

## MOSTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.00pm.

**Present;** Cllr. Neil Hickman (chair), Cllr Angela Bullock, Cllr Robert Fry, Cllr Dion Shoemark, Cllr Jim Cooper, District Cllr Tony Alford, and 46 members of the public.

**2017/0012. APOLOGIES / DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS** – District Cllr Peter Barrowcliff and County Cllr Knox

### **2017/0013. PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF ITEMS ON AGENDA**

Residents discussed the planning application that has been submitted, planning application number WD/D/17/000152 Land adjacent Windsor close, Mosterton.

Representatives from both the architects, Boon Browne, and the applicants, Stonewater were present.

There was a previous application for the site for outline planning permission for 20 houses which was approved.

Many different concerns were raised about the proposed development, including but not limited to the impact on other areas of the village with regard to the sewerage system, the size of the properties, and the plots, being too small. Highways concerns were discussed, with the architects advising that there is expected to be an increase of 1 vehicle movement every 2 minutes within peak hours. Specific concerns were raised about the sewerage from the development using the mains sewerage system, which is believed to be already working at capacity. Boon Browne architects have a letter, from South West Water advising that the system, with some upgrading of the system, would have capacity for an additional 40 to 60 dwellings.

Residents asked if the plans could be amended so that the bungalows be placed closer to the existing dwellings. Residents asked about the intensification of the development and the justification for submitting an application for 40 houses, after earlier applications for 10 and 20 dwelling developments. 20 was based on 15 dwellings per hectare, new application is based on 30 dwellings per hectare.

There was a lengthy discussion and debate on the application. Residents were informed that they have until 17<sup>th</sup> March, to submit individual comments to the planning officers, either via the planning portal or via email. There was a vote taken of the members of the public present.

In support of the application	0
Abstentions	1
In objection to the application	45

**End of public discussion.**

### **2017/0014. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS, COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND LOCAL POLICE OFFICER:**

**County Councillor** See report sent by email at the end of these minutes.

Mosterton Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Signed

Date

Page 1 of 6

## **District Councillors**

Cllr Alford commented in response to the public session, that currently Dorset does not have a 5 year land supply, but this is not wholly negative. The lack of a 5 year land supply does mean however that the importance of the local plan is reduced and the NPPF becomes more important. Cllr Alford agreed to ask planning officers to refer the case to a planning committee for discussion.

Cllr Alford reported on the recent public consultation on planning needs, held at Beaminster Town Hall. The county council is currently reviewing what the independent examiner perceived last time as an under resourcing of land in Sherborne area.

Cllr Alford reported that six of the nine Dorset Councils have agreed to being replaced by 2 medium sized unitary authorities, and discussions are continuing with the 3 other councils currently.

## **Police – No report.**

### **2017/0015. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2017**

The minutes were approved, proposed by Cllr Cooper and seconded by Cllr Hickman and signed.

### **2017/0005. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2017**

#### **Defibrillator –**

Funds have been secured for a defibrillator. Clerk is pursuing the matter of adopting the BT phone box as a location for installation.

**Bus Shelter update** – The shelter has been collected, and new legs have been manufactured. Next stage is for a digger to be hired, and the ground prepared and bus shelter erected.

**Notice board works** – The works are ongoing.

### **2017/0016.**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Clerks and Councils Direct newsletter
2. Letter of thanks from Parrett & Axe School for donation towards Life Education van
3. Future Dorset Proposal
4. Email from youth club about the Parish Council holding their remaining funds in trust. This was agreed subject to written agreement with the Youth Club about how long the funds should be held for, and appropriate uses for the fund after that time.

### **2017/0017. PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- a) Applications handled since last meeting – None
- b) Decisions notified by WDDC since last meeting

WD/D/16/002636 LAND NORTH OF, CHEDINGTON LANE, MOSTERTON Install mobile home and associated landscaping (Full) - Approved

Mosterton Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017

WD/D/16/0026911 HEIFER MILL COTTAGES, POTWELL FARM ROAD PAST, MOSTERTON, BEAMINSTER, DT8 3HG Erect rear, first floor extension (Full) – Approved

WD/D/16/002873 WOODCOCK FARMHOUSE – Partially completed.

c) New applications to be considered

WD/D/17/000152 LAND ADJACENT WINDSOR CLOSE, MOSTERTON Erection of 40 no. dwellings with associated works, including vehicular access, highway improvements, drainage, parking, landscaping & open space. (Full)

Following on from the Public Discussion the Parish Councillors voted on the proposal, 5 against, 0 in favour.

Clerk will submit comments and objection.

d) Tree Applications - None

**2017/0018. FINANCE**

Financial Status Mosterton Parish Council as at 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Treasurers account

Payments since last meeting

Clerk salary January & February	£ 268.50
Clerks Pension (employee contributions)	£ 23.34
David Landscapes	£ 194.00

Income Since last meeting

Transfer from closure of Gratuity Account	£ 801.08
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New cheques/payments

Bidair website	£ 84.00
WDDC Planning app fee	£197.31

Bank balance as at 9<sup>th</sup> February £20,595.69

Balance after above payments agreed £20,047.71

Amenities account

Balance as at 9<sup>th</sup> December 2016 £10,125.30

Interest accruing at rate of approximately £0.40 per month.

