



**MINUTES OF THE ARNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018 AT**  
**STOBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs A Wakefield-Sutton, S Cranshaw, R Bessant, A Pellegrini, I Church,

**Chair:** Cllr P Love

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 10 members of the public, District Cllr M Barnes and County Cllr B Ezzard.

Prior to starting the meeting, the Chairman asked members of the public if they had any intention of filming or recording the meeting. No-one expressed any intention to do so.

**1. Public Participation**

19.82 Hugh Ricks noted that, in previous minutes, Cllr Barnes raised a point regarding the Arne Moors Project and suggested reducing the size of the scheme from the proposed 220 hectares to 150 hectares. This suggestion looked similar to a project proposed some years ago which, at the time, the residents of Ridge voted in favour of. Since then, a letter of understanding has been agreed between the RSPB and EA in that it could attract a further 20,000 visitors as a result of the project. Our area, with the promotion of the camp site and the new RSPB site, is no longer quiet and the roads are now somewhat dangerous. Dante Munns, RSPB, responded saying that the RSPB and EA suggested some possible outcomes when the concept was originally thought about and the figures were to give an indication of the level of visitor numbers in the order of magnitude of their projections. Until there is a design for the RSPB to work with, it is not possible to determine possible visitor levels. What they have said in terms of principles of access is that they do not want to do anything that will impact adversely on the local wildlife or local community. They will be looking, where they can, to facilitate non-vehicle access, as they are aware that the road is of concern. Mr Ricks asked if the 20,000 visitor projection was stated in the report – Yes. It was a ballpark concept figure. It is not thought to represent a huge number of additional visitors, it is a low-key, bird watchers addition. Catherine Farrugia suggested Mr Risks may possibly be thinking about the strategy that was carried out in 2010/13, which was presented at a parish council meeting. There were no formal plans at the time, it was a general principle. Cllr Pellegrini felt that, on the basis of the comments, it was possible that there could be a 14% increase in visitor numbers which will have a detrimental impact on the roads. Mr Munns responded saying that the 20,000 were not all new visitors but some of the existing visitors that may like to see the new site, as well as some new visitors.

**2. Declaration of interests**

19.83 No interests were declared at this stage and no requests for dispensation had been received.

**3. To receive apologies for absence**

19.84 Apologies had been received from Cllr Vivienne Ward.

#### **4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

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

#### **5. Matters arising – for report only**

19.86 Hayricks – Cllr Church had attended the site and looked at the bike ramps but could not really see a problem. Nothing appeared to be dangerous. There were exposed pieces of wood, but no repairs are needed at this stage. The ramps were cracked due to the nature of the material and the lack of rain, but this would change as soon as it did rain. No complaints had been received by the users of the ramps and we will continue to monitor the situation.

SIDs – Payment had now been issued for the purchase of the SID and Highways will be putting the posts in place shortly. Once the SID is received, training sessions will be arranged for the volunteers.

#### **6. County Councillor's Report**

19.87 Cllr Ezzard gave an update on the LGR. The Shadow Committee will next meet on the 27<sup>th</sup> September. Matt Prosser has been announced as the Chief Executive of the new Dorset Council.

The Unitary Ward boundaries consultation ended on the 27<sup>th</sup> August and both DCC and PDC have accepted in principle the proposed changes.

Proposed cycleway for the Wareham bypass (A351) – this initiative has been shelved for a year as Wessex Water will be replacing pipes on the bypass in the coming months,

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

19.88 Cllr Barnes drew members' attention to the new funding possibility from the Wytch Farm Landscape & Access Enhancement Fund. The fund can be used for projects that enhance the environment, biodiversity and improve rights of way and/or facilities for no-car access.

Cllr Barnes expressed concern regarding the possibility of flooding in Ridge as a result of the Arne Moors Project, together with the increase in traffic that will come from the initiative. The project team are still not talking about the bund and how much material will have to be brought in from outside the site. We are a long way from finding out what is likely to happen and what is actually being proposed.

Richard Drax MP is understood to still support the possibility of a smaller site.

Mr Ricks felt it was good that the EA have cleaned all the drains out in Ridge but believed that this means the water is getting to the lower lying levels quicker.

