

Arne Parish Council

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ARNE PARISH COUNCIL
held in Stoborough Village Hall, West Lane, Stoborough
on Thursday, the 21st March 2013 at 7.00 pm**

Present: Mrs CA Macleod Chairman
Mr NI Barnes
Mr M Frenchman
Mr TH Heritage
Mr R Scragg
Mrs V Ward

Also present were District Councillor N Cake and County Councillor M Lovell
Minutes were taken by the Clerk, Miss M D Weller

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

13/280 Chairman asked councillors for any Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest on items contained in the Agenda applicable to themselves or spouses/partners.
None were declared.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD

13/281 Chairman brought this item forward for a presentation on the draft consultation on Managing flood and coastal erosion risk for Poole and Wareham.

Neil Watson, Coastal Engineer, Lisa Pearce, LiCCO Principle Engagement Officer and Catherine Farrugia, Technical Advisor, were present. Catherine Farrugia explained the strategy was to cover a 100 year timeframe with predictions of events for 20yrs, 50yrs and 100yrs. There are risks to properties from tidal flooding, coastal erosion and effects of climate change. Investment decisions need to be made regarding extent and maintenance of sea defences, consequences to the natural environment and loss of amenities. Predictions of sea levels rising due to climate change are 110mm over 20yrs, 310mm in 50yrs and 730mm in 100yrs. These rises will lead to coastal squeeze where the tide is rising and vegetation is squashed against hard objects such as walls, barriers. The whole of Poole Harbour's habitat is in danger of coastal squeeze.

The strategy states defences at Bournemouth and Poole are to be improved. Wareham has several strategies; maintain existing tidal banks for as long as possible; management by re-aligning defences or no active intervention. The Piddle embankment is to be maintained for 20-30 years, River Frome embankment has the same maintenance but there will be re-alignment for Arne Moors. There are 15 properties at Ridge that have an annual tidal flooding risk of 1% and they are not protected by tidal embankments. By 2110 there will be 35 properties at risk. Re-aligning the defences will create upto 110 hectares of inter-tidal habitat to compensate for coastal squeeze.

Other considerations are footpaths, road to Arne, the Causeway, navigation and flood resilience. The latter is to help residents avoid flooding. Part of Arne Road is at risk 1 in

20 years but in the future the flooding will get deeper but not extend further down the road.

Mr M Frenchman asked about the towpath, FP20, as it has recently been resurfaced and is extremely popular as a route to Wareham. Catherine Farrugia advised the Environment Agency has no intention of removing or flooding the path but in 50 years time it may not be replaced.

Mr N Barnes asked when global warming began as the tide is no higher now than it was 50 years ago. Neil Watson said it was noticed about 1900 and there are statistics that show the sea level rising 1.5-2mm per annum. The timetable is updated every few years and there are many climate change models that support the figures.

Mr M Frenchman asked if the changes were the same in the harbour as they are on the coast and Neil Watson confirmed the changes would be relatively the same.

Mrs V Ward asked if the properties at risk had been identified and Neil Watson said the Environment Agency is relying on their tide maps and using local knowledge to pinpoint them but they would be talking to residents on a one to one basis.

Mr M Frenchman observed that some of the names referred to in the strategy are not always the same as those used locally. Neil Watson explained the consultants are out of the area and they would appreciate local knowledge to correct them; he asked residents to make a list and send to him so he can ensure the changes are made.

Mr R Bartlett of Ridge asked how long the FP20 would last as it is a very important link for pedestrians from Ridge to Wareham. Nutcrack Lane is not a viable or safe alternative due to lack of pavements and lighting and proximity of vehicles. He asked that funding be found to preserve the towpath. Neil Watson advised they would be spending to maintain what is already in place; spending is limited but they realise houses, navigation and amenities are very important. Also involved in the strategy are landowners, highways, Natural England, RSPB, etc but the Environment Agency is responsible for the bank on which FP20 stands but in 40-50 years the path will probably be regularly over-topped and they would not maintain it then.

Mr R Bartlett suggested the path survey organised by the Parish Council would be useful in attracting funding for the path maintenance. Lisa Pearce was interested in this.

