

**SOUTH TARRANT VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016  
AT THE ANNE BIDDLECOMBE HALL, TARRANT KEYNESTON**

**Present:** Councillors Cossins, Eaton, Garland, Harding, Lee, Parker, Sweetland, Thomson and Thompson.

In attendance: Councillor D Skipwith, Clerk Mrs K Huck.  
3 members of the public were present.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Munford and Panter.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Under the Localism Act 2011 Dispensations from Section 31(4) were granted to Councillors Harding and Sweetland shown in order to allow participation at this and any meeting up to May 2016 at which any matter which has a bearing on the setting of the Precept is being or is due to be considered.

There were no declarations of interest in respect of this meeting.

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 10th November 2015 were approved and signed as an accurate record.

**4. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Council acknowledged the receipt by email of the December report from County Councillor Croney. It was noted that the Chairman would attend the 25th January Divisional meeting. Councillors confirmed the previously expressed reservations about the cessation of the County Councillor's attendance at Parish Council meetings and the Chairman undertook to take this message to the meeting.

**5. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

District Councillor Skipwith stated that the Local Plan had now been adopted by the District Council and that there were no other matters to report.

**6. OPEN DISCUSSION OF UP TO 30 MINUTES for members of the public to raise issues**

Councillors agreed for the following to be brought forward to this point in the meeting:

**Supplementary Agenda Item 1** To consider a request for views on the possible redevelopment of the property currently known as Little Manor, Tarrant Keyneston which is due for auction in February 2016.

The two members of public at the meeting stated that they were potentially interested in the purchase and redevelopment of the property known as Little Manor. They had contacted the District Council's Planning Department who had advised that they contact the Parish Council to discuss any local concerns in this regard. It was explained by the Chairman that discussion at this point did not constitute any type of binding agreement on the part of the Council and upon acceptance there was a brief discussion on the site. It was noted that there may be an outline intention to increase on the footprint though not the height or the number of properties. Councillors confirmed that the property was inside a Conservation Area and that any potential purchaser would need to be cognisant of this.

There were no other items for open discussion.

.....(Chairman)

*Council agreed to bring the agenda item on the following forward to this point:*

#### **7. WAR MEMORIAL**

Councillor Thompson reported that the War Memorials Trust, from whom grant funding was being sought, had stated that a decision would be made by the end of the financial year. It was noted that £100 had been raised by the Ladies' Group and £500 by those at the WW1 Commemoration Tea which was potentially a substantial part of the cost of the intended refurbishment, with any remaining funds available from the Council's reserves. It would follow that there would be no requirement for an allowance to be made in the 16\17 budget for the work. However, given that the application had been made to the Trust, it was:

**RESOLVED that the decision from the War Memorials Trust would be awaited before financial allocations were made and that thanks were extended to Councillor Thompson for his continuing efforts in securing external funding.**

#### **8. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AT THE WAR MEMORIAL IN TARRANT KEYNESTON**

As per minute 23(a) on page 165, Council discussed the ongoing maintenance of the grounds around the War Memorial. The Chairman confirmed that he had spoken with Mr Kelly who had kindly agreed to continue to cut the grass. The subject of remuneration for this task was discussed and it was:

**RESOLVED that a sum of £100 per year would be paid by the Council for grass cutting services and that this would be paid to Mr Kelly at the start of the 2016\17 financial year. The yearly sum will be reviewed annually as part of the budget setting process.**

#### **9. RISK MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP – REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENT, ASSET REGISTER, INSURANCE AND INTERNAL AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS**

The Clerk provided a verbal report on behalf of the Council's working group which had met on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016. The Group had reviewed each of the documents as required and requested that information be sought on the following so as to inform the Council in terms of insurance requirements: War Memorial – sum insured to be increased to £4000; a 3<sup>rd</sup> grit bin to be added so increasing the total value to £600; Richards Close bus shelter – sum insured to be increased to £1000. The Clerk reported that the response from the insurance broker on this would be a premium increase of £15. The insurance will be due for renewal in June 2016.

