

# Stinsford Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8 July 2024  
at 7:00pm in The Old Library, Kingston Maurward College**

**Present:** Mr Michael Clarke (Chair), Mr George Armstrong, Mr Edd Maynard, and Mr Justin Morris

**Also in attendance:** Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk – attending remotely)

## **61. Apologies for Absence**

61.1 Apologies for absence were received from Ms Susan Escott, Mr Kevin Henville, Mrs Sarah Pattison and Dorset Councillor David Taylor.

## **62. Declarations of Interest**

62.1 Mr Maynard declared a personal interest in the agenda item regarding the merger of Weymouth College and Kingston Maurward College by reason of being an employee of Kingston Maurward College.

## **63. Public participation time**

63.1 There being no members of the public present, the Chair moved to the next item.

## **64. Dorset Council matters**

64.1 The Parish Council noted the update provided by Cllr Taylor in his absence that he had been in contact with STAND to inform a meeting with the new Portfolio Holder for Planning and Emergency Planning to seek clarification about the development of the Local Plan and the implications for the North of Dorchester Garden Community.

## **65. Minutes**

65.1 It was **resolved** that the minutes of meetings held on 13 May (Annual Parish Meeting of Electors and Annual Parish Council Meeting) and 10 June 2024 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

65.2 Further to minute 55.1, the Chair reported that he had raised the request to relocate the tractor and telehandler training area so as to reduce the noise impact on residents of Church Lane with the Principal of Kingston Maurward College. However, given the proposed merger the Principal was not in a position to respond to this. It was resolved to raise this with the Interim Principal / Chief Executive once they were in post.

## **66. Finance**

### Expenditure

66.1 The following items of expenditure were **resolved**:

- HMRC - (PAYE) (Quarter 1 2024/25) – £292.80
- Miss K Riglar - Clerk's salary (Quarter 1 2024/25) - £439.80

66.2 The following payments made by Direct Debit were **noted**:

- HugoFox – Website – May 2024 – £11.99
- HSBC – Bank Charges – May 2024 - £10.00
- HugoFox – Website – June 2024 – £11.99
- HSBC – Bank Charges – June 2024 - £8.00

66.3 Bank reconciliation

The bank reconciliation for Quarter 1 2024/45 showing a net balance of £14,898.37 as at 21 June 2024 was **received**.

**67. Governance Documents**

67.1 The Clerk explained that the Parish Council's three key governance documents should be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that they are fit for purpose. These had last been reviewed in 2022 and recommendations had been made by the Internal Auditor in both 2023 and 2024 that these be reviewed to ensure that the financial thresholds included in the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were aligned.

67.2 It was **resolved** that

- (a) the Local Government Association Model Councillor Code of Conduct be confirmed without amendment;
- (b) the proposed amended Standing Orders based on the NALC Model Standing Orders be adopted: and
- (c) the proposed amended Financial Regulations based on the NALC Model Financial Regulations published in April 2024 be adopted.

**68. Planning Application**

68.1 P/VOC/2024/02581 - Greenwood Grange, Henchard, Access to Hardys Cottage, Higher Bockhampton DT2 8QH - Make alterations to convert existing tea rooms into 1No. holiday cottage removal of Condition 2 under planning consent 1/E/03/002098

Following the deferral of this item at the last meeting, it was **resolved** to retrospectively approve the submission of the following objection to meet the deadline:

*Stinsford Parish Council objects to this application for the following reasons:*

- (i) The rationale for imposing Condition 2 - to restrict use to a residential dwelling restricted to holiday use - remains relevant given the nature of the site.*
- (ii) The change of use of Henchard to a private residence would fundamentally change the nature of the Greenwood Grange site which is solely designed and intended for provision of holiday accommodation and facilities.*
- (iii) There is no information provided as to the interface of the proposed private residence with the rest of the holiday cottages and facilities on the site should the application be successful.*
- (iv) There is no information provided about the provision of external space for the proposed private residence.*

**69. Parish Council Assets**

69.1 *Future of Lower Bockhampton play area* - The Parish Council considered the responses received to the consultation article in The Pilot about the future of the Lower Bockhampton play area. Whilst these were mixed in relation to the suggested options set out in the article, the overarching views were that the accessibility of the play area needed to be improved to ensure that the area could be used by all local residents, that a wildflower area should be introduced to the area and that it should be available for use by all residents including children and young people. A generous offer of assistance with design was received from a local resident who was a successful garden designer.

