



**MINUTES OF THE ARNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD  
ON THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2017 AT STOBOROUGH  
VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

- Present:** Cllrs S Cranshaw, R Scragg, A Wakefield-Sutton. A Ward. A Pellegrini, P Love
- Chair:** Cllr D Hunter
- Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker
- Also present:** 22 members of the public, Jamie Rudge (Parish Lengthsman), District Cllr M Barnes, Ian Alexander (Natural England), County Cllr Beryl Ezzard (from 7.30pm)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if any members of the public intended filming or recording the proceedings. No such intentions were declared.

**1. Public Participation Period**

- 18.89 Doug Hodges, Stoborough Meadows – The street lighting in this area is a representation of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century gas lamps. Until 6 months ago, they glowed an amber colour. Three have now been replaced with the bright white LEDs. SSE to be contacted.

**ACTION: CLERK**

18.90 Arne Moor Project

William Pollock – Ridge Farm – Expressed concern over the plan to flood the Arne Moor. He feels that concerns regarding the low-lying area to the bottom end of Ridge are not being taken on board by the Environment Agency (EA). The proposal is to build a second sea wall further back and to allow the area between the two to flood. His concerns are based around the water run-off from the surrounding area rather than from sea water. If this run-off is held back by the barrier, it is likely to inundate his property, the Arne Road and the low-lying properties at the end of the road.

The Chair reported that the Parish Council has reached an agreement with the partners of the project to hold a public meeting to allow residents the opportunity to raise issues and have their questions answered. A letter will be sent to all residents of Arne saying there will be a meeting at Furzebrook Village Hall on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October from 6.30pm. All partners for the project; Natural England (NE), Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) and the EA, will be present. The Chairman of the Parish Council will lead the discussion.

Peter Sibthorp, Barnhill Road – There has been two occasions when there has been flood water in his garden – August 1992 and February 2013. He is concerned that, if there was a large wall stopping water going down the hill, the garden will be flooded more frequently. The system of ditches and dykes works well, but if the fields are going to be filled with sea water, the run-off from rain will have nowhere to go.

Terri Simmons – Brookside Cottages – Their property has never been flooded but the water table is high and the existing system works well. She also expressed concern about the wall preventing the run-off from escaping. They have the sewerage pumping station covering Ridge and Stoborough close to their property and, in times of heavy rainfall, the Water Board are called upon to make sure everything is alright. The risk of flooding from the run-off from the hills, the wall and the river will put undue pressure on the pumping station, possibly leading to it becoming flooded.

Mick Solomon – Ridge resident and Commodore of Redclyffe Yacht Club expressed concern over the additional traffic that would be using Arne Road as a result of the additional bird watchers being brought to the area following the flooding of the Arne Moor which will lead to additional visiting wild fowl. In addition, any alteration of the water course may cause silting of the river.

Terri Simmons – There seems to have been no involvement from Highways or Wessex Water – why not? The pumping station is already overwhelmed when there is consistent heavy rain. Would they not be part of the initial discussions?

Ian Alexander, Natural England, reported that the plans are still at the concept stage so they have no designs to put in front of Highways or Wessex Water, but it is the intention to involve them. The idea of a concept design is that the three partners have got to agree on what is going to happen before anything can go any further. The next stage after the partners agree is to find out what is practical to build. The engineers are due to go on site in November to find out what the substructure is like and what could practically be built there. This will then be fed back.

John Lidgley – Gover Close – Expressed concern over his home and feels it is threatened by the Moors project. The information provided at the recent Wareham display was limited and he felt he was being told what was going to happen, rather than what might happen, and would like to know what approvals are required from residents before the project goes ahead. It should be noted that the project will affect a large number of residents.

The Chair responded saying that we understand everyone’s concerns and, to that end, a small committee of councillors and local residents has been formed to ensure there is a focus for the EA, NE and RSPB to direct their progress to. This can then be communicated in an organised way and will keep the community up to date with whatever is happening. Matters of concern can then also be fed back to the project team via this focus group.

Hugh Ricks – Supports those in respect of their concerns over the fresh water flooding. He has checked the Wessex Water website to see what potential flooding there may be in the area and it shows an area of Ridge noted as having considerable risk of flooding. If you check against river flooding, there are a large number of Ridge properties that could be affected. If the wall is built further inland, flood flaps will be put in to deal with normal weather patterns but, when the tide is high, the flaps will not be able to open, leading to the ditches beginning to fill up. There will be no fields left for the water to soak into. In addition, he understands that the RSPB are looking to build a reception centre at Sunnyside Farm, implying they are expecting a lot more people to visit the new site.

