

BUCKHORN WESTON & KINGTON MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on **MONDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2011** at **7.30pm**
in KINGTON MAGNA VILLAGE HALL

		Action
065/11	<p>Present: Parish Councillors Mr Kevin Aldred (KA), Rear Admiral John Bellamy (JB), Mr Robert (Bob) Dolan (BD) (Chair), Mr Anthony Jenner (AJ), Mr John Havill (JH), Mr Graham Hinks (GH), Mr Nigel Osborne (NO), Mrs Christine Wynne (CW) New Councillors: Mr Rob Crittall (RC) and Ms Phillipa Chapman (PC) joined the meeting after item 067/11</p>	
	<p>In attendance: District Councillor: Mr Geoffrey Miller County Councillor: None Police: None Internal Auditor: Mr Michael Ross Members of the Public: 15 Parish Clerk: Mrs Clare Ratcliffe</p>	
	<p>Apologies: Mr Andrew Cattaway</p>	
066/11	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>None.</p>	
067/11	<p>Co-option of Two Parish Councillors for Buckhorn Weston/Sandly/Quarr</p> <p>Three candidates stood for two vacancies: Mr Robert Crittall, Ms Phillipa Chapman and Mr Julian Rose. The voting system was as per Standing Orders. It was proposed and RESOLVED that Mr Crittall and Ms Chapman were duly elected as Parish Councillors and were invited to join the meeting. Note: All the councillors that voted agreed. GH abstained from the voting.</p>	
068/11	<p>Election of Vice Chair</p> <p>It was proposed and RESOLVED that Mr Kevin Aldred be elected as Vice Chair. Proposed: JH. Seconded: NO. Agreed: All.</p>	
069/11	<p>Minutes of the Previous Meeting Monday 5 September 2011</p> <p>JH requested that item 056/11, third sentence was amended to read “.. the centre was built with funding from North Dorset District Council ...” It was proposed and RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting were signed and agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed: KA. Seconded: CW. Agreed: All.</p>	
070/11	<p>Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes</p> <p>None.</p>	
071/11	<p>District Councillor's Report (Geoffrey Miller)</p> <p>Wind Turbines: There is a problem with the appeal date for the proposed wind farm at Silton. A suitable venue needs to be found for the hearing and this has proved difficult. NDDC are going to employ a QC to attend the appeal. It is also understood that Save the Vale are also employing a QC. JH asked GM whether NDDC's case against a wind turbine at Silton was compromised; they have previously granted permission for wind turbines to be built at Bainley Hill Farm. GM did not think this would be the case. Gypsy/Traveller Sites: five sites have been proposed, two of which are: Five Bridges and a site along the B3081 Gillingham to Wincanton Road. The district council needs to provide gypsy/traveller sites so that when they camp illegally there is somewhere for them to be removed to. The two sites mentioned are on highway land and it is possible that county council will provide money for showers, toilets, main water etc. The Clerk said she had recently received a letter regarding public consultation on gypsy sites (see item 79/11). Five Bridges falls within the boundary of The Stours Parish Council who will be discussing this item at their meeting on Thursday 10 November.</p>	

