

BUCKHORN WESTON & KINGTON MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 4th March 2013 at 7.30pm in Kington Magna Village Hall

Item	Present: Parish Councillors Mr Bob Dolan (BD), Mr Kevin Aldred (KA) Mr Anthony Jenner (AJ) Mr Nigel Osborne (NO) Ms Phillippa Chapman (PC) Mr John Havill (JH), Mr Graham Hinks	Action
	In attendance: District Councillor Mr Geoffrey Miller (GM), Internal Auditor Mr Michael Ross, Mr Martyn Underhill (Dorset PCC), Geoff Peters members of the public 22	
93/12	Apologies: Mrs Christine Wynne, Mrs Cathy Hamilton, Mr Rob Crittall	
94/12	Minutes of previous meeting: It was proposed and resolved that these were a true representation.	
95/12	Matters arising: Map of drain system as discussed in pc meeting 7.1.13 has already been given to DCC, new map to be produced.	
96/12	District Councillors report: GM The Council tax has been set and will rise on average around £2-3 per household this is the first time it has risen for some time and a small rise has prevented DCC and NDDC from borrowing money. However the Parish will actually see a small decrease as the tax base has changed. Gillingham Post Office is due to be closed from Wednesday 6 th March to Friday 15 th for reconstruction. South Somerset District Council are willing to communicate with NDDC and the parish regarding further planning applications. There will be by-elections in The Stours and Gillingham as Peter Webb and his wife are leaving the area. GM has taken on additional responsibility in the interim. GM opposed a planning application for an access directly on to the A30 near to Stour Hill Farm, this is already a dangerous route.	GM
97/12	County Councillors report: None present	
98/12	Police report: On 28 th Feb a disturbance was reported in BW at around 2200 hours, also in Feb a male received injuries from dogs in the Sandley area, this matter was resolved by way of a Community Resolution. Mr Martyn Underhill: Introduced himself as the new Police and Crimes Commissioner for Dorset and explained his role, he currently operates with a budget of £255,000 with seven staff and a number of PCC forums and looks to seek advice from the public regarding the main issues surrounding policing in Dorset. The big challenge is to represent everyone, especially the elderly as they are the vast majority of Dorset's population. Mr Underhill stated that he stood for two things; firstly victims, and is in the process of setting up a victim's bureau. Secondly volunteers, using the public's help and he would like to see neighbourhood watch and similar schemes being widened. He is pushing for a new North Dorset hub which should be in place in the next 5 years with the aim of getting 100 more rural specials in place. BD asked if there is any effect / benefit from being so close to county borders. MU Yes, have met with other forces to discuss sharing resources, Dorset Police is looking to cut £10 million although resource sharing will only formalise what is already in practice. AJ asked if the aim was to rely on more special constables.	

