

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ARNE PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup> MAY,  
2015 AT STOBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 6.30PM**

**Present:** Cllrs V Ward, D Hunter, A Wakefield-Sutton

**Chair:** Cllr C Macleod

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** 7 members of the public & Deborah Corbin, Head of Stoborough Primary School

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting and invited Deborah to address the meeting.

**2015/1 Presentation from Deborah Corbin, Headmistress of Stoborough Primary School**

SPS has 193 pupils and is one of the largest primaries in the Purbeck Area. There are 27 members of staff and no more than 30 children per class and no mixed year group classes. Children attend from a wide area; from Blandford, Parkstone, Bere Regis and Swanage. There are four classes with waiting lists, some with 3 or 4 children waiting to come in.

The move from a first school to a primary was challenging but having the older children at the school makes such a difference to the mix. They seek to develop the children so they are prepared for secondary school and for life; developing determination and self-drive, independence and independent thinking, needing to understand that each of them can make a difference. The school works hard to develop leadership skills so when they leave the school, they are self-confident. Thoughtfulness and manners are primary and visitors often comment positively on how polite the children are. As a Church school, they seek to develop reflectiveness for the children's own well-being. Following the recent Nepal disaster, the children wanted to do some fund-raising and so organised a book and toy sale themselves.

Learning-wise – the school is committed to being aspirational so the children are fully prepared for the next stage of their learning. Science is a core subject in the school and several guests have attended the school to work with the children, e.g. representatives from Winfrith and Lush. Emotional literacy and religious education is studied. There are major issues relating to the excessive use of computer gadgets and gaming devices by children and how insular the children may become if spending too long on computer games, etc. and the school tries to make the children aware of this and how to overcome it.

The school employs its own speech therapist who attends the school one day a week to work with the children who suffer speech impediments, language or communication difficulties. The other issue prominent in the whole of education, especially secondary school level, is mental health issues. Eating disorders, self-harming, cyber bullying are all on the increase in teenagers. As a response to this, SPS is working with Purbeck School and all children receive mindfulness sessions, encouraging them to see negative thoughts and know how to deal with these. They are currently trying to find a children's yoga instructor.

The children thrive with their sport and the football team has recently made it through to the finals.

In the community, Deborah is keen for SPS to be used as a hub for the whole community. It has wonderful facilities and they would happily support any community activity.

The school would like Arne PC to consider assisting in developing extended school provisions. They would like to put in a provision for classes from 3 to 6pm which may involve additional building in the future. They would like to have a music block. Parking for staff and visitors continues to be a problem. The sports field is not big enough. They would like to have an allotment so they could grow their own produce for school dinners.

## **2015/2 Chairman's Annual Report on Parish Matters**

The Chairman read the Annual Report. Copies are available upon request and on the web site.

## **2015/3 Reports from other bodies active in the Parish**

Stoborough Green – Phil Love reported that they are holding a garden competition again this year. It will be open to everyone, not just Synergy residents. There are posters around the area and they look forward to as many as possible entering.

Stoborough Meadow – Steve Widmer reported that the AGM was held last October and was well supported with 22 residents attending. John Ives is now the new chairman, having stepped into the breach at short notice following Nigel Neville-Jones resignation. He quickly got into his stride and, with contributions from committee members, produced the first newsletter for some time. The Hayricks continues to attract parents, children and dog walkers and residents are grateful to the Parish Councillors for conducting their weekly inspections. Dogs running off leads and dog's mess continue to cause concern, but with the vigilance of residents and councillors, they are confident that these problems can be eradicated. The Hayricks is an important amenity for the parish and its residents and must be looked after. The contractors, Anvil Ground Maintenance, continue to deliver an excellent service for Stoborough Meadow and residents are full of praise for their efforts.

Stoborough Village Hall – Steve Widmer spoke on behalf of the Jill Scragg. The hall continues to fulfil the purposes for which it was built. It continues to be used regularly by a number of groups and is also used as a polling station and now a Post Office for 2 hours a week. The trustees of the hall are drawn from local residents with the interests of the hall at heart and from the user groups who wish to have a representative. The income is raised as rent from user groups and some donations which cover the utility bills. Since the last annual meeting in October 2014 the outside lighting has been extended and improved with the installation of PIR sensors and new guttering has been fitted. The car park has been resurfaced by Peter Andrews of Andrews Plant Hire and planning permission has been obtained for a concreted finish in due course. Further works are planned for the main hall.

Furzebrook Village Hall – Nick Cake reported that the AGM took place recently. The accounts are healthy and, with the solar panels, they no longer have to pay for any electricity. They hire the hall regularly to Perenco and there is a continual upgrading going on. The fencing at the front entrance has been replaced and the lighting is being improved. They have two rooms in the hall and if you are in the new, small room, you cannot hear what is going on in the main hall.

## **2015/4 Open forum**

The Chairman opened the floor to anyone who had any queries or questions they would like to raise about parish matters.

Phil Love asked why the dog bins are covered up at the new SANG. It is understood that the SANG would be opened before people moved into Westgate but the SANG is not yet open.

Nick Cake asked who was responsible for the SANG. It is understood that the responsibility rests with a management committee consisting of the landowner, developer, District Council and NE. The Parish Council is not represented on this committee, despite asking to be on it.

There being no further business, the Annual Parish Meeting closed at 7.27pm

Signed:.....

Dated:.....