**8. To confirm the payment of accounts and consider the bank reconciliation & position against budget**

19.89 To confirm the Payment of Accounts

The following payments had been requested:

Purbeck Youth Group Donation		200588	500.00
Stoborough Hall	Hall hire April to August	BACS009	96.00
DC Pension Fund	August contribution	BACS010	146.80
Mrs A Crocker	August wages + expenses	BACS011	448.38
HMRC	August PAYE	BACS012	101.00
Anvil Ground Mtn	Stoborough Meadow – June & July	BACS013	1240.88
Play Inspection Co	Annual inspection – Hayricks	BACS014	78.00
Mrs V Ward	Water pump + connections	200589	463.53
DC Pension Fund	September contribution	BACS015	146.80
Mrs A Crocker	September wages + expenses	BACS016	424.79
PKF Littlejohn	External auditors	BACS017	240.00
Morelock Signs	Purchase of SID	BACS018	2994.00

The total amount requested from the Precept is £6,880.18, £2,111.06 had already been paid by BACS in August. Cllr Wakefield-Sutton proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Pellegrini and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by two councillors in the presence of the meeting.

**ACTION: CLERK**

19.90 To confirm the bank reconciliation and position against budget for the year to date

A copy of both reports had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made or queries raised.

**9. Parish Reports**

19.91 Councillors' Reports on meetings attended

Cllr Cranshaw – A report had been received from Debbie Corbin, Head Teacher of Stoborough Primary School, and has been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

Cllr Hunter – 10/9 met with the RSPB, Dorset Highways and Ridge residents to talk about road matters, visitor numbers; 19/9 met with Steve Boyt PDC to discuss the Neighbourhood Plan progress.

Cllr Bessant – 12/9 Arne Moors Stakeholders Liaison meeting; 19/9 Wareham Burial Board Joint Committee – the precept will not be increasing for the coming year.

Cllr Ward – 10/9 RSPB meeting; 19/9 Wareham Burial Board Joint Committee – the Burial Board were awarded Silver Gilt in the Wareham in Bloom competition. Issues had been raised regarding the traveller parking near the gate of the Hillview Cemetery. There had been no incidents, but it was felt that, at one point, the parking and animals were very close to the left hand side of the entrance way.

Cllr Wakefield-Sutton – nothing to report.

Cllr Pellegrini – 10/9 EA meeting.

#### 19.92 Reports from Outside Bodies

Stoborough Village Hall – the extension has been completed and the small hall will be decorated. Everything will be completed in time for the film festival.

Furzebrook Village Hall – nothing to report

Stoborough Meadow Residents Association – there will be a committee meeting on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September.

Ridge Residents Association – there was a committee meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> September at which the 2019 programme was discussed. There will be a wine and cheese function in November, carol singing in December and the AGM in March 2019. There is some money in the kitty and members are considering funding a defibrillator to be installed somewhere in Ridge.

Purbeck School – A level results, on an independently judged basis, were good to excellent this year. The school continues to go from strength to strength.

Cllr Wakefield-Sutton suggested a report from the Purbeck School should be included within future agendas. Whilst there is not always something to report, this will act as a reminder going forward.

Stoborough WI – Mrs Jill Scragg asked for it to be noted that the fundraising has now been completed and the defibrillator is installed outside the Kings Arms. There will be free defibrillator familiarisation sessions on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September and 18<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm in the village hall.

#### 19.93 Reports relating to the Hayricks, Allotments and SANG

Hayricks – Nothing to report.

Allotments – The Clerk has attended the site on several occasions throughout August to meet with the chair of the Allotments Committee. It is noted that there are likely to be a number of allotments vacant when it comes to renewal in October. Two of the existing allotment holders have requested that their allotments are halved as they are no longer able to cope with the larger sizes.

SANG - Nothing further to report.

#### 19.94 Neighbourhood Plan Update

Cllr Hunter reported that he has attended a meeting with Steve Boyt of PDC and had informed members of how things were progressing. PDC had originally nominated a date of the 4<sup>th</sup> August for screening the plan but this eventually took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> August. They are waiting on Natural England to confirm that they are happy with a few amendments made to give protection to heath land from potential future development. If NE have no objection we can then proceed to the pre-submission publication stage. This means the draft plan can then be put in a format including maps, pictures, etc. The pre-submission public consultation will be for a 6-week period commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> December. From January to March 2019, PDC carry out

their statutory consultation and from March to June 2019 the Plan will be submitted for examination. We would then be aiming to hold the referendum in August 2019, at the same time as Wareham. A meeting of the steering group will be held in the near future to review the Plan in detail.

