

Stinsford Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 July 2025
at 7:00pm in The Old Library, Kingston Maurward College

Present: Mrs Sarah Pattison (Chair), Mr George Armstrong, Mr Michael Clarke, Mrs Sue Escott and Mr Kevin Henville

Also in attendance: Miss Kirsty Riglar (Clerk)

60. Apologies for Absence

60.1 Apologies for absence were received from Mr Edd Maynard and Dorset Councillor David Taylor.

61. Declarations of Interest

61.1 There were no declarations of interest.

62. Public Participation Time

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

63. Dorset Council Matters

63.1 In the absence of Cllr Taylor, the Chair moved to the next item.

64. Minutes

64.1 It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meetings held on 12 May and 9 June 2025 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a true record.

64.2 Further to minute 43/2025, the Parish Council noted that the planning application in respect of the Rainbarrow Farm Anaerobic Digester Plant had been approved by Dorset Council. It was suggested that confirmation of the permitted routes for deliveries to the site be sought so that a record could be kept of when these were contravened.

64.3 Further to minute 46/2025, it was noted that there had been little response received from Dorset Council via Cllr Taylor in respect of the concerns about road safety within the parish. There had been further recent accidents on the A35 and it was agreed that this issue should be raised once again with Cllr Taylor and Dorset Police.

64.4 Further to minute 47/2025, the Clerk reported that she had contacted the Bridges and Structures Team at Dorset Council about the log. No response had yet been received.

65. Finance

Expenditure

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

- HMRC (PAYE) (Quarter 1 2025/26) - £318.00
- Clerk's salary (Quarter 1 2025/26) - £477.60

65.2 The following payments made by Direct Debit were noted:

- HugoFox – Website – June 2025 – £11.99
- HSBC – Bank Charges – July 2025 - £11.00

65.3 Bank reconciliation

The bank reconciliation for Quarter 1 2025/26 showing a net balance of £16,141.89 as at 21 June 2025 was **received**.

66. Planning Matters

66.1 The Parish Council received feedback from the Chair and Mr Armstrong on the Dorset Local Plan briefing for parish and town councils held earlier in the day. This had outlined how Dorset Council was proposing to run the consultation process on the latest options. The consultation period would run from 18 August – 13 October 2025, with a local consultation event in Dorchester taking place on 11 September at the Corn Exchange. Following this, the consultation draft of the Plan was expected to be available in August 2026 with a view to submission by the end of 2026. It was therefore expected that examination would take place in 2027. The Local Plan consultation would also be tied in with that for the latest iterations of the Dorset Local Transport Plan and the minerals and waste strategy.

66.2 The Chair expressed her ongoing concerns about the evidence base and the fact that the timeline for finalising the plan meant that there would only be six years to deliver the housing numbers required for the next 10 years. She also drew attention to the fact that a masterplan for the North Dorchester Garden Community would be published as part of the accompanying documents, making this site different from most of the others in terms of the development of the proposals.

66.3 Mr Armstrong drew attention to the requests made for town and parish councils to disseminate and publicise the information about the consultation to local residents.

66.4 The Parish Council thanked the Chair and Mr Armstrong for their feedback.

67. Future of Neighbourhood Planning support services

67.1 The Parish Council considered a draft motion on the future of Neighbourhood Planning support services proposed by the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils Limited.

67.2 It was acknowledged that:

- Neighbourhood planning empowers local communities to shape the development and growth of their areas through the creation of Neighbourhood Plans.
- The preparation of Neighbourhood Plans requires significant time, expertise, and financial resources, often placing a burden on parish and town councils.
- Neighbourhood Plans contribute to more democratic, locally-informed planning decisions and support the delivery of sustainable development aligned with community needs and aspirations.

67.3 It was therefore **resolved** to:

- (i) call upon His Majesty's Government to provide increased and sustained funding to support the development, review, and implementation of Neighbourhood Plans;
- (ii) request that the Government ensures funding is accessible to all communities, to promote inclusivity and fairness in the planning process; and

- (iii) write to Edward Morello MP and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities, and Local Government to communicate this resolution and advocate for enhanced support for neighbourhood planning.

68. North of Dorchester Garden Community

- 68.1 No further matters were raised in relation to the Garden Community proposals.

69. Road Safety, Traffic Management and Rights of Way

- 69.1 The Parish Council considered the impact of recent road closures for surface dressing on residents of Higher and Lower Bockhampton. The response from Dorset Council was noted and concerns expressed that the policy was to not inform residents of road closures and to only inform businesses. However it was understood that very few of the businesses impacted had actually received notification. The impact on vulnerable residents was raised, together with the lack of clarity about the dates on which the works would be undertaken. It was noted that the experience of residents whilst the works were underway had not been negative; that information was provided by the contractors with contact details and that access and egress was provided as quickly as possible upon request. The issue was around prior communication of the road closures.
- 69.2 It was **resolved** to request that Dorset Council review its policy about providing notice to residents and businesses of road closures for surface dressing where they will be directly impacted.
- 69.3 The Parish Council also considered the impact of the road closure for the British Eventing event at Kingston Maurward on 28 and 29 June 2025. It was reported that there had been considerably less impact on Lower Bockhampton this year, there had been no issues at the Stinsford Hill roundabout, fewer people had attended and that the sign indicating that there was no access to the event along Cuckoo Lane had had a positive impact. In terms of providing feedback to the organisers at the College it was felt that it would be useful to have a means of communicating with residents, such as a WhatsApp group, to inform them if the road was to be re-opened earlier than advertised on the signs.
- 69.4 It was **resolved** to thank Kingston Maurward College for opening the back gate to the campus during both this event and the surface dressing road closures which had reduced residents' anxiety about access and egress for appointments, etc.
- 69.5 The Parish Council discussed the recent road traffic collision at Bockhampton Cross. It was considered that there was insufficient signage along Cuckoo Lane, with the 'give way' sign too close to the junction to enable road users to react. Combined with the reduced visibility caused by the overgrown verge and lack of markings on the junction itself (arising from the recent surface dressing) this was a danger to road users. It was **resolved** to raise this with Dorset Council urgently to prevent further accidents at the junction.
- 69.6 The Clerk reported that she had written to the organisers of the Iron Man Weymouth event but had not yet received a response.
- 69.7 It was reported that the 'road narrows' sign on Slyer's Lane was once again not visible. It was **resolved** to report this to Dorset Council.

70. Correspondence

70.1 The Clerk reported correspondence received from Wessex Internet requesting the opportunity to provide a briefing to the Parish Council on its recent activity in Frome Whitfield and Higher Waterston to make full fibre broadband available. It was **resolved** to request a Teams meeting about this.

70.2 Mr Armstrong reported that residents of Lower Bockhampton had received communication from SSE about planned sub-station works which could see the electricity supply impacted for a period of between 8 hours and 3 days.

71. Communications

71.1 It was **resolved** that Mr Armstrong would prepare an article for the September edition of The Pilot to include the details of the Parish Council's activity in responding to the Dorset Local Plan consultation.

72. Items for next / future Agenda

- Dorset Local Plan consultation response.
- Lower Bockhampton play area – potential relocation of play equipment within play area and future grounds maintenance.

73. Date of future meetings

73.1 In order to ensure that the Parish Council was representing the views of local residents in its response to the Dorset Local Plan consultation, it was **resolved** to hold
(a) a public meeting on Monday 8 September 2025; and
(b) a formal Parish Council meeting on Monday 15 September 2025 when the response would be agreed in order that it could be submitted in good time before the deadline.

The meeting concluded at 8:55pm.

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