

# BUCKHORN WESTON & KINTON MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2012 at 7.30 pm in Buckhorn Weston Village Hall

Item	Action
	Present: Parish Councillors Mr Kevin Aldred (KA), Rear Admiral John Bellamy (JB), Ms Pippa Chapman (PC), Mr Rob Crittal (RC), Mr Bob Dolan (BD) (Chair), Mr John Havill (JH), Mr Graham Hinks (GH), Dr Anthony Jenner (AJ), Mr Nigel Osbourne (NO), Mrs Christine Wynne(CW)
	In attendance: District Councillor: Mr Geoffrey Miller (GM), Internal Auditor: Mr Michael Ross (MR), Minute Taker: Miss Susanna Cooke, 6 Members of the Public
24/12	<b>Apologies:</b> were received from Mr Andrew Cattaway, County Councillor.
25/12	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> These to be declared as relevant items on the agenda are discussed.
26/12	<b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting (14<sup>th</sup> May 2012):</b> GM said he had given his apologies by phone but they had not been recorded. Acceptance otherwise was proposed by CW and seconded by RC. All agreed and a copy was signed by the Chairman.
27/12	<b>Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes:</b> All matters arising are on the current agenda and will be discussed in that order.
28/12	<b>District Councillor's Report:</b> <b>28.1/12 Code of Conduct:</b> GM said that, as a result of the Government's bill, all councils are obliged to look again at the Code of Conduct. For Parish Councils, the District Council suggests use of the form put forward by the DAPTC. <b>28.2/12 Cost of Elections:</b> Parish Councils will be required to pay for by-elections. The cost is dependent on the number on the electoral roll. For elections every 4 years which coincide with District Council elections, there will be no charge. <b>28.3/12 Traveller Sites:</b> GH asked about this subject. GM replied that the District Council had made its representations suggesting approval on some sites and not on others and has yet to hear from the consultants. As far as the Five Bridges site is concerned, GM thought the recommendation had been for rejection. JH asked how we should voice our concerns about how these things are done. We pay a lot to DCC and rely on them to make sensible judgements on matters. This matter has been outsourced to consultants which is expensive and there are concerns about their judgement. The consultants are now gone. GM replied that the District Council did not have enough staff to carry out the exercise themselves. CW is maintaining contact with the District Council about the traveller site situation. The analysis of the exercise will be completed at some time in the autumn and we have to wait until then for the next stage.
29/12	<b>County Councillor's Report:</b> There was no County Councillor present.
30/12	<b>Police Report:</b> There was no police officer present.
31/12	<b>Public Session:</b> <b>31.1/12 Diamond Jubilee Celebrations:</b> Mrs Alma Floyd thanked the Parish Council from Kington Magna residents for the donation towards the cost of the celebrations. There had been 80 people at the Thanksgiving Service and 210 at the Jubilee Lunch. JB had presented the children with their mugs. Mrs Floyd also thanked Alan Gibbs for the Bonfest which had brought the two villages together. The celebrations had been a huge success and everyone had enjoyed themselves. Everyone agreed the bonfire had been excellent and very skilfully done. JB expressed thanks to all the people who had been involved in the regeneration of Jubilee Walk, to all who had raised money and who had given their labour. Mrs Ann Ledgerwood said in Buckhorn Weston mugs had been given out to all the children, including those at Rodgrove. One mug had been kept back for the time capsule. Mrs Floyd and Mrs Ledgerwood asked the Parish Council to write to Alan Gibbs to thank him for his generosity. <b>31.2/12 Uncut Hedges in Weston Street:</b> Mrs Ledgerwood said the hedge bordering Court Cottages on Weston Street had not been cut outside some of the dwellings, making it impossible to walk along the path. KA knows many of the residents and will have a word. <b>31.3/12 Rubbish:</b> There is a problem with rubbish being put out before the day of collection and the bags being broken into by animals. Guidance on the Dorset for You website is for rubbish bags to be put out on the day of collection only. The guidance for people who are going to be away on collection day is that if the bag is put out in a dustbin with a lid, it will be collected. The guidance to be published in the next edition of "Here Hear" for Kington Magna residents. NO to obtain copies of the Dorset for You guidance and to draft a letter for distribution to Buckhorn Weston residents.