Mr H Ricks of Ridge mentioned the Great Storm in 1800s which must have affected this area and asked if they had compared its extent to their models. Neil Watson said the Great Storm of 1824 is of interest and they are looking at it in the light of extreme weather events, ie 1 in 200 years. These extreme weather events are rare and there are maps on land, people and houses but the question was whether the banks were in place at that time and what effect they would have had. Mr Ricks observed that Ridge farmhouse had never flooded and that goes back over 100 years. Neil Watson advised most properties are above the high tide mark and helped with topographical levels.

Mr M Frenchman suggested that 95% of the consultation document was about increasing habitat but Catherine Farrugia stated there were several documents, one was technical and one about the change in the environment. Neil Watson said the key fact from the strategy is that coastal erosion around Poole Bay and the South West is a serious risk and investment into beach management is saving the coastline at the moment. Poole Harbour north shore has been developed and in 100 years will be at risk. 50% of the document relates to erosion being managed and the effect on properties, this is offset by the needs of the habitat and legal obligation to provide more.

Chairman thanked Neil, Catherine and Lisa for giving their time and the presentation.

Chairman then introduced Mrs Amanda Crocker, the new Clerk for Arne Parish Council from the 1st April 2013.

2. APOLOGIES

13/282 There were apologies for absence from Mrs BJ Kenward (illness).

3. MINUTES

13/283 Mr T Heritage proposed and Mr N Barnes seconded the motion *it was* **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council Minutes of the last meeting held on 21st February 2013, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD

13/284 Chairman re-opened this item and Mr P Love of Stoborough Green reported that there will be a walkabout on the 18th April 2013, 10am, and he asked for a councillor to attend. He also advised of discussions with Synergy Housing and Highways about the paths/road left and right of the hammerhead in the Drove; Highways has finally agreed they are responsible for the maintenance of these paths/road and they filled in a pothole in February. Mr Love asked the Parish Council to liaise with District and County Councils to get the surface remedied.

5. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

13/285 County Councillor M Lovell reported the council tax base would be fixed at the same rate as last year whilst endeavouring to make savings.

Mr T Heritage asked if the new re-signalling work was on schedule and Councillor Lovell advised the original date was May but this has slipped to November, it will be 2014 when the track etc will be ready for service beginning with 50 trains per annum in the first year and nearly double in the next year. There are no new trains available until 2016/18 and they will need further funding for these.

6. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

13/286 District Councillor N Cake reported the council tax will increase by 1.94%; if there had been no increase there would have been a considerable shortfall in 2 years time. He reminded the meeting that District Council only receives 10% share of the total, which is less than the police receive, and they still have to operate all of their services within budget.

The Dorset Heathland Mitigation Scheme consultation is out now. District Councillors are discussing waste going to landfill; they are now in a partnership with North Dorset, East Dorset, Christchurch and West Dorset making savings of £1.9 million this year. Rate of recycling has increased in Christchurch and East Dorset and amount of landfill waste has dropped by 7%. It now costs £1,000 per vehicle load of waste to landfill.

Chairman added that the Parish Council takes very little out of the council tax fund to run.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**13/287 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Plan No.

6/2006/0666 - Floodplain east of Holme Bridge to railway line, East Holme
Installation of 8 water level control structures and 4 clay bunds on floodplain ditches, creation of shallow scrapes and grips.

AGREED *Parish Council objects to this application*

Approved

6/2010/0685/686 Doreys Pit, East Stoke

Variation of conditions in both applications

AGREED *Parish Council objects to both applications*

685 Withdrawn and 686 Approved

6/2012/0571-0609 Wytch Farm and Wareham Oilfields

Extension of operational life of oilfield development by variation of condition

AGREED *Parish Council has no objections*

No decision

6/2012/0796 Slepe Farm, Slepe

Alterations and additions to existing group of buildings comprising class B1, B2, B8 and C3

