haynes stated that it was a partnership of British Telecom, County Council, West Dorset District Council and Central Government.

Mrs. Haynes stated that £20 million has to be taken out of the Adult & Services budget. This is resulting in consideration of whether buildings for these activities are needed, or if these can be either sold or leased off. There is a newly appointed Children's Director, who takes up his post in January, and there will be a Joint Public Health Board for the three Authorities, Poole, Bournemouth and Dorset County Council.

Mrs. Haynes reported on Adult Social Care, stating that that the average cost of care home residency is £560 per week. There will be a complete restructure of these Services - Pathway to Independence - and more information will be available at the next meeting of the Parish Council. Mrs. Smith stated that the services offered locally, were in her experience very good for those in need.

Mrs. Haynes reported that it is proposed to set up a Trading Company for road repairs, rather than use in house services County Highways, as at present. This was noted.

Mrs. Haynes reported on the issue of Unauthorised Gypsy & Travellers Encampments, stating that two sites have been identified, and that more permanent sites have to be found and identified within three years. Temporary permission will be applied for one site at Piddlehinton and for a Transit site within an Industrial estate. Consultations are ongoing.

Mrs. Haynes reported that Central Government has granted DCC a £750,000 Transformation Bid.

Mrs. Haynes informed the Council that there is to be a Local Government Boundary Commission's review of the number of Dorset County Councillors.

Mrs. East, District Councillor, gave her report, which included that West Dorset District Council is looking at increased sharing of Services with other Partners.

Mrs. East stated that the Local Government Boundary Commission's review has resulted in 42 District Councillors, with Hermitage & Stratton being added to the Ward, with Bradford Peverell leaving. The Charminster & Cerne Valley Ward will remain as at present, with two Councillors.

Mrs. East reported that the new Waste Recycling collections starts in March 2014, with an optional Garden waste collection, at a charge, as at present.

Mrs. East reported that the Local Plan is proceeding, there are now permitted development rights, which include rural buildings. The Government is to make an announcement, reference the registration process for planning issues.

Mrs. East stated that Stratton House, Dorchester has been sold, with Old Assize Court not being part of the sale. It is hoped to develop this as an historic attraction.

The Chairman thanked both Councillors for their reports.

34. Financial matters

Mr. Digby presented an updated financial statement, which showed that the Council's financial balances at September 30th 2013 were £1,3285.39p, with £500 being received, this being the second half payment of the precept.

The Council discussed the budget and on the proposition of Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mrs. Smith unanimously approved to set the precept at £1,000 for the year 2014/15.

The Council were advised that as the District Council had not determined the situation regarding the Social Benefit element of their rates, if this was to be paid by them to Parishes or it has to be found by Parishes, then the actual precept may have to adjusted to cover this charge. This was noted and agreed.

35. Planning matters

The Chairman reported that the Cerne Neighbourhood Plan is proceeding slowly, this being due to the West Dorset District Council's need to have the Local Plan in place. There will have to be referendum with a majority in favour, before the Neighbourhood plan can be implemented.

The Council noted that application 1/D/11/001851 at Greenfields, Middlemarsh for Mr. T. Davies for building a chalet for holiday accommodation for visitors receiving training on land had been granted.

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from the West Dorset District Council stating that any decision on the appeal to the Secretary of State, against the appeal decision, reference application 1/D/12/001285 at The Stables, Middlemarsh for Change of Use from stables and store to storage and residential is not expected before the end of the year.

36. Rights of Way

In the absence of Mrs. Howard - Johnston, the Chairman reported that due to fallen trees, there are two blocked Footpaths. These are to be cleared.

37. Highway issues

Mrs. Smith reported that herself, Mr. Tite and the Clerk had met with County Highways on site with County Highways, on November 7th to look at both issues, flooding on the Old road at Lyons Gate and a flooding issue on the A.352 in Lyons Gate beyond the Caravan Park. Mrs. Smith stated that it had been a very constructive meeting and a written report had been received the following day, showing the agreed works. This had been copied to the Chairman. Mrs. Smith was thanked for her report.

It was noted that the closure of Kennels Lane, Middlemarsh had not caused any major problems.

38. Correspondence

The Council noted the following items – WDDC Extension of consultation time to New Local plan & Clerks Direct.

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

Mrs. Smith reported that the proposed revised Bus Services do not impact until March next year. It was agreed to put this as an agenda item for the next meeting.

40. To confirm the date of the next meeting

The Council confirmed the time & date of the next meeting for February 12th 2014 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business; the Chairman thanked all present for their attendance, and declared the meeting closed at 8.34pm.

Signed.

Date