072/11	County Councillors Report (Andrew Cattaway)	
	AC is making a recovery after his recent illness. He apologised that he was unable to attend the meeting due to a prior engagement. He told the Clerk by phone that he will take forward the comments made by the Parish Council regarding gritting to the appropriate meeting.	
073/11	Police Report	
	No report.	
074/11	Public Session (20 minutes max)	
	<p>Q: The precept for the Parish is the 12th highest in North Dorset. Whilst the payment for the Clerk and Barrister are necessary, the funding for RiversMeet is not necessary.</p> <p>Q: Can the Clerk inform Here Hear of future meeting dates.</p> <p>A: Future meeting dates will be posted on notice board. All meeting dates are put on the minutes, which are displayed, and on the web site. The statutory notice for a public Parish Council meeting is three clear working days.</p> <p>Q: White lorries/vans and being parked on a field between Bridge Cottage and the railway line at Buckhorn Weston. It is now resembling a "breaker's yard".</p> <p>A: JH responded that the land is owned by a man who uses land in Mere for a similar activity and was heavily fined. KA said that he would investigate the matter.</p> <p>Q: Why are we funding RiversMeet for a fourth year; the previous minutes refer to a maximum of four years?</p> <p>A: The word "maximum" was used in the minutes of 15 January 2009 as an assurance that it would not go beyond four years. This was done on the recommendation of the Internal Auditor. JB said that the Finance Committee was satisfied that a fourth year payment was required by RiversMeet.</p>	
075/11	Planning	
	KA reported that there was a new temporary Development Control Officer, Mr John Hammond. The former officer, Mr N Fagin was dismissed by NDDC recently.	
075/11/01	2/2011/1094/PLNG: Rookside Cottage, Buckhorn Weston	
	The Planning Committee met on 14 October at Buckhorn Weston to discuss this application. The Committee recommended refusal and the application has since been withdrawn.	
075/11/02	2/2011/0804: Pax Cottage, Kington Magna	
	NDDC have granted this application. It was supported by the Parish Council.	
075/11/03	2/2011/0436/PLNG: Stapleton Arms, Buckhorn Weston	
	NDDC have granted this application. It was supported by the Parish Council.	
076/11	Review of Parish Plan	
	JH Chaired the original Parish Plan group but was unable to Chair the Review Group. It is a good time to carry out a review. A Neighbourhood Development Plan is being worked on in Gillingham as well as a Town Design Statement and these plans would probably include the neighbouring satellite villages. The Parish Plan Review Group is not just restricted to members of the Parish Council; members of the public are also welcome. KA to convene a meeting. Volunteers: KA, AJ, RC, NO, CW and Julian Rose.	
077/11	Chairman's Report	
	<p>Tough times continue and don't appear to be getting any better. There seems to be a pressure on Parish Councils to pick up some of the work being cut by larger councils. The need to purchase grit bins last year came as a shock and we wonder what more is over the horizon.</p> <p>It seems fairly quiet on the crime front, the airfield and gypsy/traveller problems (perhaps not after District Councillors report), and the wind turbine problems have eased, but we need to be vigilant. We await news of faster broadband speeds for Dorset.</p> <p>We are hoping to work with the owners of 2 Brookside to produce a plan we are all happy with. Planning applications sent to the Parish Council for comment will be sent in an electronic format next year and the provision for the purchase of a projector to use at meetings will need to be made (NO offered a projector in the interim).</p> <p>The St Johns Ambulance has offered to run courses locally on first aid at £25 per person (details on notice boards).</p> <p>Community Resilience: we are proposing to have a short presentation about this by Mrs B Osborne at our next meeting on 9 January 2012. Community Resilience is about communities and individuals harnessing local resources and expertise to help</p>	

	themselves in an emergency, in a way that compliments the response of the emergency services.	
078/11	Responsible Financial Officer's Report	
078/11/01	Standing Orders	
	The small revisions made at the last meeting were circulated. The master document has been updated and will be formally adopted at the next meeting.	Clerk
078/11/02	Bank Reconciliation & Other Financial Considerations	
	The monthly bank reconciliation has been done. Balances at 30 September 2011: current account £8,996.28, savings account £4,703.09 and includes the second precept payment.	
078/11/03	Precept for 2012/13	
	<p>A financial statement including proposed 2012/2013 precept figures had been circulated prior to the meeting and appended to these minutes. It is a draft document for final approval at the next meeting in January. Any comments to JB. RD thanked JB for all his hard work preparing the 2012/2013 budget.</p> <p>Following the article in Here Hear (not circulated to BW residents) regarding the funding of RiversMeet, AJ had collated comments from KM residents as follows: Residents were concerned about the funding of RiversMeet and would prefer to see the money go towards projects in the village. Why did some parishes provide no funding to RiversMeet? Wincanton Leisure Centre is cheaper and warmer. Hardly anyone uses RiversMeet. Holbrook House is cheaper. Why hasn't RiversMeet received money from DCC? Why is funding based on a Band D property when most properties are in a higher band? Local schools are reported as finding the pool too expensive and fees cannot be negotiated. More money should go towards the play area, burial ground, jubilee tree planting and other projects. Funding for RiversMeet should only take place after projects in the village have been dealt with first.</p> <p>JH as Chair of the Board of Trustees of Gillingham Community Leisure Trust (GCLT) responded to these comments as follows:</p> <p>RiversMeet falls within the catchment area of three market towns. £4 million was transferred from NDDC to GCLT to build a leisure facility on the understanding that the facility would eventually become self-sustaining. Blandford Leisure Centre still receives money from tax payers. RiversMeet could not be as cheap to run as other local subsidised swimming pools.</p> <p>Revenue Support is needed to bridge the shortfall during the initial stages of building up the business. Supporting parishes did receive an invitation to meet HRH Princess Royal when she officially opened the facilities earlier in the year. Whilst NDDC made an initial grant, DCC did not as they do not see it as a county funded project. The business has a turnover of £1½ million. It is managed by volunteers, employing 12 full time staff and 20 part time staff. The business is being sustained on shoestring and, for example, a loss of £600 means that there will be less money for sports equipment or to purchase energy saving equipment. It is a facility for all. Prices are what they need to be in order to secure the future of the facility in years to come and to avoid what has happened at Sturminster Newton Leisure Centre (which incidentally was managed by a private company).</p> <p>Finance Committee agreed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) that there is a commitment to a fourth year payment of £4745 to RiversMeet, (ii) that there be no increase to the Group precept for the year 2012/2013 and the Group total to be held at £8481, (iii) that a payment of £1750 be made to RiversMeet in April 2012 and the remaining £2995 in April 2013, (iv) that the Council informs RiversMeet of its decision. <p>It was proposed and RESOLVED to accept the proposal recommended by the Finance Committee. Proposed: RD. Seconded: GH. Agreed: with 1 abstention.</p> <p>JB confirmed that £1750 will be paid in April 2012 and the remaining £2995 will be paid on 1 April 2013. The Parish Council receives half of its precept in April each year. AJ wished to be assured that notwithstanding the payments to Riversmeet the financial commitments to Kington Magna priorities as identified in the financial statement would be met.</p> <p>KA requested that money be made available to replace the grit bin stolen from Temple Lane. It was proposed and RESOLVED to replace the stolen grit bin. Proposed: KA. Seconded: NO. Agreed: All.</p> <p>JH sought assurance from the Parish Council that in future anything regarding the</p>	

