

Minutes of the Winterborne St Martin Parish Council Meeting held in the Parish Office, Winterborne St. Martin on Monday 22nd September 2003.

The meeting commenced at 7.35 pm.

Present: - Mr N.Marsh (Chairman), Mrs M.Hearing, Mr M.Clarke, Mr I.Gibson, Mr B.Thompson, Mr S.Slade, (Clerk) Mr D.Crowhurst (County Councillor) together with 2 members of the parish.

Apologies tendered on behalf of Mr D.Rickard.

Democratic period.

Community policeman.

PC Mark Burgess reported the crime figures for the parish. These figures indicate two house burglaries and thefts from unattended vehicles parked at beauty spots. The owners had left valuable goods on the seats and criminals had easily removed them. Car wheels had been taken but generally crime in the area was below average. Speeding vehicles through the village had been reported to the traffic officer with a request that further speed checks through the village be introduced. Skateboarding on public roads was a concern and in the interest of highway safety should not take place thereon. Those involved had been spoken to and the parents had also been interviewed. He made his telephone and e-mail address known and would be pleased to meet any member at their home if they wished to discuss a problem concerning police matters. During the course of the report the clerk stated that he had had a conversation with an officer of the Dorset County Council concerning the speeding of vehicles through the village. As a result monitoring equipment will be placed on the B3159 road at a location to be suggested by the Parish Council. He had also been asked to investigate the possibility of using an area of land in the village for a football "kick-about-area" and would be speaking with the owner of this site to explore the proposal. The Parish Council would welcome any proposal for a site for a football pitch and/or skateboard park in the village and lend support but were mindful of possible cost implications.

Action.

Details of PC Burgess's contact details to be included in a future issue of the Parish Newsletter.

DCC to be informed that the speed monitoring equipment would be best sited on the B3159 opposite the entrance to Hardy Close.

Litter in the Monkey Jump area and generally.

Mrs Ashworth asked if action could be taken to pick-up litter from the Monkey Jump area and elsewhere in the village as the amount had increased. She wondered if McDonalds were still helping to remove litter from the area as they had originally agreed to do when the restaurant had opened. Mr Shaw reported that an old cooker had been dumped on land at Bats Lane.

Action.

The clerk to ask WDDC to attend and clear the litter and to remind McDonald's of their promise to clear litter from the area of their premises on a regular basis.

Declaration of interests.

There were no declarations of interest.

The clerk explained each planning application for clarification of members but took no part in the recommendations.

1. MINUTES.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Parish Office, Winterborne St Martin on Monday 28th July 2003 having been circulated to all members were approved as a true & correct record & the minutes duly signed. Proposed by Mr M.Clarke seconded by Mr B.Thompson.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES.

- a. The matter of the provision of a Display Board to be erected on the Green would be the subject of a meeting with an officer of Dorset Community Action on 1st October at 2.30 pm. Representatives of the Parish Council and Waste Watch would attend.
- b. A further estimate for work on the village green was to hand and the Chairman and Clerk would now visit the WDDC to seek grant aid for the work.
- c. Countryside Access in Dorset. The document agreed to be circulated for comment by members had not been returned to date.

3. FINANCIAL MATTERS.

It was proposed by Mr N.Marsh seconded by Mr M.Clarke that the Clerk's Salary for 2003/2004 be £2000.00. (This was included in the precept but not as a separate item). The proposition was carried.

The Clerk presented the Parish Council accounts for the period ending March 2003 and explained them in detail. He explained that an internal auditor would now check the accounts prior to them being forwarded to the parish council auditors for approval. Mr R.Hyde would be asked to carry out this work as last year.

The following monies were credited to the Parish Council account since the last meeting: -

16 books of Martinstown plus postage £ 148.00

The following payments had been made from the Parish Council Account since the last meeting: -

K.Damen grass cutting £ 40.00

SEB electric £ 25.48

The following accounts were approved for payment: -

S.Slade half year salary £1000.00

A sum of £7,478.24 in the Parish Council account.

A budget for the next financial year will be brought to the November meeting.