AGREED *Parish Council objects to the application*

Approved

6/2013/0027 Lookout Caravan Park, Corfe Road, Stoborough

Install 3 pods in A field

AGREED *Parish Council has no objections to this application.*

Approved

6/2013/0034 Stoborough Primary School, Corfe Road, Stoborough

Erect (retain) pre-fabricated building for pre-school education

AGREED *Parish Council has no objections to this application.*

Approved

6/2013/0052 Cherry Bank, Furzebrook Road, Stoborough

Extensions, alterations, new detached garage

AGREED *Parish Council has no objections to this application.*

Refused

6/2013/0081 Scott Close, Stoborough Green

Install openreach broadband cabinet

AGREED *Parish Council has no objections to this application.*

Approved

6/2013/0059 Sunnyside Farm, Arne Road, Ridge

Changes to car park, path layout and new agricultural building

AGREED *Parish Council has no objections to this application.*

Approved

13/288 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

- (1) Stoborough Village Hall Committee meeting was on the 13th March 2013 – Mr S Widmer sent the minutes to the Clerk for information. It was a successful meeting with actions being agreed. He asked if the hall could advertise in the next newsletter. Clerk pointed out that new heating had not been discussed and Chairman said it was becoming embarrassing when speakers cannot be heard above the heaters. Mr Heritage felt there is a healthy group of people at the meetings now and Mr A Pellegrini said trustees had been asked to draw up a wish list of expectations for discussion at the next meeting.
- (2) Furzebrook Village Hall – Mr N Cake said the hall was doing well financially.
- (3) Ridge Residents' Association – There is a new chairman but the meeting on the 18th March did not go ahead and has been postponed.
- (4) Mr R Scragg advised FP 20 has now been completed on time and is ready for an opening ceremony. Cycling is a big issue as the path is not designed for cycles; they would damage the surface so more No Cycling signs will be put up. He emphasised it is a designated footpath and not a shared cycleway.
- (5) Mr R Scragg and the Clerk attended the Dorset AONB meeting and notes would be circulated with the minutes.
- (6) Mr R Scragg attended the Railway Liaison meeting and the report was given by Councillor M Lovell.
- (7) Mrs V Ward advised the road flooded outside the school and sandbags were requested for Mrs Gould as hers had split. The call centre for out of hours call outs is in Norfolk but Danny Allen from Highways supplied them, although not within his remit. Mrs P Gould advised that the school crossing is being moved away from her front door to near her drive. Clerk advised she has already asked Highways to build up the pavement outside Mrs Gould's house now the crossing has moved.
- (8) Mr M Frenchman received a complaint about overgrown gorse bushes at the top of Nutcrack Lane opposite the phone box. Clerk advised this had already been reported to the Scott Estate and she would follow this up. Mr Frenchman also reported trees growing into Arne Road opposite Sunnyside Farm.
- (9) Chairman and Clerk attended the Executive Committee meeting for the Dorset Association for Parish & Town Councils, notes to be circulated with the minutes.
- (10) Chairman went to the Dorset Community Action Community Lunch where discussion centred on 'Youth of Today, Leaders of Tomorrow'. Lytchett Minster & Upton Town Council gave a talk on their youth activities and the DDA representative gave a presentation on drugs.
- (11) Clerk had attended the following meetings and would circulate the notes with the minutes :
- ❖ Dorset AONB – 05.03.2013
 - ❖ Executive Committee DAPTC – 16.03.2013
 - ❖ Purbeck District Council Legislation Update – 26.02.2013

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED

13/289 Planning Committee considered the following application between meetings:

6/2013/0104 Westlands, Puddletown Road, Worgret

Extend groundfloor level for family dining, new garage, rooms in roof
AGREED Parish Council has no objections to this application.

Parish Council considered the following planning application :

6/2013/0128 5 Hollow Oak Road, Stoborough

Extension forming utility, cloaks and carport
AGREED Parish Council has no objections to this application.