32/12	<b>Planning:</b> <b>2/2012/0562 Little Kington Cottage</b> Erect two-storey extension and balcony, install air source pump and solar panel (demolish existing single storey extension). JB said the Parish Council had raised no

	<p>objection to this. The District Council decision is still awaited.</p> <p><b>2/2012/0588 Caggypole</b> Outline planning permission to develop land by erection of 1 agricultural dwelling. KA said he was not convinced that the property was being used to its full potential of rearing 100-150 calves. GM said the need for the dwelling would have to be proved beyond all doubt and also that the unit would be financially viable. More information required.</p> <p><b>32.1/12 Proposal for Affordable Housing with Industrial Units at Buckhorn Weston</b> RC declared a conflict of interest and did not take part in the discussion. The proposal to build on the greenfield site beyond Filley Brook received with a letter from Margaret Mitchell was discussed. The Council agreed that the proposal was too large, that a brownfield site should be used before any greenfield site and that there was no requirement for more social housing in Buckhorn Weston. A reply to be drafted to Margaret Mitchell saying the Council is not interested in the proposal.</p> <p><b>Stables at Kendal Bank</b> Proposal to relocate the existing stables. KA had had a look. No objection by the Parish Council.</p>	<p><b>KA</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<b>33/12</b>	<p><b>Localism Act:</b> GM had touched on this subject in 28.1/12 above. BD asked MR to précis the advice received from the DAPTC. MR said that local authorities have to review their Codes of Conduct. The code recommended by NALC is adequate for the purposes of a small local authority like the Parish Council. PC proposed and JH seconded that the Parish Council adopt the NALC Model Annex A and Annex B. Declarations of Interests forms had been given to councillors for completion and return to the Clerk.</p>	
<b>34/12</b>	<p><b>Chairman's Report:</b> <b>34.1/12 Diamond Jubilee Celebrations:</b> BD thanked everyone who had contributed to the celebration events in both villages and the joint Bonfest. They had done a sterling job. <b>34.2/12 New Clerk:</b> Clare Baird had been on a 3-month trial period. BD proposed that she be formally confirmed in post. GH seconded the motion and CW will write a letter to Clare.</p>	<p><b>CW</b></p>
<b>35/12</b>	<p><b>Responsible Financial Officer's Report:</b> <b>35.1/12 First 3 months of the financial year:</b> JB said there was nothing in particular to report. The payments that have been made are as budgeted. We are making the penultimate contribution to Gillingham Leisure Centre of £750 in the current financial year, the last payment to be in 2013/14. Thereafter there will be some reduction in the village contribution to council tax. The Parish Council contributed to the cost of Jubilee celebrations in both villages very willingly and paid the new clerk's salary. We are within budget at the 3-month point. <b>35.2/12 External Auditor's Report:</b> The external auditor has approved the accounts for 2011/12. The account books are available by appointment to anyone who wants to see them. The Parish Council is always aware that it is spending money collected from parishioners.</p>	
<b>36/12</b>	<p><b>Clerk's Report</b> <b>36.1/12 Election Charges</b> In a letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> May, the Clerk had received details from NDDC of approximate costs for a contested election in a table of cost against size of electorate and also a list of per item costs that make up the cost of the election. <b>36.2/12 Gillingham Town Council neighbourhood area designation</b> The Clerk had received a letter from Gillingham Town Council enclosing a map of the area in question. JH gave the background to this item, being that under new legislation, local communities are being invited to produce neighbourhood plans as design statements. These are not like the Parish Plan, but a statement of what is necessary and where and how much in a defined area. There was a meeting in Gillingham which was well attended. Gillingham has put an offer on the table to collaborate with local parishes that wish to do so. At this stage it is a formal application from Gillingham to NDDC to show the area covered. Smaller communities should collaborate for strength in numbers. Neighbourhood plans will be adopted into Regional Development policies. The caveat now is that there is a presumption to build. This is a change of direction from the preference for brown sites over green sites.  