Asset monitoring – the Chairman confirmed that he had carried out an inspection of the assets prior to the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January. At the acceptance of the suggestion of the working group, it was:

**RESOLVED that asset monitoring would be carried out twice yearly, with the task being shared between Councillors each year. Councillor Eaton agreed to carry out the monitoring in mid summer 2016 and to report back to the September meeting.**

The condition of the bus shelter at Ashley Wood was reported on by the Chairman who had been in touch with the Secretary of the Ashley Wood Park Residents Association. It was decided that this would not be an item for the 2016\17 budget and then:

**RESOLVED that the condition of the Ashley Wood bus shelter would be improved to a usable standard by Cllrs Cossins and Sweetland.**

#### **10. FUNDING REQUESTS**

Council considered the following requests for funding support, prior to the setting of the 2016\17 budget:

- (a) Life Education Wessex (Min 9(b) pg 0162 refers.) – information had been received via Spetisbury Parish Council with regard to a health education (Life Education Wessex) which was due to deliver sessions at the Primary School. It was:

**RESOLVED that the Council would grant the sum of £100 towards this work, with the preference being that it go directly to the school to assist with their payment for the charity's work with the Spetisbury pupils.**

.....(Chairman)

- (b) Blandford Town Council re public conveniences and Blandford Leisure Centre. Financial support for these had been requested by Blandford Town Council. Councillors discussed whether the usage of them by South Tarrant Valley parishioners would warrant monies being added to the Council's precept, given that there was also a leisure centre in Wimborne. There was also concern that the finances required to ensure the future of the Blandford Leisure Centre were considerable and that small donations would make little impact. Further information on this was requested. After further discussion and a vote of 8:1, it was:
- RESOLVED that £300 would be allocated each year from Council reserves for consideration of funding requests, on the proviso that this was considered prudent when the end of year figures were taken in account. The requests would therefore be considered at the March meeting.**

## FINANCES

11. Financial statements showing full details of the Council's income and expenditure for the months of November and December 2015 set against the budget together with a bank reconciliation were presented and approved.

12. Council approved and instructed the signature of the following cheques:

545 HMRC £110.40

546 Clerk's salary At agreed rate

547 Clerk's expenses £17.10

13. The Council considered its draft Budget for the 2016\17 financial year, with a view to its approval before the submission of the Precept to North Dorset District Council by its requested deadline of 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

It was confirmed that a sum of £150 would be paid to North Dorset Citizens Advice Bureau for the 16\17 year and so should be included in the budget. In respect of the CAB it was also: **RESOLVED that a cheque should be drawn for signature at the next Council meeting which would make a payment of a 2015\16 grant of £150 from the Parish to the North Dorset Citizens Advice Bureau.**

Min 9(a) page 162 and draft Mins 7, 8, 9 and 10 page 167 also refer to the setting of the 16\17 financial year budget. It was AGREED that the precept should not be raised from the previous year and so it was:

**RESOLVED that the Budget for the financial year 2016\17 be accepted and agreed with a Precept requirement of £4400 resulting in a Band D tax of £20.61.**

*(Councillor Thomson left the meeting at 9pm.)*

## Planning

14. **New application:** 2/2015/1933/HOUSE **Proposal:** Erect double garage and single storey extension to provide orangery, laundry room, general storage room, and pool store (demolish existing). Erect detached single storey building to provide garden room, gym and changing rooms (install swimming pool). Erect gate and associated garden walls. Construct new chimney stack.

**Location:** Tarrant Keynston House, Valley Road, Tarrant Keynston, Dorset, DT11 9J.

It was noted that a response was required on the above by 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016. Councillors considered that a site visit would be helpful before and the Clerk was requested to arrange this.