Clerk advised Planning Inspector had dismissed the appeal made by the owners of Cherry Bank, 32 Furzebrook Road, Wareham for removing outbuildings, garages and conservatories and erection of single storey extensions and detached garage. This was based on effect on the character and appearance of the property to surrounding area especially the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

9. CORRESPONDENCE/ITEMS RAISED AT MEETING FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

13/290 CLERK'S REPORT – to consider any actions necessary

1. CONSULTATION

Dorset Heathlands Development Plan is an important consultation found on <http://boroughofpoole.com/dorset-heathlands-preferred-options/>. It is essential that as many residents as possible make their views known as it will severely impact on our ability to fulfill housing need, restrict conversion of rural buildings, and prevent the legitimate forms of entrepreneurship which are positively encouraged elsewhere in the country. The restrictive proposals, while attempting to protect our heritage, are, in fact, strangling our economic attempts to survive. We want to help to preserve our natural heritage ourselves, not to have it protected from us by those living elsewhere.

2. THE HAYRICKS

The toddler play equipment is to be repaired by Alvian Limited on Saturday, 16th February as they made an identical repair on the unit previously.

3. ALLOTMENTS

Not all tenants have paid their annual rent and the Clerk is waiting for 2 new contracts to be signed and returned with payment. Mr T Heritage advised a hedge has been laid to an extremely good standard by Colin Johnson.

4. HIGHWAYS

In reducing some of its maintenance, Highways has decided they will not be maintaining hedges, landscaped areas or roundabouts (unless sponsored). There is no budget allowance even for clearing for visibility. Urban footways, cycle ways and kerb/channel lines will be weedkilled in May/June and September/October. Areas with Ragwort, Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed will be treated.

5. RESURFACING OF FP20 (TOWPATH)

Wareham and District Development Trust and their contractor have now begun the works; the towpath is closed for the duration. Letter of thanks to go to Redcliffe Yacht Club and WDDT regarding their help for the towpath project.

6. DOG BIN

Mr S Syrett and Clerk agreed the location of the dog bin at the entrance to Stoborough Green after being removed from near The Drove. This has now been done and SITA will empty this as part of their contract.

7. VANDALISM

There has been a recent spate of mindless vandalism and the police are aware of this. They will be monitoring the area more closely.

8. CLERK BOWS OUT

Debbie Weller has had the pleasure of being Clerk to Arne Parish Council for over 18 years and is now hanging up her shorthand book. I would like to thank everyone for the support, friendly suggestions and willing volunteers who have helped make my time more enjoyable. The parish councillors, past and present, have been amazing and without their local knowledge and expertise, many projects would not have been accomplished. The new Clerk is Mrs Amanda Crocker and I hope you will support her as you have me. Thank you.

13/291 DISPENSATIONS – Clerk had not received any written requests for dispensations.

13/292 GRIT BIN – Clerk advised as Ridge Residents' Association had not met to discuss if they supported a bin on Ridge crossroads, this matter would need to be on the agenda for April.

13/293 EMPLOYMENT PROCEDURES – Clerk had circulated draft Complaints Procedure, Grievance Procedure and Equal Opportunities Policy Statement before the meeting. Mr T Heritage proposed and Mr M Frenchman seconded the motion it was **RESOLVED** Arne Parish Council approves and adopts the Complaints Procedure, Grievance Procedure and Equal Opportunities Policy Statement documents.

13/294 CLERK VACANCY – Clerk reported the panel had met and interviewed 4 candidates on the 7th March 2013. Chairman advised Mrs Amanda Crocker had been chosen by majority. Mr R Scragg proposed and Mr M Frenchman seconded the motion it was **RESOLVD** Arne Parish Council would employ Mrs A Crocker from the 1st April 2013.

13/295 NEW CLERK – Clerk had circulated documents including job description, employment contract and salary before the meeting for consideration. Provision of a pension would be required for 2014 and there had been an allowance made in this year's budget but exact figures had not been possible as the salary was not known. Mr T Heritage proposed and Mr R Scragg seconded the motion it was **RESOLVED** Arne Parish Council approves and adopts the Employment Contract, Job Description and agreed the salary scale 20 for the 2013/2014 financial year. **AGREED** Clerk to give pension figures based on salary scale 20 for the next meeting.