Ian Alexander responded saying that Sunnyside Farm is owned by NE and they have no plans to build a visitor centre there. There is a discussion about an additional agricultural centre and the RSPB have a plan to build additional office space at Arne, but this is not going to lead to an increase in visitor numbers. The proposal for the realignment of the

flood barrier is subject to a planning application but the idea for the consultation in Wareham and the one on the public meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> October is to gather as much information as possible so residents' views can be taken on board.

It was noted that many of the homes in the area are built on the Bagshot beds which form very solid ground. The water meadows surrounding them have worked for a long time and the project is likely to disrupt this balance.

Philip Ward – Ridge – Expressed concern that the area of Arne Moor has become a flood plain. If it is allowed to flood from sea water, where will the rainwater run-off go?

19.30 Beryl Izzard arrived.

Bill Evans – Oaktree Close – RSPB's expectations – He has made enquiries about the Arne Moor proposal and was told by the RSPB that they were confident there would be further development of the visitor centre in order to cope with the additional number of people expected. There was also no clear reason given as to why this project is necessary.

The Chair asked if anyone present had seen the recent news footage – most of those present had. Cllr Pellegrini said that the representative from the EA implied the project was designed to protect up to 10,000 homes in Poole.

Ian Alexander – Poole Harbour is an internationally important wetland and, as such, existing and new flood defences cannot leave the wildlife worse off. As the water level rises, the existing defences will not be sufficient to cope. The existing habitat will be trapped in front of the existing flood defences and the EA are obliged to find compensatory habitat for that which is already being lost. The salt marsh in Holes Bay is already being lost.

Philip Ward – There are no flood defences to the south of Poole Harbour.

Ian Alexander – There are flood defences all the way around the channel.

Jacqui Pethen - Ridge Wharf Yacht Centre – Asked if the intention was to give back the same area in Arne as was being lost in Poole.

Ian Alexander – What is proposed to happen in Arne will compensate for what is suggested will happen in at least the next two epochs (50 years). The EA are seeking to do the job in the most cost- effective way possible.

#### 18.91 Planning for the Right Homes in the Right Places

Richard Brown – In 2012 PDC issued a local plan based on 120 homes per year. A later plan was then based on 238 homes a year. This involved a large potential development at Worgret. The Government, in subsequent consultation, has now reverted to 120 homes per year and suggests a 40% increase above that, as prices in relation to earnings would result in the house prices coming down. He felt that this would not work in Purbeck and requested that the Parish Council send a robust response and oppose the 40% increase and the potential 500 homes in West Wareham.

**2. Declaration of Interests**

18.92 Cllr Love declared an interest in item 12f as he is related to the residents. No other interests were declared.

**3. To receive apologies for absence**

18.93 Apologies had been received from Cllr Richard Bessant due to a long-term illness.

**4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2017**

18.94 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Scragg proposed the minutes were a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Cranshaw and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chair in the presence of the meeting.

**5. Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

18.95 The Furzebrook Road sign has been replaced by PDC.

Culverts on Arne Road – Highways have been notified.

20mph speed limit in front of the school – The request has been lodged with Highways.

Sign at the Hayricks – The sign needs to be moved and the telephone numbers amended. The Clerk will liaise with the Lengthsman.

**ACTION: CLERK/LENGTHSMAN**

Scott Estate – Letter to be sent regarding the drain.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Hedge outside 52 & 50 Corfe Road still needs attention. The Clerk will contact Aster.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Melancholy Lane – Cllr Ward has the new sign and will pass it to the Lengthsman for reinstating.

**ACTION: CLLR WARD/LENGTHSMAN**

Soldiers Road fingerpost – Currently being replaced.

Notice for boards – Cllr Pellegrini is arranging the required notices and will put them on the boards in due course.

**ACTION: CLLR PELLEGRINI**

SHLAAs report updated – This has now been completed.

Footpath railings – A copy of the request has been sent to Highways.

**7. County Councillor’s Report**

18.96 A copy of Cllr Ezzard’s report had been issued to all members prior the meeting. Cllr Ezzard updated members saying that the SW Railway franchise consultation ends on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December. The Wareham railway pedestrian level crossing will be coming up next year. Her next surgery will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> November.

Cllr Love asked if the ‘Supporting People in their Homes’ scheme had come about. Cllr

Ezzard responded saying that this will come up at the next Safe Guarding meeting in three months' time. The existing system is not being withdrawn, it is being changed.

## **8. District Councillor's Report**

18.97 No change regarding unitary although something may be heard on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.

The Local Plan consultation will be starting in the New Year.

A request was made asking if both Cllrs Ezzard and Barnes would please take an active view in the Moors Project. Both agreed to do so.