15. **Decision:** 2/2015/1381/HOUSE - Mead House Valley Road Tarrant Keynston Dorset DT11 9JE. The Clerk advised that this application had been approved by the District Council.

16. There were no appeals to report.

.....(Chairman)

With regard to **2/2014/1196/FUL** | Erect 1 No. replacement dwelling and detached garage (demolish existing dwelling) | Green Acres Wimborne Road Tarrant Keyneston Dorset DT11 9JG – it was reported to the Council that the demolition of the existing dwelling had been completed, though it was queried whether this was in full or part. The Clerk was requested to contact the relevant Planning Officer for clarification in this respect.

#### **17. Superfast Broadband (SBB)**

Councillor Eaton confirmed that she had been formally advised that SBB had been installed and was available to residents in Tarrants Keyneston and Crawford. District Councillor Skipwith agreed to contact County Councillor Croney with regard to the Tarrants Rushton and Rawston and their anticipated connection dates.

#### **18. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE**

Councillors considered the current and future use and format of the Council's website. It was agreed that there was potential for expanded use and that Councillors would review it ahead of the matter being an agenda item for the March meeting. It was suggested that a Councillor may agree to receive and 'filter' any suggested items, with these being sent to the Clerk once ready to go on the site. Councillors present suggested that Councillor Thomson may be willing to receive items and the Clerk AGREED to contact him on this matter.

#### **19. RURAL BUS SERVICES REVIEW BY DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL**

A response on the rural bus services review was required by 8<sup>th</sup> February. Councillor Eaton had attended a meeting on this matter and advised that the financial losses would be experienced by commercial companies once the County Council's subsidies of non-profit making routes was withdrawn as was being suggested. This would inevitably lead to services being reduced. It was agreed by Councillors that the young and older residents (i.e., concession holders) would be hardest hit by the changes to the rural services. The introduction of community transport schemes was welcomed but concern was expressed that the demographics of the parish could potentially mean that there would be insufficient volunteers to provide vehicles and drivers. It was:

**RESOLVED that the Clerk would respond to the consultation on the review on behalf of the Council, so that the requested deadline of 8<sup>th</sup> February would be met.**

#### **20. RIVER TARRANT**

It was reported to the Council that the findings of the current monitoring of abstractions were due to be available in report form at the end of 2016 and that information would also be published in the village magazine (Tarrant Times). The river was free flowing.

#### **21. DAPTC**

Councillor Lee reported that he had attended the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016. There had been two representatives: one from the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group who had provided information on public consultations which are underway and the other from the North Dorset Local Action Group. The latter provide funding for countryside projects through the LEADER scheme and information will follow. Councillor Lee was thanked for attending.

#### **22. DT11 Forum**

Councillor Eaton stated that the next DT11 Forum meeting would be held on 27th January 2016.

#### **23. Footpaths**

Councillor Thompson confirmed that investigations were ongoing with the reported deep animal excavations which have appeared on the footpath at the rear of the Hill.

.....(Chairman)

**24. Highways**

- (a) Works on Tarrant Rawston bridge scheduled for April \ May 2016. The Chairman had confirmed that he was in contact with DCC Highways in respect of this work, that plans were available if required and that he would assist wherever possible.
- (b) Tarrant Crawford Historic Church sign – noted that this had not been repaired and that the sign itself now appeared to be missing. The Clerk was requested to follow this up.
- (c) The Chairman requested that information be brought to the next meeting with regard to the repair of fingerpost directional signs in the Parish.

**25. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Use of reserves \ grants to include information on the extent of monies required by Blandford Leisure Centre  
January Divisional meeting – update from Chairman  
Superfast Broadband  
War Memorial  
Parish Council website

- 26. The meetings for the calendar year were confirmed to be: 8<sup>th</sup> March; 10<sup>th</sup> May; 12<sup>th</sup> July; 13<sup>th</sup> September; 8<sup>th</sup> November.
- 27. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

Signed .....(Chairman)

Date.....