	Parish Council's business would not be put in the public domain without first being discussed and agreed by members of the Parish Council.	
079/11	Clerk's Report Received correspondence from: NDDC: Dorset-wide Gypsy & Travelling Site Allocations Consultation - Exhibition dates: 21 November, Sturminster Newton, 2 December Blandford, 8 December Gillingham (am), 8 December Shaftsbury (pm). Further details from Clerk. Diamond Jubilee Beacons: information on taking part are available from the Clerk. Dorset Police Enquiry Office Review – Gillingham: Consultation meeting on 24 November in Civic Chambers, Gillingham, 6-8pm. Details from the Clerk The Stours Parish Council meet on 10 November at 7.30pm at West Stour Village Hall. There will be a presentation by Sarah Stebbings, Site Manager for the Woodland Trust to talk about Duncliffe Wood and its future. They will also be discussing the proposed Gypsy/Traveller sites and faster broadband speeds for Dorset.	
080/11	Other Reports	
080/11/01	Highways/Traffic Management Issues/Gritting Routes NO asked residents to report any faults direct to DCC highways either by telephoning DCC direct or their web site. Road surfaces need to be redressed.	
080/11/02	Gritting Routes The Clerk wrote to DCC Highways and has received a reply. The community gritting route has been extended to include Back Lane and Green Lane and will also include gritting from the top of Church Hill at Bowden to the A30. Hartmoor Hill and Shute Lane in Buckhorn Weston cannot be added to the route as they do not serve a large enough population. This winter all grit bins will be filled as in previous years. A map confirming the gritting route has been requested by the Clerk.	
081/11/03	Kissing Gates GH has checked the gates near Breach Lane and is in the process of repairing where necessary.	
082/11/04	Parish Burial Ground: Update The Countryside Rangers have been busy with the children of Stour Provost school planting "plug" plants and bulbs and putting up bird and bat boxes. The children were helped by The Chair of Stour Provost School, Steve Gosney, and local residents Steve and Linda Scott. Years 3 and 4 will return to inspect the bird boxes in the spring. Appropriate signage is being worked on and the old Millennium walk sign will also be refurbished. There will be no charge for the Countryside Rangers' labour. The site needs to be managed correctly for the future and to encourage wildlife. Approximately £1000 remains for the last phase of the work.	
083/11/05	K9 Telephone Box All the paperwork is now in place for the adoption to go ahead. A cheque for £1 was signed. Date of Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on Monday 9 January at 7.30pm, Buckhorn Weston Village Hall . Future Meetings: 5 March at Kington Magna. The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.	
	These minutes are signed as a true and accurate account of the meeting. Signed: <i>Robert Dolan</i> Chairman	Dated: 9 January 2012