- 69.2 It was **resolved** to develop a long-term plan, subject to resources, to:
- (i) remove the football posts as these were not used;
  - (ii) when the swings needed to be replaced, relocate these to the lower, more accessible area currently allocated as the football pitch;
  - (iii) use the vacated upper area for wildflower planting; and
  - (iii) publish an article in The Pilot outlining these proposals.
- 69.3 *Lower Bockhampton Telephone Kiosk* – No progress had been made on this due to the recent poor weather. Mr Armstrong added that he would speak to the residents of the neighbouring property about cutting back the tree next to the tree.
- 69.4 *Parish noticeboards* – Mr Armstrong reported that the Higher Bockhampton noticeboard was now in situ. It was **resolved** to approach the Dorchester Men's Shed about fixing the door on one of the other noticeboards.
- 69.5 *Installation of grit bin at Higher Bockhampton* – The Clerk reported that the Community Highways Officer had confirmed that this should be yellow in colour as this made it easier for identification by the Highways Team and residents. It was therefore **resolved** to purchase a yellow bin and commission Mr John Kimber to install this together with a slab base in lined with his previous quote.
- 70. Merger of Kingston Maurward College and Weymouth College**
- 70.1 The Parish Council noted that the merger of Kingston Maurward College and Weymouth College was due to go ahead from 1 August and an Interim Principal / Chief Executive appointed. It was understood that the employees of Kingston Maurward College had been given the proposed staff structure.
- 70.2 Concerns were expressed about the status of transfer to the new merged college of the Ilchester Estate land currently leased to Kingston Maurward College. It was agreed that the Chairman would approach the Interim Principal / Chief Executive about this once she was in post.
- 71. North of Dorchester Garden Community**
- 71.1 The new government's stance in relation to house building was awaited to ascertain the likely impact on the proposed North of Dorchester Garden Community.
- 71.2 The Parish Council considered the proposed Freedom of Information request relating to the purchase of land of Lyscombe. It was **resolved** that, subject to an addition requesting clarification of 'the catchment area' referred to in the press release, the request be submitted to Natural England.
- 72. Road Safety, Traffic Management and Rights of Way**
- 72.1 There were no updates in relation to the road safety issues along Slyer's Lane.
- 72.2 The Chair reported that he had received some of road issues in specific areas of the parish from Parish Councillors. He suggested that once these had been received, these be prioritised in order to be submitted to the Community Highways Officer.
- 72.3 The Parish Council noted the correspondence from residents about the significant impact on Cuckoo Lane following a recent incident resulting in the closure of the A35 and the need for there to be control to prevent the use of this single track rural road with restriction by road users as an alternative route. It was **resolved** to contact the Community Highways Officer to ascertain the key personnel in both Highways and Dorset Police to contact about this.

72.4 It was also **resolved** an email be submitted to Mr David Ackerley, Senior Ranger (Central), seeking an update in relation to the repair of Stinsford Bridge and the need for the vegetation along the River Path to be cut back.

**73 Correspondence**

73.1 There were no items of correspondence for consideration.

**74. Items for next meeting**

74.1 No specific items were noted.

**75. Date of future meetings**

75.1 It was noted that the future meetings were scheduled to be held on Monday 12 August (reserve date) and Monday 9 September 2024 – subject to confirmation of accommodation bookings.

The meeting concluded at 8:07pm.

**Chairman..... Date.....**