



**MINUTES OF THE ARNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD  
ON THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2018 AT STOBOROUGH  
VILLAGE HALL, COMMENCING 7PM**

- Present:** Cllrs R Scragg, V Ward, A Pellegrini, R Bessant, P Love
- Chair:** Cllr A Wakefield-Sutton
- Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker
- Also present:** 40 members of the public, Ian Alexander of Natural England, Neil Watson of the Environment Agency, Dante Munns of RSPB, County Cllr Beryl Ezzard, and District Cllr Malcolm Barnes.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if any members of the public intended filming or recording the proceedings. No such intentions were declared.

**1. Public Participation Period**

18.191 Gordon Wright wished to raise some questions of behalf of a group of concerned residents regarding the statement made by Natural England (NE) in respect of the Arne Moors Project. The statement indicated that the wider benefits of the project should not be constrained by the presence of protected species. Ian Alexander responded saying that protected species should not be seen as a constraint to development and development must take account of any protected species. There are well rehearsed mitigation procedures in place to protect such species. NE work closely with developers to make sure all developments take account of any protected species. Mr Wright then asked why it would be necessary to form saline lagoons as the project was intended to replace what was being lost and there were no saline lagoons or any indication of saline lagoons within the report. Ian Alexander responded saying there are multiple overlapping conservation designations covering this site. Part of the site near the River Frome is a refuge for waders and wildfowl which roost or feed in the grass land that is in the area of the mouth of the River Frome. The saline lagoons will replicate the function of the grassland that will be lost if the scheme is constructed and will replace the high tide refuge.

Robin Smail, speaking on behalf of the Stoborough Kill Your Speed Action Group, requested further support from the Parish Council. They have recently asked for further traffic calming measures from DCC and are very interested in trying to get a safer pavement by the school entrance by putting a bridge behind the existing, narrow path. They are also keen to slow traffic in West Lane by rumble strips or the installation of a mini-contra-flow. The group have been told that all requests for such traffic calming measures must come from Arne Parish Council. Debbie Corbin, Head Teacher of Stoborough Primary School, also requested that, during school opening and closing time, the speed limit is reduced to 20mph. They would, further, like to see the speed on the causeway reduced to 30mph. Now the school is taking children for an additional two years, many of the older children walk to school unaccompanied and they wish to see a safer route to school put in place. By way of assisting this, they have submitted a planning application to have some work carried out on the willow tree overhanging the pavement. By removing some of the lower branches, the

school entrance will be more visible to traffic. Cllr Pellegrini suggested that another meeting is requested with DC Highways following the recent change of staff.

Roger Cohan – Ridge Residents – potential thick layers of peat in the area of the proposed work at Arne. The NE report states that the ground type will significantly affect the development and the correct materials required for the bund may have to be imported by truck – possibly 9,000 truck loads. If the poor quality materials have to be removed from the site, additional truck movements will be required. Has this been taken into account? Neil Watson responded saying that the current investigations are the result of the statement made in the strategic report. The figures will change as more investigations are carried out and any application that goes forward to planning will have to consider traffic movements, etc.

Mr Evans, Oak Tree Close spoke regarding the potential building sites north and south of West Lane. On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of March it was noticed that some topographical surveying was taking place on the site. This caused considerable concern amongst residents and encouraged him to write to PDC, asking what was happening. PDC were not able to offer any explanation and were not aware of any work taking place. Mr Evans felt that the best way forward was for Arne Parish Council to complete the Neighbourhood Plan as quickly as possible and have this in place before the Local Plan is finalised. He went on to say that the term ‘small site’ as quoted in the Local Plan, is relative to the area – 30 houses in Stoborough would have a substantial impact, whilst 30 houses in Wool, for example, would not.

Rob Smail – spoke in support of Mr Evans. He added that the criteria for the small housing sites did not include how it would impact on neighbours.

Richard Bessant reported that the dual carriageway was awash following heavy rainfall overnight on the 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> March. He believed that this was largely due to a problem with a French drain that was put in when the bypass was built. He noted that there was an accident in this area last year when the standing water froze. He asked if a letter could be sent to Highways to have the drain checked. It was also noted that some of the problem could be alleviated if the RSPB could clear the drain running behind the houses along Furzebrook Road. The Clerk will contact the RSPB and DC Highways.

<b>ACTION: CLERK</b>
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**2. Declaration of Interests**

18.192 No interests were declared and no requests for dispensation had been received.

**3. To receive apologies for absence**

18.193 Apologies had been received from Cllrs Don Hunter and Shelley Cranshaw.

**4. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

18.194 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Pellegrini proposed the minutes to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Ward and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chair in the presence of the meeting.

**5. Matters arising from the minutes – for report only**

18.195 Grant request form has been received from the Purbeck Youth & Community Foundation

and will be considered at the April meeting.

Sign at the Hayricks – outstanding

Scott Estate – outstanding

Melancholy Lane sign – now in place.

