

**SUTTON WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017**  
**MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairman: Iain McNeil  
Councillors: John Ellis, David Smith, Sandy Millard  
Clerk: Marianne Wheatley

Residents: Keith Prenton, Jane McNeil, John England, Martin Jelbart, Dave & Jan McDonald,  
Gill Severn.

1. **Apologies** - Cllr Aartsen, County Cllr Croney, and District Cllr Jespersen apologised for their absence.

2. **Declarations of Interest** – there were no declarations of interest.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** - The Minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017 were read and approved and following the meeting signed by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising**

i) **Stiles** – Dave Smith has been liaising with the Dorset Rangers and it is hoped that the double stiles on the footpath to Fontmell will soon be replaced by gates. The Rangers will fit these for free when they have a little more time later on in the year. Dave Smith confirmed the gates would be single gates that would be stock proof. He confirmed that there were sufficient funds to finance the project and accordingly would not cost the Parish Council anything.

ii) **A350/C13** – The latest communication the Parish Council have from Highways is that subject to the Traffic Regulation Consultation the 30mph is being progressed on the A350 and The Street through the village combined with improved gateways at each end on the A350 and improved signing for the crossroads in the centre. Sandy Millard, Dave Smith and Iain McNeil are meeting Andrew Brown from Highways on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and will continue to emphasise the need for the 30mph speed limit through the village. The speed limit to Fontmell Magna is supposedly going to be 40mph. The funds for the improvements have been ratified by DCC and most of the community suggestions have been adopted.

Keith Prenton asked whether a 20mph limit could be imposed. It was explained that it had taken Iwerne Minster 10 years to get a 20mph through parts of their village and they were paying for all the changes in signage.

The Heavy Goods vehicle one-way scheme was going to be finalised shortly and there was an update meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

(iii) **Speed of cars through the village** – a letter was circulated to the residents regarding the speed of cars through the village. There were one or two who continued to drive at an unacceptable speed. Iain McNeil attached a 'children playing warning sign with 20mph' onto a bollard on the corner of The Street and Church Lane and this seems to have made some difference.

5. **Correspondence**

i) **Reports from County Councillor and District Councillor** – reports had been circulated to the Councillors. The information relevant to Sutton Waldron is:

**Unitary Authority**

The Councillors are still waiting for comment from the Security of State as to whether the Unitary Authority will proceed.

### **5 Year Housing Land Supply**

NDDC were set a target by central government of 2219 homes to be completed in the next 5 years. Regrettably North Dorset has joined the long list of councils that no longer have a "5 Year Housing Land Supply".

Without a five year supply it makes it harder for NDDC to refuse planning permission for housing development even if it conflicts with the local plan because NDDC are required to fall back onto national planning policy. The local plan will still be used as a starting place but unless the development's negatives 'significantly and demonstrably' outweigh its positives permission can not be refused.

The report states that settlement boundaries alone are now unlikely to carry sufficient weight to refuse a development. It is not clear how this directly affects Sutton Waldron and The Clerk will follow this up.

### **Register to Vote**

The annual audit for the Register of Electors is currently underway and NDDC is writing to all residents in order to check who is eligible to vote and ensure that the information held on the Register is correct.

### **Single Person Discount review**

NDDC is also carrying out a review of all council tax payers claiming a 25% single person discount on their Council tax bill.

### **Car Parking Machines**

A project to replace car parking machines with ones that have the facility to pay by card in addition to cash and phone is nearing completion across North Dorset to make it quicker and easier for people to pay for their parking.

### **DWP**

The Dorset Waste Partnership has achieved an underspend of £3m for the 2016/17 year. £2.5m is to be returned to partners in accordance with percentage each council pays in, therefore £156,150.86 will be returned to NDDC and the other £0.5m is going to be kept in DWP reserves.

### **Blandford - Salisbury Saturday Flyer**

Following the withdrawal of the DCC subsidized service NORDCAT are providing a bookable Saturday mini bus service between Blandford Forum and Salisbury collecting from all the Villages along the route diverting off the main road only for people have booked. You can only use this service if you have booked in advance! In order to book a seat on this bus please contact:

NORDCAT booking telephone number 01258 473154. Having spoken to NORDCAT the bus will be coming from Stalbridge and accordingly could pick up from Sutton Waldron.

