



# Parish of Arne

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2014 AT THE STOBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL, WEST LANE, STOBOROUGH COMMENCING 7.00pm

**Present:** Cllrs TH Heritage, R Scragg, V Ward, B Kenward

**Chair:** Cllr C Macleod

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also Present:** 9 members of the public, District Cllr N Cake

### **1. Declarations of Interest**

**14/146** The Chairman asked councillors for any Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) on items contained in the Agenda applicable to themselves or spouses/partners. None were declared.

### **2. To receive apologies for absence**

**14/147** County Cllr M Lovell

### **3. To confirm Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014.**

**14/148** A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. They were proposed by Cllr Kenward to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Heritage and agreed unanimously. The Chairman signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

### **4. Matters arising from the minutes - for report only**

**14/149** Traveller sites – the only site likely to occur is one next to the existing site at Cold Harbour. No other sites were mentioned in the parish although it may be necessary to support any transient sites that may arise.

### **5. Public Participation Period**

**14/150** Debbie Walker spoke on behalf of those affected by the flooding and closure of the causeway and would like to extend their extreme thanks to Cllr Ward for her help over the period. She and her neighbours have been the brunt of anger and abuse from drivers trying to use the Causeway when it had been closed and would like the council to consider: –

(a) A quicker, safer, more effective way of closing the causeway such as a lockable barrier. 4 signs have been damaged during this last period by vehicles driving over them. The signs are often left behind and never retrieved by Highways.

(b) Signage to be placed at the Square warning drivers that the causeway is closed. This would also stop drivers getting too far and deciding to ignore the closure.

(c) Putting in place some kind of regular maintenance plan for the ditches.

Cllr Macleod had received requests for signs at the Furzebrook roundabout warning that the causeway will be closed if flooded and another by the Police Station.

Hugh Ricks suggested caution, saying he watched an ambulance go through the flood water. Technically, the engines of emergency vehicles are waterproofed which means they can travel through floods and they are designed to be able to do so in order to take the shortest route to the emergency.

Terry Simmonds – lives near the boat yard at Ridge. This has been the most extraordinary winter but we have had quite a few winters and summers quite similar and this might become less extra-ordinary. Their back garden goes onto a ditch which was dug out last year and without this happening, they could have been flooded. He asked whose job it is to maintain the ditches.

Ditches that are on private land or farmland should be dug by the farmers - if they are allowed to do so by Natural England. The Environment Agency is responsible for rivers and streams but are reluctant to dredge them for fear of disturbing the wildlife living in them.

It was noted that the trees in the area of Ridge have been cut back in order to stabilise the bank.

Other villages put up signs asking people to drive slowly so the wash from the vehicle does not cause too much damage. Perhaps this could be considered in future.

Cllr Kenward suggested a barrier, similar to those used by the army to close the ranges. This may be a more effective solution than pointing out what should be perfectly obvious.

Cllr Heritage said that it would be simple enough to have a lockable cupboard with signs in it that could be put out when necessary. However, the barrier being on site all the time may be unsightly. At the Stoborough end it would be quite unobtrusive as there is fencing on both sides of the road. At the bridge end it would be more difficult to locate a barrier in such a way for it to be unobtrusive.

Would it be possible to proof how much money is wasted with lost signs, police time, etc. Whatever else happens, it was agreed that a meeting with Highways should be arranged in order to see if a barrier would be feasible. To put in a barrier would also help when the causeway is closed for the carnival. Such a meeting would need to include both Highways and the District Council. Perenco are willing to contribute to community projects and may put some money towards a barrier of some sort.

The Clerk will speak to all parties and try to convene a meeting date.

Cllr Ward suggested a product that slots together like Lego, fills itself with water from the incoming tide and glues itself to the road. As the water drains away, so it releases.

Cllr Cake reported that the authorities are very much aware of the problem and are looking at the meadow and causeway area as a whole. Talks are underway with the Environment Agency.

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

**14/151** Not in attendance.

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

**14/152** The Council tax will be set at next week's Council meeting. It is unlikely to go over 2% as this would mean a referendum will have to take place.