Imerys Environmental Undertaking – Cllr Scragg requested that he be permitted to act as liaison for the project based on cleaning the upper reaches of Corfe River. Cllr Bessant explained that £10,000 had been allocated to Arne Parish Council and it had been suggested that this money was put towards the cleaning of the lower section of the Corfe River. The Parish Council would be required to get the agreement of the landowners running either side of the river and, it is understood, that this is predominantly RSPB land. Cllr Love proposed that the money is put towards the Corfe River project. This was seconded by Cllr Scragg and agreed unanimously. The Clerk will contact Dante Munns of the RSPB regarding the landowners' consent.

**ACTION: CLERK**

The notice board doors are now in place.

The salt bin for Sunnyside is in place and awaiting filling.

Allotment ditch – The Lengthsman reported that the ditch along the back of the allotments cannot be joined with the New Road ditch due to an oak tree in its path. This tree carries a TPO. The cost of clearing the ditches will be £1,100 and would have to be carried out by an external contractor as a Chapter 8 certificate is required for working alongside a main road.

Hayricks inspection – the inspection has been undertaken and the Clerk will be contacting Wicksteed to arrange a site visit and obtain a quotation for work to the children's play area.

**ACTION: CLERK**

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

18.196 A copy of Cllr Ezzard's report had been issued to all members prior the meeting. It was noted that over 5,000 responses had been received to the Local Plan consultation.

Representative from Town & Parish Councils to sit on the Community Tasks and Engagement Group - Cllr Pellegrini felt it was important the Parish Councils are involved with the decisions from the beginning and how they are going to be affected by the reorganisation. The Clerk reported that the invitation issued to Town and Parish Councils has subsequently been withdrawn as it had not been discussed in advance with the Chief Executive or Executive Committee and some of the members have raised issues such as the process of selecting the three representatives. It was felt that the Association would like a fairer and more measured process for getting the representative views of the town and parish council members, possibly by use of engagement workshops.

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

18.197 Cllr Barnes reported that Church Knowle Parish Council were a little confused about what part of the Imerys money was being spent in which parish. It would be beneficial for the three parishes to discuss what was happening. The Clerk suggested that DWT is invited to attend a future meeting to explain how the £40,000 has been spent within the three parishes.

## **8. Finance**

### 18.198 To confirm the payment of accounts

The following payments had been requested:

Parish Online	Annual mapping subscription	BACS039	70.80
DC Pension Fund	March contribution	200563	143.87
Mrs A Crocker	March wages + expenses	200564	447.77
HMRC	March PAYE	200565	98.80
RLN Joinery	3 x notice board doors	200566	780.00
JRS Treecare	Lengthsman 22/1 – 12/3/18	200567	1076.25

Total amount due from the Precept £2,617.49.

Cllr Bessant proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Ward and agreed unanimously.

### 18.199 To consider the bank reconciliation and position against budget

A copy of the reports had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No questions were raised and no comments made.

## **9. Parish Reports -**

### 18.200 Councillors' reports on meetings attended

Cllr Bessant – 26/2 Integrated Transport Review at DCC; 12/3 Imerys meeting – felling pines and birches – not oak trees. Also brought up the state of the verges along Furzebrook Road. The new lagoons from Doreys Pit are proving to be very successful and water tests on the Tollbar stream are all very positive.

Cllr Love – 5/3 Housing Forum PDC; 12/3 Imerys meeting

Cllr Scragg – Nothing to report

Cllr Wakefield-Sutton – 7/3 Hayricks; 13/3 Flood Resilience Group; 8/3 Wareham Charities meeting

Cllr Ward – 7/3 Hayricks; 13/3 Flood Resilience Group; 6/3 RSPB; 13/3 Environment Agency

Cllr Pellegrini – Kill Your Speed Group meeting

### 18.201 Reports from Outside Bodies

Stoborough Village Hall – There is a visit from Viridor on the 16<sup>th</sup> March regarding the application to build the storage extension.

Furzebrook Village Hall – nothing to report.

Stoborough Meadow Residents' Association – Nothing to report but would reiterate the

request to clear the ditches along the back of the allotments.

Ridge Residents' Association – AGM on was held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March. The Association remains financially viable so have set the subscription to zero for the coming year. A cheque was presented to Dementia Friendly Purbeck for £520 at the AGM.

Stoborough Primary School – Debbie Corbin reported that it has been a very busy year, focusing on raising standards in reading, writing and maths. The school now has a Master in Maths programme in operation. Supporting children with their mental welfare. More sport is being held at lunch time and new clubs have been started. The school now has a girls' football club who have received some training with the national England ladies team. A tree works application has been submitted in respect of the willow tree growing out of the ditch at the side of the stream. It currently leans at a 45' angle and reduces drivers' views of the school entrance. The aim is to remove one branch which will open the front of the school, making it more visible to vehicles.