## **9. Finance**

18.98 To confirm the payment of accounts

The following payments had been requested:

Glasdon	3 x 400ltr grit bins	BACS010	677.41
Dorset Planning	Review of PDC comments re NP	BACS011	600.00
JSR Tree Care	Lengthsman – October 2017	BACS012	300.00
DAPTC	Good Cllr Guide/Clerks' seminar	BACS013	48.00
Anvil Grounds	Stoborough Meadow – September	BACS014	602.36
Scott Estate	Allotment rent 25/9/17-24/3/18	BACS015	60.00
Swanage TC	Welcome to Purbeck sign	BACS016	50.00
BDO	External audit Ye 31.03.17	BACS017	240.00
Play Inspection Co	Annual play area inspection	BACS018	78.00
Wareham Burial	50% of annual fee	200557	1658.00
DC Pension Fund	October contribution	BACS019	143.87
Mrs A Crocker	October wages + expenses	BACS020	417.77
HMRC	October PAYE	BACS021	98.80

Total amount due from the Precept £4,974.21.

Cllr Cranshaw proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Pellegrini and agreed unanimously.

18.99 To consider the bank reconciliation and position against budget

A copy of the reports had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No questions were raised and no comments made.

## **9. To confirm the accounts for the Y/e 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 and agree the Audit Report**

18.100 The Clerk reported that the audit for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 has now been completed. The only comment made was that the accounts were approved after the commencement of the inspection period for the exercise of electors' rights. The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 specifies that the Annual Governance Statement must be approved, followed by the approval of the Accounting Statement. Both statements must be published on a web site with the notice of electors' rights. The electors' rights should start the following day. This is the first time this has become an issue during the audit but will mean better adherence to timings in future years. Cllr Wakefield-Sutton proposed the

auditor's report is accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Love and agreed unanimously.

## **10. Parish Reports**

### **18.101 Councillors' reports on meetings attended**

Cllr Cranshaw – Nothing to report.

Cllr Scragg – 18/10 Neighbourhood Plan review meeting; Ridge Residents' meeting.

Cllr Wakefield-Sutton – 6/10 Wareham Charities; 18/10 Neighbourhood Plan review.

Cllr Ward – Burial Board – the Committee won a Silver Gilt award in the Wareham in Bloom competition.

Cllr Pellegrini – 28/9 DAPTC Area Committee meeting; 18/10 Neighbourhood Plan Review.

Cllr Love – Allotments seminar at which the issue of fires was discussed, together with tenancy agreements, deposit schemes and three month warnings to those not looking after their allotment.

Cllr Hunter – Arne Moors meeting at Wareham Town Hall; Parish and Town Chairman's meeting; 18/10 Neighbourhood Plan Review.

### **18.102 Clerk's Report**

Nothing to report

### **18.103 Reports from Outside Bodies**

Stoborough Village Hall - Jill Scragg reported that they have successfully bid for Viridor monies which will help fund the additional storage on the side of the hall and the redecoration of the small hall. A request was made that the side door is closed when it rains in order to protect the carpet. The next hall meeting will be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> November.

Furzebrook Village Hall – Nothing to report.

Stoborough Meadow Residents' Association – The AGM was held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October and a copy of the minutes had been passed to the Clerk. Items of concern included the change of lights at the entrance to the site; and overhanging hedges along Corfe Road. Anvil will be asked to cut the hedges as in previous years.

Ridge Residents' Association – 11<sup>th</sup> November; Cheese and Wine evening and on the 19<sup>th</sup> December there will be carol singing.

Stoborough Primary School – The Head Teacher had issued a report prior to the meeting and this had been sent to all members. A copy of the report is available on request from the Clerk.

18.104 Reports relating to the Hayricks, Allotments and SANG

Hayricks – Nothing to report. Weekly inspections being carried out.

Allotments – There is one still available and someone is lined up for it.

SANG – Cllr Pellegrini attended a meeting at the SANG on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017 with Amy Gallagher (DCC) and Edward Petit-Mills. From that meeting a list was made of some items that needed attention. There are still items from the list that need doing – the gate catch and the approach to the car park. Cllr Pellegrini has sent an email to Mr Petit-Mills asking him to expedite the work.

18.105 Neighbourhood Plan update

The Clerk will be making a start on the Consultation Statement. The listed buildings have all been noted and a local historian has been contacted for input into the Plan. Clarification has been requested from Steve Boyt, PDC, regarding the need for a Habitat Regulations Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal. The next draft of the Plan should be ready by 30<sup>th</sup> November.