The flood banks being abandoned would not have any effect on Wareham and Ridge. It is not yet known if English Nature has the right to demand a further acreage to take the place of that lost to the flood banks. Consultation is currently on going and the parish council would like to be represented in the discussions.

The corner of Grange Road keeps flooding. This would appear to be the result of a land drain not being cleared by Highways as it is quite overgrown. Nearby gullies are full and need clearing again.

## **7. To consider items for discussion/report**

**14/153** Results of planning applications submitted to County / District Council

### **6/13/0285 – Land off Holme Lane, Wareham**

Change of use from agricultural land to woodland & SANG

**Agreed** *The Parish Council objects to this application.*

Approved

### **6/13/0347 – Doreys Ball Clay Quarry – Holme Lane**

Southerly extension to develop land to east of New Hall Farm

**Agreed** *The Parish Council does not object to this application although considerable concerns were raised regarding the effect the increased number of lorries will have on the parish.(For full comment, see July 2013 minutes).*

Approved

Cllr Kenward reported that everyone is uniformly asking that we push again for a speed limit in Grange Road. Apparently the lorry drivers themselves are asking for a limit. At the very least we should be supporting Church Knowle. It was unanimously agreed that we support the request for a reduction in the speed limit.

### **6/13/0401 – Little Farm, Worgret Road**

Erect ground mounted 400 panel photovoltaic array

**Agreed**

Approved

*The Parish Council has no objections and would support forms of alternative energy. However, we would welcome the raised panels in order to allow the land to be used for grazing sheep.*

### **6/12/0571-0609 Wytch Farm, Wareham & Kimmeridge Oilfields**

**To enable extension of operational life of oilfield development through the variation of a condition attached to an existing permission.**

**Agreed** *The Parish Council is pleased to see efforts are being made to maintain the bridleways and footpath access. We would prefer to see a minimum quantity of duckboards as these are not in keeping. We would imagine that Perenco will be giving money to support local infrastructure, as has been the case with other developers, and we would expect to be consulted as to what these monies might be put towards.*

### **6/2013/0285 SANG Holme Lane**

**Amendments to planning application.**

Although for information only, the Parish Council have submitted the following comment:

**Agreed**

Approved *The amendments provide a better line for the paths and is less deleterious to wildlife. However, unless the hedge screen is fenced on both sides, it will be eaten by deer well before the five years is complete and trimming becomes a factor. There is still no clarity regarding the funding of the management plan and we are very concerned that this may fall to the Parish Council, either directly or indirectly, through devices such as infrastructure charges. The constitution of the management body includes Natural England and PDC but still does not include a representative from the Parish Council. It is also noticed that, despite our request, the application is still not going to be put before the Planning Committee.*

**Navitus Bay** – Cllr Lovell reported that there will be a report coming out from County regarding the pros and cons of the consultation and this will be sent to all the parish councils in due course.

**6/2014/0002 Syldata, Arne Road – removal of condition 3 of PP312518 (1967) to allow unrestricted occupation**

**Approved** *No objections*  
Not Determined

**6/2014/0025 Middlebere Farm – installing secondary double glazing to the Bake House**

**Approved** *No objection.*  
Approved

**14/154 Reports from Representatives**

Stoborough Village Hall – Meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> February – well attended and productive. Rather than running the village hall on a day to day, they are going to build a strategic business plan. This will help when approaching various bodies for funding. A risk assessment has been drawn up, together with a wish list of about 22 items. Another meeting will be held within the month in order for trustees to prioritise the wish list. Things are moving forward.

Furzebrook Village Hall – Ticking along nicely.

Ridge Residents – Met on 20<sup>th</sup> January. Discussion was held on cyclist dismount signs on the tow path. BT have refurbished the telephone booth with credit card facilities. Open Gardens on 28<sup>th</sup> June. 11<sup>th</sup> March – AGM and Suzie Baverstock will give a talk.

Stoborough Meadow Residents Association – Nothing to report but concerned about ditches.