#### 18.202 Reports relating to the Hayricks, Allotments and SANG

Hayricks – Weekly inspections are being carried out by Cllrs Ward and Wakefield-Sutton. The Clerk will arrange for a site meeting with Wicksteed regarding repairs to the climbing frame.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Allotments – Cllr Love reported that there are now no vacant plots and two on the waiting list. Colin Johnson has laid the hedge on the south side of the allotments again and a thank you will be sent on behalf of the Parish Council. The allotments committee have asked if the bonfire restrictions could be lifted from the end of March until the end of April as the weather has prevented allotment holders from doing the work necessary over the earlier months. Cllr Pellegrini felt that, due to the exceptionally poor weather, a small extension would be acceptable. Steve Widmer did not feel it was appropriate as a few of the allotment holders have, in the past, lit bonfires and left burning, smouldering fires all day whilst they walk away. Cllr Love will meet with Steve and Colin and look at a way forward.

SANG – Cllr Pellegrini has issued his monthly report to Edward Pettit-Mills.

#### 18.203 Neighbourhood Plan Update

Cllr Pellegrini reported that the Steering Group is conscious of the need to complete and felt that we need to employ Jo Witherden to assist. PDC have confirmed that the HRA and SA will be completed by 27<sup>th</sup> March. The pre submission to PDC should be ready around August/September.

#### 18.204 Web site review and newsletter update

This is still under review and will be brought forward to next month's meeting.

#### 18.205 To receive an update on the Arne Moors Project

Already covered.

#### 18.206 Ridge Engine Shed Update

Residents are proceeding to have the building listed as 'At Risk'

## 18.207 Flood Resilience and Emergency Planning Update

Since the last meeting there have been four flood alerts and the parish is still on an alert.

Cllrs Ward and Wakefield-Sutton, together with the Clerk, met with Marc Norris of SSE and Terry Bain, Police Amateur Radio Society. The meeting was very useful and informative Marc Norris will be invited to attend the Parish AGM as guest speaker as there are a number of very useful initiatives which will benefit many residents.

Cllr Ward also met with Debbie Corbin to discuss an alternative site for the generator and she is going to speak to the Governors next week to see if this can be progressed.

Cllr Ward had a meeting with the EA on the 13<sup>th</sup> March. The Parish Council is trying to get a new gauge on the causeway. This has taken three years but the EA have now come forward and said they are able to help and the new gauge should be in place by September.

SSE is happy to offer manpower to carry out work on a local project and it was suggested that the tow path would be ideal for this.

## 18.208 Report on meeting held with the RSPB

Cllrs Hunter and Ward met with representatives of the RSPB on the 6<sup>th</sup> March. Amongst items discussed were consideration to be given to routing traffic along Hartland Road and/or Soldiers Road for events such as the pine-pulling; the protection of mature woodland, although the RSPB is not committed to planting new trees as they wish to enable their land to return to heathland; the possibility of creating off-road routes from Sunnyside to Soldiers Road; and to discuss with DC Highways the installation of appropriate signage to remind motorists that Arne Road is single lane. Other items included the possibility of approaching SatNav manufacturers to indicate access to RSPB Arne via New Road rather than Nutcrack Lane and the installation of direction signs on the corner of New Road and Corfe Road and replace the 'Heathland' sign at the crossroads.

The group will be meeting with Dawn Atkins of DC Highways on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March to look at the state of the highways and speed limits along the roads leading to the RSPB site. Perhaps this visit could be combined with a Kill Your Speed meeting.

## **10. To consider Planning Applications**

**18.209 6/2017/0680 Worgret Manor – internal alterations, new tiled pitched roof to replace flat roof. Convert guest rooms to self-contained flat**

**6/2017/0640 1 Hollow Oak Road – alterations & room in roof space**

**TWA/2018/036 Stoborough Primary School – T1 willow; fell one stem leaning towards pavement**

**TWA/2018/047 2 Old Kiln Road, Ridge –T1 Acer – remove 2 branches**

Cllr Pellegrini proposed no objections to any of the applications. This was seconded by Cllr Scragg and agreed unanimously.

<b>ACTION: CLERK</b>
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## **11. Correspondence and items for action and resolution**

### 18.210 To agree the Parish Council's Statement regarding the Arne Moors Project

All members had received a copy of the Statement prior to the meeting.

The statement had been previously posted on the Parish Council web site and received positive feedback. However, it had been suggested that, in response to the feedback, following policy is added:

'To ensure that the rare flora and fauna on The Moors are recognised and mitigated for in an appropriate manner on site.'

Cllr Pellegrini proposed that the amended statement is accepted and lodged on the web site. This was seconded by Cllr Love and agreed unanimously.

### 18.211 Defects for passing on to the Lengthsman

- Barnhill Road sign need levelling
- Allotment ditch needs clearing out

## **12. Correspondence received since the Agenda was set**

18.212 Nothing to add.

## **13. Additional items considered urgent by the Chairman**

18.213 Nothing to add.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.51pm.

The next meeting will take place on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018** at Stoborough Village Hall, commencing 7pm.