	<p>MU Yes, Dorset is one of the lowest funded forces and is shrinking but would still look to recruit more Specials due to the community feel they instil and bring a different mix to policing. AJ How confident are you at recruiting them? MU It is more of a challenge to recruit in rural areas but rural areas need a different form of policing, there is a possibility of changing shift patterns.</p>	
99/12	<p>Public Session: Mr John Griffiths – has an issue with a member of the public walking over his land with a shot gun and hunting / shooting at wildlife / game as well as walking with a dog not on a lead. The person in question believes they have a right to be on the land. Mr Griffiths has concerns over the conduct and appropriate use of a firearm. MU asked that Mr Griffiths contact him directly via email and that the issue would be dealt with. Mr Steve Scott – Crime is low in the area but when it happens it can have a devastating effect such as theft of lead off a church roof or heating oil. The later having extreme environmental consequences as the current practice is to drill a hole in the tank and let the oil run out. Would there be any possibility to look at putting on additional officers on nights that were due to be clear as many of the crimes only occur on moonlit nights generally after 2.00am. MU this is the reason we are looking at changing shift patterns but funding is also an issue to get the resources to do so. Mrs Anne Ledgerwood – Dog waste is being put into the village hall dustbin at Buckhorn Weston, could an appropriate dog waste bin be provided? BD asked to add as item to the next agenda for discussion.</p>	
100/12	<p>Planning: 9.1 Stapleton Arms: BD The PC listened long to the commercial argument to lift the tie on the proposed development of a property at the rear of the Stapleton Arms. It was agreed by all that this should be done and approved at planning meeting on 25.2.2013. Postscript – a full financial argument has been provided to and approved by BW&KM PC internal auditor Mike Ross</p> <p>9.2 Update on Henstridge: AJ The issue still runs on and decision has been deferred until April. The PC still meets with surrounding PC's to share ideas and information and are looking to NDDC to provide more support.</p>	
101/12	<p>Speeding: The current issue of speeding cars were discussed, MU explained the aim is to use Home Watch organisation to help enforce speed limits, BD explained that neither village currently has a speed limit. Mrs Alma Floyd stated there was recently an incident with a car and horse in KM, Mrs Wendy Martin stated that it should be 'a duty of care' by the police and DCC to provide a speed limit. MU stated he was shocked to hear neither village had a speed limit and would support the Parish Councils application to DCC to have one instated. Application to be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	
102/12	<p>Shaftesbury and Gillingham Home Watch Association: Mr Brian Walker, a group currently runs in BW but at present lack of direction and focus and he has tender his resignation as village coordinator from the post. Would the PC support it to help it continue? KA asked how the group continues, BW voluntary contribution. AJ asked if there was any liaison between BW and KM in the past BW yes previously when there was someone in KM in the role of coordinator. JH if would like speed watch to work in the future then we need to take this forward. Mr Geoff Peters spoke about the organisation, what they can offer to the parish in terms of guidance and equipment</p>	

	as well as events, campaign activity and liaisons with the police and PCSOs.	
103/12	Chairman's report: Whilst there is a lot of doom and gloom we are very fortunate to have a low crime rate and high life expectancy with beautiful surrounds. The year has seen marvellous jubilee celebrations in the parish; the council has been busy with a multitude of issues including finances, travellers' site, Henstridge Airfield, grit bins and various planning applications. We do not yet have superfast broadband or speed limits so there is plenty still to do. All the councillors have put in a lot of effort in working for the Parish and we should be pleased we have such a capable and dedicated team. Many thanks also to Michael Ross for guidance after John Bellamy's sad departure, Ben Carver as our tree consultant, Steve Scott for all his hard work whilst no longer being a councillor and Len Roberts who is ready to help with anything required. There are many more unsung heroes in both villages so many thanks and keep up the good work.	
104/12	Responsible Financial Officers report: Reconciliation – we have a healthy balance currently The current account as of 31 st Jan stands at £6,485.61. Payments – we have one or two payments to adjust. Budgets / precept – the relief in the grant is greater for KM due to population profile differences between the villages.	
105/12	Clerks report: We have received correspondence from the office of the Traffic Commissioner regarding the operators licence for WS Scrap metals. They have now refused the application and the case is closed. We have received a letter from St John the Baptist Church in BW requesting £400 in maintenance grant – this is included in the precept, All agreed and resolved to pay in full. We have also received a letter from victim support requesting information on how to apply for a grant. The winter newsletter from DAPTC is with the Clerk, please ask for a copy.	
106/12	Other reports: Highways – NO – Had thought that many of the issues had been resolved but will continue to chase them. In the meantime anyone can report an issue via the Dorset for You website. GH the road surface in Nyland needs completely replacing along with the issues of flooding - NO to chase. A map of all grit bins is needed with the request of residents to adopt a grit bin and inform the PC when it is empty. We are in need of more bins – add to next agenda. Footpaths – PC – Have emailed countryside access officer regarding the footpath on Back lane and tree covered in ivy, the footpath on Breech Lane also needs attention. Clerk to email CH regarding initiative on footpaths Public transport – AJ to attend a workshop, will report back at the next meeting	NO PC Clerk
107/12	Items for the next agenda – Road signs, Grit Bins, Dog waste bins	
108/12	Date of next meeting: Monday 8th April 2013 7.30pm Buckhorn Weston Village Hall, Annual Parish Meeting, Monday 13th May 7.30pm Buckhorn Weston Village Hall Annual Parish Council meeting.	
	Close of meeting 9.22pm	
	Signed Date	