**14/155 Meetings attended by Councillors**

Cllr Ward – Nothing to report

Cllr Scragg – Working party to shore up towpath on 20<sup>th</sup> January and 25 people turned out to help. Thanks have been extended to the two companies who gave the material free of charge. He has met with the Environment Agency this afternoon as it will now all have to be done again as more repair work is needed. Volunteers will be needed again and e-mails will be sent out for help. A notice will also be put on the web site.

Cllr Kenward – (i) Hayricks with contractor to discuss the maintenance program.  
(ii) PDC Planning meeting re Doreys Pit. We won some concessions and County Councillors did listen to our representations. Work cannot start before 8am, all heavy goods vehicles must leave by the newly prepared site – this does not distinguish between the clay lorries and sand & gravel lorries, although this point is not completely clear.

Cllr Macleod – (i) PDC training for speaking at Planning Board meetings. It was suggested at the meeting that we try and attend as many planning board meetings as possible as speaking at them holds more sway than writing in.  
(ii) Purbeck Transport Action Group – buses and cyclists came up again but there is nothing new happening.

Cllr Pellegrini – has been away but reported that the Standards Committee will now only meet twice a year. Everything is very quiet

#### **14/156 To consider any actions required**

Meeting with various bodies re flood prevention and will also discuss hedging and ditching to be carried out through the summer.

#### **14/157 Web site update**

Nothing to report at this stage.

#### **14/158 Training Programme for the month ahead**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 6.30-8.30 – Dealing with listed buildings, conservation areas and trees. Anyone wishing to attend should inform the Clerk. If you are booked onto one of the sessions, but find you are unable to attend, please let the Clerk know as soon as possible.

### **8. To consider any Planning Application received**

- 14/159** *Non- Delegated* – **None**  
*Delegated*
- **6/2014/0040 Purbeck School, Worgrett Road**  
**Install groundsmans storage temporary building behind existing artificial grass pitch**
  - **TWA/2014/0009 Birches, Barnhill Road, Ridge**  
**Crown reduction of 6 silver birches & 1 oak – all with TPOs**
  - **6/2014/0062 Purbeck School, Worgrett Road**

**Refenestration of blocks E and H, demolition & construction  
of new music block, internal alterations**

Late Entry - **TWA/2014/0031 9 Stoborough Meast**  
**Crown reduce oak tree to give up to 2m clearance from house**

There wer no objections to any of the applications.

**9. Correspondence/items for action and resolution**

**14/160 CLERK'S REPORT**

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Update on Hayricks – zip wire seat will be fitted this week. The safety keys have arrived and as soon as we get some clear weather the work will be done on the play equipment.

**14/161 DISPENSATIONS**

None had been received.

**14/162 Neighbourhood Plan**

A Steering Group meeting was held on 10<sup>th</sup> February to which Stuart Todd of Stuart Todd Associates was invited. Groups have been set up and each member of the Steering Group will be heading one of the sub-groups. Cllr Pellegrini ran through the minutes of the meeting and a full copy of the minutes can be found on the web site. A note had been received from PDC regarding the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal. 7 groups have been drawn up and will be headed up as follows:

B Kenward	- Housing
R Scragg	- Commercial and Employment
V Ward	- Environment – covering the production of a Resilience Plan, Rights of Way
M Frenchman	- Medical facilities – Health & aging
C Macleod	- Transport
I Jenkins	- Police & Crime
A Pellegrini	- Education, Recreation & Youth

The importance of getting the youth on board was stressed. It will be necessary for councillors to be pro-active and approach them rather than wait for them to come forward.

Cllr Kenward suggested a photographic competition for young people – perhaps a photograph that best expresses the “Spirit of Arne.” These could then be displayed at the Information Evening and local businesses would be asked to donate a prize.

The next meeting will be help on 6<sup>th</sup> March at Evershot and will be open to all those who wish to attend. 6.30pm.

Hugh Ricks put his name forward to assist with the transport group.

Deadline for group leaders to put in a few words about what their group wishes to achieve to go to the Clerk by Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**14/163 To receive a report on flooding issues**

This has been covered under 14/150.