Gratuity Account has now been now closed

The above payments were approved, proposed by Cllr. Hickman and seconded by Cllr. Bullock.

Clerk has sought quotes for the grass cutting of the play area. Only 1 quote has been submitted. This is by existing contractor, David Landscapes. The parish council reviewed the quote and agreed to the costs for a period of three years.

Mosterton Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Signed

Date

Page 3 of 6

David Landscapes has also suggested some additional maintenance work be carried out. Cllr Shoemark agreed to meet with David Landscapes to review the work and bring further information to the next meeting.

The main meeting closed at 8.35pm.

#### **2017/0019. PUBLIC DISCUSSION TO RAISE ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Residents raised the idea again of the parish producing a Neighbourhood Plan. It was agreed this would be on the agenda for the next meeting, and the clerk would see if Beaminster had progressed with their plan.

The discussion ended at 8.42pm.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May at **7.00pm** to include AGM & Annual Village Meeting.

Report sent via email from County Cllr Rebecca Knox

#### **NHS issues**

The Clinical Commissioning Review which was out for consultation by the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) over the past months will now be considered by their Board. The County Council did make comments to it. Not all authorities did but DCC felt it was too important not to since if the CCG does not work more closely within local communities and with social care solutions and community based services where at all possible then there will only be more pressure on the A&E departments, more pressure on the ambulance service and more people unnecessarily staying in hospital when they could be living at home with a little personal help to encourage independence within their community. This is such an important issue for social care delivery from that very early help to more complex. I would like maybe to hold a discussion about that with the parish council and community when appropriate. There is nothing like getting a feel for what is needed by asking residents. Public Health have data evidence and that link needs to be formed.

#### **Childcare 30 hrs free per week, Dorset first**

Dorset is one of only four council areas in the country to be chosen to pilot free childcare hours of up to 30hrs per week. Taking up the offer now rather than having to wait until September is great news for families who would like potentially to take advantage of the seasonal work which arises in our County and the increasing number of opportunities being promoted by the DCC and others for apprenticeships, social care training and much more. It's also good to see that DCC is successfully wherever possible gaining good outcomes in receiving grant evidenced by need from various organisations and central government as centrally funded grant reduces dramatically and ceases 2019/20.

#### **Changes to Local Government, potentially**

We are waiting for the Secretary of State to pronounce on the two unitary bid. I'm sure you have the detail on that from last meeting. We should know by the end of the month if he is minded to....

Mosterton Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Signed

Date

Page **4** of **6**

## **A few words on the County Council property issue**

Here is the text of the response to some media coverage about why the County Council is investing in some sites, disbursing of others and importantly looking to provide better working conditions for staff with flexibility, more space for others to use the Dorchester premises as a hub, better use of technology and upgrading the work place which as we all know is key to help staff serving front line service delivery. Work conditions are so important for us all.

Following Saturday's Dorset Echo headline about the refurbishment of County Hall Cllr Robin Cook, Cabinet member for organisational development and transformation , would like the right to reply on the subject. Please find his letter below:

Letter to the Dorset Echo from the County Council:

There is no roof garden planned at County hall, and there never was.

Four years ago when options were being looked at for reducing our property numbers, an architect's sketch featured a balcony on level 4 planted up with greenery. It was attractive but the plan has only ever been to reduce buildings numbers, make better use of council buildings and provide decent workspace.

In 2010 we owned over 750 properties across the county. Having buildings costs money, so in order to reduce our overheads the Way We Work programme was agreed and implemented to cut building and associated costs, invest in the remaining buildings and increase the use of these significantly.

We have planned the extra use of some buildings and have increased the rate of identifying and disposing of surplus properties. Our target is to reduce the running cost of our estate over a five year period by £3.2m per annum.

To date we have disposed of or 'let go' of 162 properties, amounting to about 24% of the estate's footprint. This has generated capital receipts of £10.5m over the past two years and has already led to £3m coming out of previous maintenance budgets for next year. Other savings on property have been attributed to help savings in directorates including Children's services. This is us doing things differently to make savings rather than cutting services, 'back office' savings so often referred to.

Mosterton Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Signed

Date

Page 5 of 6

The work to adapt and improve County Hall and indeed other office accommodation across the county is part of that programme. In County Hall we will accommodate at least 300 additional staff within the building, giving the authority savings of £560,000 per annum by disposing of surplus office buildings in and around Dorchester. In addition, these works will also reduce the maintenance costs on the building and will improve its sustainability, which will also generate cost savings.

The business case that we are working on and which shows the return on investment has been included in Cabinet reports and has been the subject of scrutiny committee discussions and has seen cross party support.

If there are any questions or if you want any more detail on anything please let me know

Rebecca Knox  
County councillor for the Beaminster division