4. PLANNING MATTERS.

- a. Retain mobile home with extensions at Wentwell, Martinstown. The eastern area planning sub-committee of WDDC will consider this application on Thursday 25th September. Mr M.Clarke will attend the meeting with others as can make the meeting to lend support to the application.
- b. Erect extension at Higher Park Farm, Bats Lane, Martinstown. No objections.
- c. Erect garage and extension at Shepherds Cottage, Martinstown. Amended plans presented but it was felt that the proposal is still not in character with the listed building and would detract from its character.
- d. Erect extensions at 1, Ashton Farm Cottages, Martinstown. No objections.
- e. Change use of land from paddock to form extension of residential curtilage at Lane End, Martinstown. No objection.
- f. Amendment to Planning Bill. This legislation is proceeding through government and will mean changes at local level which will be reported in due course.

5. CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. A questionnaire concerning the Mobile Library Service was presented which members felt unable to complete but asked the clerk to contact Mrs M.Marchant to help answer the questions as she was a regular user of the service.
- b. Draft School Organisation Plan 2003-2006. This document could be obtained in hard copy if required but the subject appeared not to be of interest to the Parish Council.
- c. WDDC Chairman's Merit Award for young people. Contents noted.
- d. The Countryside Conservation Grant Scheme. A leaflet introducing this scheme was reported. Further copies would be obtained for members.

- e. Refresh your Driving Skills Course. Information concerning this course together with the cost to those who wished to participate was given. Those interested will contact the DCC direct.
- f. Kerbside recycling will start in the Sherborne area on 30th September 2003 and in the Dorchester area in the spring of 2004.
- g. Poster advising that a meeting on employment law is to be take place at Exeter University on 22nd October 2003. The cost of the meeting and other information was available to any member who wished to attend.
- h. Amendment to Refuse Collection dates over the Christmas period will be placed in the next issue of the Parish Newsletter.
- i. Insulation grants are still available and information on the schemes can be obtained from WDDC.
- j. Dorchester Area Partnership. A list of actions proposed by the organisation was to hand and it was noted that the bulk of the items included were issues which should more correctly be addressed by the various parish councils especially Dorchester Town Council.
- k. DCA presentation of Best Kept Village competition would be at Osmington Village Hall on 17th October at 7.45 pm. No member present was able to attend.
- l. Cycle of Local Government Elections in England. The Government was concerned that the present cycle of elections is confusing and perhaps each authority should have elections at the same time for all members four the same fixed term. Comments should be sent to the WDDC before 3rd October 2003. It was agreed that a standardisation of the Elections Period would be helpful.
- m. Consultation on a Draft Management Plan for the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. This document had been received yesterday and it was agreed that it be forwarded to all members for comment which will then be sent to the author of the document by the due date the 7th November 2003.
- n. A letter asking that rubbish be removed from a gateway on land opposite Rew Manor was to hand. The clerk had inspected the site but could find no rubbish as described but reported that there was a ladder and other rubbish on land opposite the site. WDDC had been informed.
- o. Copy of the WDDC Standards Board meeting to be held on 24th September 2003 provided and members could attend if they so wished.
- p. WDDC leaflet "a Question of Money" set out in simple terms how the council finance is dealt with.
- q. Poster detailing the rural services standard 2003 from defra will be placed on the bus shelter notice board.

6. FOOTPATH REPORT.

No report available.

7. FURTHER REPORT CONCERNING ASPECTS OF FLOODING.

The clerk gave a further briefing on the current situation which included information that work to improve the drainage at Coombe Road, Winterbourne Steepleton had commenced as had the cleaning of the stream in Winterbourne Abbas. Gullies and drains would be "jet" cleaned in Winterbourne Abbas. Gullies had been cleared in along the C53 road Martinstown near Four Acres. The works to upgrade the sewage pumping plant at Weymouth road was in progress. Letters will be sent to riparian owners reminding them that they must clean their sections of the stream. It is the riparian owner's task to clean their section of stream this year in Martinstown. Consultants had been employed by the Environment Agency to carry out a complete survey of the South Winterborne with a view to making recommendations as to how flooding could be prevented in future years.

8. REPORT FROM AMENITIES OFFICER.

Bulbs should now be planted to supplement those already in place. Action in this regard will be taken and the date advertised to seek help with the work.

9. CLOSURE OF MEETING.

The meeting was closed at 10.10 pm.

10. NEXT MEETING.

This will be held on the fourth Monday in November 2003.

.....Chairman

Date.....