Steve Widmer of Corfe Road reported that the allotment and the adjacent field are flooding. This has been made worse since the ditch around the estate has been replaced in part by pipework.

**14/164 To consider the new Flight Path Consultation regarding Farnborough Airport**

The link to the consultation will be put on the Parish Council web site. This should be brought to the Ridge Residents association.

**14/165 To consider PDCs request for views regarding the treatment of planning applications**

Cllr Kenward reminded members that the Holme Lane SANG was the major application that did not go to committee that everyone thought should have done so. There should be a presumption that a planning application will go to the planning board.

Cllr Cake informed the meeting that there have, in the past, been applications that Officers have dealt with and refused and which have then gone to appeal and substantial costs have been awarded against the District Council. On these occasions members had wanted the applications to go before the board but were overruled by officers.

PDC are putting on planning training seminars which parish councillors are encouraged to attend. If they subsequently feel we are unable to make a rational decision, why offer the training.

Members then worked through the questionnaire.

1. Very dissatisfied. When there is an issue that is likely to be contentious and has been objected to by the Parish Council. If the officer's view is likely to contradict ours, then it should go before the planning board. If a councillor asks for it to go before the planning board, then it should be allowed to do so. If there are a large number of objections to the applications, it would be reasonable for it to go to the planning board, allowing anyone who wishes to have their 3 minutes.
2. Fairly dissatisfied. Although the parish councils are consulted on the initial application, we are not regularly consulted on amendments that may be considerable. Site visits – parish councillors are no longer allowed to attend.
3. Yes  
Fairly satisfied. Some of the exercises are a bit too simple and not particular engaging.  
Carry on providing training.

It was noted that one area that is avoided during the training sessions is the political component. Planning changes over time and with each government. On the one side we have the local considerations and the national on the other. An update on the national changes would be useful and how it reflects on local planning policy. This is reflected by district councils' reluctance to challenge some applications and risk them going to appeal in case they incur costs.

**14/166 To consider correspondence received since the Agenda was set for discussion and possibly placing on the agenda for the next meeting**

A request for financial support has been received from the Stoborough Village Hall Committee. Cllr Pellegrini explained that this was not what had been intended. What the committee was really asking for was guidance on how to go about raising some funds and would like some advice from the Parish Council.

The Clerk reported that a notification had been received from NALC regarding the repeal of s.150 (5) of the Local Government Act. The draft Legislative Reform Order has been approved by Parliament. The “proper practices” term must now be updated and it is expected to be approved in mid-February. Once the amended proper practices have been published, the Reform Order will come into force. Once in force, every council that wishes to take advantage of it must formally put in place effective systems and arrangements compliant with the proper practices before it seeks to abandon the two signature rule. This effectively means adopting new Financial Regulations, and internal procedures compliant with the guidance. NALC is drafting a new model Financial Regulations ready for release as soon as the Reform is in force. This will be accompanied by a more detailed implementation briefing.

**14/167 To consider items raised by the public during the Participation Period for discussion and placing on the next agenda**

Flood issue/barriers.

**10. Correspondence or items for specific information**

**14/168** Nothing received.

**11. Correspondence for General Information**

**14/169** PDC to raise the Commonwealth Flag on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Cllr Trite will be raising the flag 10am outside Westport House – everyone welcome.

**12. Payment of Accounts**

**14/170** The following payments had been requested:

Caloo	Aerial runway seat	415	176.40
Anvil Ground	Work at Stoborough Meadow	416	678.00
Wicksteed	Security keys for Hayricks	417	48.00
Mrs A Crocker	February wages + expenses	418	416.20
HMRC	February PAYE	419	86.40

This represents a total of £1,405.00 payable from the Precept.

Cllr Kenward proposed that the payments were made. This was seconded by Cllr Ward and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by two councillors in the presence of the meeting.



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

There were no items to be considered.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 20:55 pm

Planning Committee meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014 if there are plans to discuss

The next meeting will be on the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at 7.00pm, Stoborough Village Hall