13/296 SECOND HOMES – Clerk advised Cornwall County Council was seeking second-home planning controls and she was in communication with the council to get more details. Councillors N Cake and M Lovell asked to be copied in when more information came to light. **AGREED** Clerk to circulate all information received from Cornwall County Council.

13/297 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – Clerk advised it was time to schedule in the meeting and decide on its format and content ideas. Mr M Frenchman suggested the Right to Bid policy. **AGREED** Annual Parish Meeting to be held at the beginning of the Parish Council meeting on the 16th May 2013.

TO CONSIDER MATTERS RAISED SINCE AGENDA WAS SET

- 13/298** Chairman advised she had attended the Purbeck Volunteer of the Year Award where Peter Collins received his certificate. It was a very good evening and well attended.

TO CONSIDER MATTERS RAISED FOR ACTION FROM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD

- 13/299** Councillors N Cake and M Lovell to help liaise with the Parish Council and Synergy Housing on remedying the surface of the paths/road either side of the hammerhead.

10. CORRESPONDENCE OR ITEMS FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- 13/300** FLOWER TUBS – Clerk advised Councillor E Osmond had emailed to say he would be planting up the flower tubs by South Bridge and asked for a £30 contribution towards the cost.

AGREED This item to be put on the next agenda for decision.

- 13/301** TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS – Highways will be moving to utilise computer map based TROs which will be viewable online by all. There will be area wide Consolidation Orders during 2013/2014 bringing several joint TROs into one and simplifying matters. There will be no new speed limits, parking restrictions, permit schemes and disabled bays introduced in that year but those being progressed at the moment will continue.

- 13/302** DORSET DRIVER COURSES –Book online at www.dorsetforyou.com/dorsetdriver or ring [01305 224558](tel:01305224558).

- 13/303** RURAL CRIME PREVENTION EVENT – This will be held at Kingston Maurward on the 26th April 2013. Chairman and Mrs B Kenward would be going but it is open to others also.

11. CORRESPONDENCE FOR GENERAL INFORMATION

- 13/304 (a) DORSET ASSOCIATION OF PARISH & TOWN COUNCILS**

- None.

- (b) PURBECK DISTRICT COUNCIL**

- Corporate Strategy 2013-2018.

- No Objection to felling of Western Red Cedar at the back of 37 Corfe Road, Stoborough within the Stoborough Conservation Area.

- Consent to crown thin 2 Oaks by up to 20% and crown raise canopy to 3m located at Heathcote, Arne Road, Ridge protected by District of Purbeck (Heathcote, Arne Road, Ridge) Tree Preservation Order 2009 – Ref TWA/2012/0193

- Refusal to 10-20% crown reduction in order to reshape crowns on 2 Oaks located at Heathcote, Arne Road, Ridge protected by District of Purbeck (Heathcote, Arne Road, Ridge) Tree Preservation Order 2009 – Ref TWA/2012/0193

- (c) DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL**

- None.

- (d) NAVITUS BAY**

- Drop in sessions leaflet.

12. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

13/305 Authorisation was given for the payment of the following accounts and the cheques were signed:-

Power	Name	Reason	Amount
LGA 1972 ss 111,151	MD Weller	Petty cash	£25.00
LG (Misc Prov) 1976 s19	Alvian Limited	Repair play equipment	£174.00
Smallholdings & Allotments Act 1908 s23	National Allotment Society	Subscription	£66.00
LGA 1972 ss112	MD Weller	Clerk's salary	579.26
LGA 1972 ss112	Inland Revenue	Tax and NIC	£158.61
	Total		£1,002.87

13. ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

13/306 Chairman thanked Debbie Weller, outgoing Clerk, for all her hard work over the 18 years she had been with the Parish Council and presented her with a Purbeck stone bird water trough and basket of flowers/bulbs.

Clerk thanked all those, past and present, for their support and although sad to go was very happy that the Parish Council would be in the capable hands of Amanda Crocker. She would be happy to stand in for holiday or sickness if required.

The Chairman thanked all those present for attending and the meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

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Chairman

Planning Committee meeting will be held on the 4th April 2013 if there are plans to be discussed

Next Parish Council meeting will be held on the 18th April 2013 at 7.00 pm