19.95 Update on meetings with the National Trust, Natural England and the RSPB

Cllr Hunter reported that this has more or less morphed into the RSPB meetings already discussed. There was nothing further to add.

19.96 Arne Moors Project update

This has already been covered in the Public Participation period and there is nothing further to add.

**10. To consider Planning Applications received**

19.97 The following planning applications had been received:

6/2018/0477 Shop & café, RSPB, access road to Arne to link up existing tracks on Hyde Heath to Arne Road and existing paths on RSPB Arne

Members had no objections to this application.

TWA/2018/160 1 Oaklands Close, Stoborough T1 Beech – crown reduce; T2-T4 Oaks – Reduce/thin; T5 Mixed group – cut back lower canopy

Members had no objections to this application but will be guided by the views of the PDC Tree Officer.

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

19.98 To consider annual play inspection report and review any actions necessary

A copy of the report had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. The site overall has been assessed as low risk but there are some minor repairs that need to be undertaken, such as the benches needing attention, the boules pitch needing weeding. The report will be passed to the Lengthsman for carrying out the work.

19.99 To consider a date and route for the Parish Walkabout

Members felt that, should the walkabout go ahead, they would like to have a Highways Officer present and Susan Hetherington of DC Highways will be invited to attend. The route and date will be decided by email.

19.100 To confirm the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 and agree the Audit Report and consider and actions required relating to the auditor's comments

The Clerk reported that the external audit had now been completed and the Parish Council had received a qualified audit. This means that there were no major errors, but some actions taken were not quite correct. The report states that the Parish Council had:

‘.. disclosed that it made proper provision during the year 2017/18 for the exercise of public rights, by answering ‘yes’ to Section 1, Assertion 4. However, ....this should have been reported as ‘no.’

It is understood that this refers to the restating of the assets in respect of the Hayricks play equipment which had previously been recorded at a value of £1 for the past 10 years as the Parish Council did not pay for them. However, last year, the auditors decided that they should be recorded at their replacement value. This involved the Annual Return being restated so, in effect, the public could not have had the correct information throughout the year up to that point. This would not have been known until the audit took place. In addition, the previous year’s annual return should have been amended on the web site but, at the time of audit was not. Again, this would not have been known until the audit had taken place.

Cllr Wakefield-Sutton proposed that the year end accounts, together with the auditor’s comments are accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Bessant and agreed unanimously.

19.101 To consider the installation of a memorial bench on the picnic area opposite Wareham Quay

Cllr Cranshaw reported that the WDDT had been approached by a lady wishing to place a bench in this area. The lady would be willing to pay all costs. The Clerk reported that Wareham Town Council have also been approached about the placing of a bench here. However, although the land is within the parish of Arne, there is some question as to who owns it and who should be approached for such permission.

Mr Cake informed the meeting that, when he sat on the Parish Council, they had a similar request and approached the Priory for permission to put a bench on the site but were refused. Instead they placed the bench on the path just outside the area. Cllr Cranshaw will go back to WDDT and see if they have an update on the situation.

**ACTION: CLLR CRANSHAW**

19.102 To consider the forward regarding a bid for the Perenco monies

There was still some confusion over these monies and whether or not bids were still admissible. It was suggested that Mr Ade Parvin, Suzie Baverstock’s replacement, should be invited to the next meeting. Then a councillor will be required to take this on.

19.103 To review the Terms & Conditions for the Allotments

A copy of the proposed Terms & Conditions and Allotment Agreement had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

Cllr Hunter proposed they are accepted and issued to all allotment holders. This was seconded by Cllr Pellegrini and agreed unanimously. The Clerk will proceed to issue the documents.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**12. Additional items considered urgent by the Chairman for discussion only**

19.104 Proposed Corfe River on site meeting on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Time and venue to be confirmed.

Cllr Wakefield-Sutton asked if it would be possible to get a police officer to attend a meeting.

The Clerk informed the meeting of the RSPB Pull a Pine event on the weekend of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:35.