**11. To consider Planning Applications**

18.106 **6/2017/0519 16 Barndale Drive Convert existing garage into a granny annexe**  
No objections

**TWA/2017/191 Birches, Barnhill Road T1 & T2 birches – fell and replace**  
No objections

**TWA/2017/189 Ridge Cottage, Corfe Rd, Stoborough G1 & T1 Line of Cypress & 1 spruce – crown reduce to restore to hedge**  
No objections

**12. Correspondence and items for action and resolution**

18.107 To consider a way forward in respect of The Moors at Arne project

This has already been covered at length. The Chairman reiterated that a small committee has been formed to handle the volume of communications from residents. The Parish Councillors involved with that committee are Cllrs Cranshaw, Scragg and Ward. Members of the public have also been invited, together with boat owners. They will represent a focal point to facilitate communication between residents and the project team. The first initiative was to engage with the stakeholders in holding a meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> October.

18.108 To consider how we communicate with residents in the future

Whilst we have a number of ways to communicate, there is one easy way such as an email data base for residents who wish to be kept informed. Stoborough Green Residents' Association hold an email list of residents that they have offered to pass on. However, come the new data protection requirements, to do this would contravene the new Act as each person will be required to individually agree to have their names on the list. The Clerk suggested that something be put on the back page of the up and coming newsletter asking people to submit their email address. This would, however, exclude anyone who does not

have access to email. As those without email would be fairly few, it may be possible to ask neighbours/family/friends to inform them of any important decision they need to be aware of.

18.109 To consider a way forward in respect of the Imerys Enforcement undertaking

Any ideas should be submitted to Cllr Scragg before the 6<sup>th</sup> November. The Toll Bar stream is the obvious project and we do not yet know how much this is likely to cost.

20.20 Cllr Ezzard left the meeting.

18.110 To consider the play park inspection

A copy of the report had been issued to all members prior to the meeting, as well as being passed to the Lengthsman who will work through the items raised. It was noted that the compression spring on the zip wire may need to be adjusted but, for the time being, this will be monitored.

18.111 To consider the DAPTC motions to go before the AGM

A copy of the motions had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. After some discussion, it was agreed that all four motions would be supported. Cllrs Hunter and Pellegrini are the Parish Council's representatives on DAPTC and whoever is able to attend the meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> November will convey this Council's comments.

18.112 To consider the suggestion of residents' parking in Corfe Road

A copy of the letter had been issued to all members. Cllr Cranshaw reported that a residents' parking scheme would be costly to instigate and maintain. The area in front of the school is becoming increasingly difficult to find somewhere to park and members do sympathise with the residents. Cllr Love reported that the wall is part of the village history and its heritage. Cllr Wakefield-Sutton noted that, should the wall be removed, it would result in quite a slope. However, whilst we do empathise, the area in question is public highway and it is unlikely that Highways would agree to such a scheme. Not only would it open the floodgates for other areas to request a similar scheme, it would be impossible to police. The Clerk will write to Mr Crumpler and say, whilst we empathise, there is not a lot we can do as it is outside our remit. However, the suggestion will be put before Highways and it may be opportune for the residents to resubmit an application for off-road parking.

**ACTION: CLERK**

18.113 To consider a response to the consultation on 'Planning for the right homes in the right places'

A link to the consultation had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. The consultation seeks to provide a simpler and more universal way of providing local housing for local people. Each of the questions submitted was considered and the following responses agreed:

- Question 1 – a) agree b) adopt that approach
- Question 2 – no – two years is too long. Cllr Love felt that things change rapidly and 1 year would be more appropriate. Richard Brown – objectively assessed based on demographics and that won't change over two years. Two years is fine.
- Question 3 – yes

Question 5 – yes c) yes

Question 7e) – yes

b) not relevant c) not relevant

Question 8 – yes

Question 9a) yes b) yes

Question 11 a)– yes provided the housing figure is based on up to date data but it is hoped that local plans would be based on neighbourhood plans. The plans should be bottom up rather than top down. If neighbourhood plans are to mean anything, they must be taken into account by the district councils.

b) yes the figures in the neighbourhood plan should prevail.

Question 12 – yes

Question 17a) – yes c) media driven exercise. Contact should be made by every available means.

Mr Richard Brown suggested that, with regard to Question 1, the Parish Council should consider opposing the 40% uplift argument, as this cannot operate in Purbeck. The report glosses over this issue. The first part is by demographic growth and this gives us the original 120 homes from the first Purbeck Local Plan. The second part is the proposed methodology and is the uplift to reflect the difference between local incomes and local houses. This is based on the better the incomes, the more houses built, and the more prices will be driven down.

Cllr Pellegrini suggested that the Parish Council should, in future, adopt a more efficient way of dealing with such a consultation rather than sitting in a council meeting and working through them. In future, all responses will be sent to the Clerk who will draft a universal response for consideration at the meeting.

### **13. Correspondence received since the Agenda was set**

18.114 No additional correspondence had been received.

### **14. Additional items considered urgent by the Chairman**

18.115 No further items to add.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:57pm.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at Stoborough Village Hall, commencing 7pm