There is a £5 per year annual membership payable to NORDCAT and this can be collected on your first journey. Other Community bus services and car schemes are being developed in our rural area. Details of these are shown on the notice board in our 'Information Xchange ' Box

## **6. Planning Applications**

There have been no planning applications sent through for comment since the last meeting.

A notice was given for the immediate removal of a dead tree at Dairy House Farm. Permission was also given to fell a silver birch at 1a Church Orchard.

## 7. Finance

- i) The Clerk has circulated an up to date bank reconciliation which shows that the balance in the bank account as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 was £2946.04. This includes the VAT refund of £61.82
- ii) Bills to be paid:
  - Clerk's salary for June to September 2017 - £315
  - DAPTC renewal - £76.98

## 8. Any Other Business

- (i) **Financial Regulations etc.** – as mentioned earlier in the year the Clerk is reviewing the Financial Regulations, Standing Order etc. She now works for 4 Parish Councils having recently been re-employed by Fontmell Magna and is hoping as far as possible to standardize the policies across the 4 councils. She will hopefully be in a position to circulate these to SWPC shortly.
- (ii) **Website** – The Clerk recently went to a meeting with DAPTC regarding websites and the transparency regulations. There are grants available for training and for updating the website and she is investigating what might be available.
- (iii) **Telephone Box** – the Parish Council have now purchased the telephone box for a £1 and it has now been decommissioned. Until we have some ideas on how best to use it, Dave & Iain McNeil have put up a cork notice board and a shelf. Initially we thought that perhaps it could be used as an Information Exchange, e.g. bus routes, local walks, and information of interesting events outside the village. Maybe have books for exchange. Any ideas please let the Clerk know. Iain McNeil thanked Dave and Jan McDonald for all their hard work in keeping the telephone box for the village. Dave McDonald confirmed that the box was in reasonable order but he would be carrying out some maintenance work including trying to make the box rainproof.
- (iv) **Sutton Seasons.** Keith Prenton confirmed that at present the newsletter costs between £50 & £100 to produce each edition this includes the paper and the printing costs. Keith confirmed that there were some sponsors in the village but he was looking for more funding. He suggested that a way of obtaining additional funding might be to set up a recommended tradesman page. He could then charge the tradesman say £20 for an entry. Each tradesman must be recommended by at least two residents. Martin Jelbart commented that the Village Hall generated income and perhaps this could be used to fund the newsletter. It was queried whether this was within the charitable objectives of the Village Hall. The Clerk confirmed that in Fontmell Magna the newsletter was sponsored by various societies in the village including the Parish Council and the Village Hall. As the newsletter was used by the Parish Council and the Village Hall to disseminate to the village it would seem reasonable for the Parish Council and the village Hall to give a grant to the newsletter. It was agreed that Keith Prenton would put a page in the next issue of Sutton Season's explaining the difficulties and the various options.

Iain McNeil confirmed that the school bus contract had been changed and on the first two days of the new contract the children had been dropped in the bus stop on the A350 which meant crossing the road to get home. Iain had contacted Deborah Croney and the bus was now once again dropping the children in the village. Iain McNeil thanked Deborah Croney for her prompt action in this regard.

Iain McNeil also confirmed that the community beds in The Westminster Hospital in Shaftesbury had been saved.

## 9. Reports

- i) **Church** – there was no report from the Church.
- ii) **Village Hall** – Jane McNeil confirmed that the decorator who was supposed to be decorating the kitchen and bathroom had let them down and that they were waiting for a

quote from a new decorator. There was a quiz night on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017 and there was going to be a film night at some stage in October. There was going to be a talk in the Church about the Silk Road on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2017 the proceeds from which would go to the upkeep of the Church.

iii) **Footpaths** - Jan McDonald confirmed she had spoken to John Boddy (who previously was responsible for Footpaths) who had spoken to the landowner regarding the footpath across the field from the Church to Iwerne Minster.

10. **Date of next meetings** - The date of the next meeting will be Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 7.30pm. The March meeting will be on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018. With regard to the May meeting the Clerk is going away in April and will be back on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2018 accordingly in order to ensure the agenda and other papers have been circulated she has asked for the May meeting to be put back to 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018. The Parish Council confirmed this was in order.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.15pm

Signed.....  
**Chairman**

Dated.....