JH said he was disappointed that Buckhorn Weston and Kington Magna are not included in the designated area as shown. The onus is on parishes to declare their interest. For the purposes of the Neighbourhood Plan, the area can be enlarged to include other parishes beyond Gillingham Parish itself. RC asked if there would also be a plan for Wincanton and whether our villages should be included in that. JH confirmed that SSDC are also doing neighbourhood plans, but that as the villages are in Dorset, Gillingham's plan would be the appropriate one for our villages.  KA thought a form had already been filled in expressing our interest in being included in Gillingham's Neighbourhood plan. Clerk to ascertain.  It was agreed that a letter registering our interest should be sent to Gillingham Town Council.  GM said Gillingham and Bourton were both doing their own plans, but that hopefully they would be put together</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<b>37/12</b>	<p><b>Other Reports:</b> <b>37.1/12 Highways:</b> GH asked if we could invite someone from NDDC Highways Department to attend a Parish Council meeting to speak about our concerns and talk about their strategy. NO said he would try to arrange this.  NO said the Repair Units are very responsive but we are now getting patches on patches and more extensive work is needed. The roads are getting worse. We need to survey our roads and prioritise. AC might know who we should contact about repairs, although it is understood that there is little money</p>	<p><b>NO</b></p>

	<p>available.</p> <p>Some councils have a record of the width of their roads, but Dorset does not.</p> <p><b>37.2/12 Public Footpaths:</b> AJ asked who is responsible for kissing gates, as one on the Millennium Walk is broken.</p> <p>PC raised the question of path access from the footpath on the cottage side of the railway bridge at Buckhorn Weston. It is subject to an Enforcement Order. She gave details to Dorchester Head Office and asked that John Williamson and the Enforcement Officer liaise and get back to her.</p> <p><b>37.3/12 Public Transport:</b> AJ said that following the letter sent to DCC about the number 25 service being axed by South Somerset, DCC have established a number 34 service to replace it. It goes through Buckhorn Weston, Kington Magna, East and West Stour to Gillingham and returns. It links with the service to Shaftesbury. It gives people 2 hours in Shaftesbury before the return journey. The service runs on Tuesdays to Yeovil and on Thursdays to Shaftesbury. Feedback from people is that it is a good service, better than the previous one. AJ had attended a workshop on 14<sup>th</sup> June which was attended by those running the buses. He had thanked Mr Spracklen for solving the bus service problem. Local people must use the service to justify it being maintained.</p> <p>AJ will advertise the service in Here Hear. PC suggested the timetable be put on notice boards.</p> <p>AJ said there is a sub-group looking at Community Transport and we are encouraged to identify whether people in the parishes would be interested. This is a car usage scheme, for taking people to hospital, shopping, etc. There are a number of these schemes in the Gillingham area and we are asked if we want to run one ourselves. There is a start-up grant available. AJ to write an article in Here Hear to gauge residents' response to this in Kington Magna. The idea needs to be advertised in Buckhorn Weston.</p> <p><b>37.4/12 Parish Burial Ground:</b> AJ reported that he and Steve Scott had met with the Ranger to review the wild flower part, which has run rather to grass. The contractors had just cut the grass and mulched it back in, so it needs to be raked.</p> <p>The Ranger is now on the final stage, doing the signage and also a new sign for the Millennium Walk. All is within budget.</p> <p>JB confirmed there was provision in the budget for maintenance of the burial ground.</p>	AJ
38/12	<p><b>Any Other Business:</b></p> <p><b>38.1/12 Rear of Garage Site:</b> KA asked if there was any news on this. PC replied that the owner has been told it must be cleared by a certain date or an Enforcement Order will be put in place.</p> <p><b>38.2/12 Sign at the Junction of Weston Street and Church Hill:</b> KA said this sign needs replacing. He asked if at the same time there could be a sign pointing to the Village Hall. NO to get this done.</p>	NO
39/12	<p><b>Date of the Next Meeting:</b> <b>Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September in Kington Magna Village Hall</b></p> <p>The meeting closed at 21.15.</p>	
	<p><b>Signed .....</b> Chairman      <b>Date .....</b></p>	