

Stinsford Parish Council

**Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Monday 14 October 2024
at 7:00pm in The Old Library, Kingston Maurward College**

Present: Mr Michael Clarke (Chair), Ms Sue Escott, Mr Kevin Henville, Mr Edd Maynard, and Mrs Sarah Pattison (Vice-Chair)

Also in attendance: Dorset Councillor David Taylor and Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk) – attending remotely

91. Apologies for Absence

91.1 Apologies for absence were received from Mr George Armstrong and Mr Justin Morris.

92. Declarations of Interest

92.1 There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interest.

93. Public Participation Time

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

94. Finance

Expenditure

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

- HMRC (PAYE) (Quarter 2 2024/25) – £292.80
- Clerk's salary (Quarter 2 2024/25) - £439.80

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

- HugoFox – Website – August 2024 – £11.99
- HSBC – Bank Charges – August 2024 - £10.00

95. Road Safety and Traffic Management issues

95.1 The Parish Council considered prioritisation of the road safety and traffic management issues identified by the Parish Councillors to be raised with Dorset Council and/or National Highways with a focus on the solutions that were likely to be most attainable.

95.2 Having discussed this, the following were agreed as priorities:

(i) Reduced Speed Limits:

- 30mph Greys Bridge to Stinsford Hill to Bockhampton Cross (should it be 20 mph approaching the Studio School?)
- 30mph from A35 to Cuckoo Lane to Lower Bockhampton to junction with West Stafford Road
- 30mph road between Stinsford Hill House to Slyers Lane Cross to Junction with Old Sherborne Road (Charminster)
- 40 mph on Slyers Lane - Ridgeway to junction with B3150

(ii) Weight Restrictions:

- Enforcement of existing restriction on Cuckoo Lane and signage
- New restriction on Slyers Lane

- Clarity and enforcement on Bockhampton Bridge
- (iii) Passing Places made up and marked clearly:
 - Cuckoo Lane
 - Slyers Lane
- (iv) Road widening/improvement:
 - From Dark Hill to Maurward's Bore Station (taking into account impact of new enlarged studio school)

95.3 Cllr Taylor explained that a new transport issue reporting system had been put in place successfully by Stratton and Charminster Parish Councils and suggested that the Parish Council encourage residents to record or report the details of issues in a consistent way in order to collate an evidence base that could be presented to Dorset Council and other organisations to demonstrate hotspots and trends. It was noted that in some areas, such as Slyer's Lane and London Road, properties were dispersed and set back from the road so hearing or seeing issues might not be obvious.

95.4 In relation to Cuckoo Lane, it was acknowledged that the current weight restriction needed to be enforced and signage available to make road users aware of this. Additionally, it was noted that there were some instances of coaches attempting to drive down the lane to the Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre or cars seeking to reach Hardy's Birthplace. It was suggested that the National Trust be approached about the information made available to visitors relating to accessibility or groups arriving by coach.

95.5 Mrs Pattison reported that she had contacted Piddle Valley Parish Council about the possibility of leading a call for a masterplan for the Piddlehinton Industrial Estate with a view to having a requirement for distribution companies based there to contribute to infrastructure and improving road safety.

95.6 It was **resolved** to:

- (i) submit the prioritised 'wish list' above to the Community Highways Officer, via Cllr Taylor, to pursue the improvement of these road safety and traffic management issues in the parish;
- (ii) implement a system via the website for residents to report issues such as road traffic accidents, the impact of road closures or near misses; and
- (iii) approach the National Trust, and Dorset Council if appropriate, about the information provided to visitors about accessibility to Hardy's Birthplace.

95.7 The Chair thanked Cllr Taylor for his assistance in progressing these issues on behalf of the Parish Council.

96. Dorset Council update

96.1 In addition, Cllr Taylor reported that the repairs to Stinsford Bridge had been completed and publicised in the Dorset Echo. The Parish Council welcomed this but pointed out that the public seat had been removed when the repairs were made and had not been replaced. Cllr Taylor undertook to raise this with officers.

96.2 He also drew attention to the linking up of more cycleways between the villages to the north-west of Dorchester and the town. The Chair raised the issue of the use of the London Road footpath as a cycleway to provide a safe route for cyclists to travel to Kingston Maurward.

96.3 Mr Henville asked about the receipt of Community Infrastructure Levy funding and whether this could be used for the provision of a defibrillator in the Higher Bockhampton area. It was confirmed that this would be an appropriate use of this funding when received and it was suggested that Dorset Council be approached about the possibility of this being located outside the Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre.

97. Items for next/future Agenda

97.1 It was resolved to:

- (i) invite the Public Community Support Officer responsible for the parish to attend future meetings and provide her with the dates;
- (ii) seek a meeting with Ed Morello MP to discuss issues within the parish; and
- (iii) invite the Dorset National Park Team to a future meeting to hear more about the pros and cons, particularly in relation to managing tourists visiting the area.

98. Date of next meeting

98.1 It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled to be held on Monday 13 November 2024.

The meeting concluded at 8:04pm.

Chairman..... Date.....