**SHILLINGSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT**

**7.30 PM ON THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2019 IN THE CHURCH CENTRE, SHILLINGSTONE**

**PRESENT:** Councillors L Gasson (Acting Chairman), T Kennard, K Ridout, R White, Footpaths Officer G Rains, County Councilor Pauline Batstone, Clerk D Green; in addition, there were 5 members of the public in attendance.

**507. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Received from Cllrs Acton, Aaron, McNamara and Webberley

**508. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None

**509. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the meeting held on 7th November 2019 were approved.

**510. MATTERS ARISING:**

The Chairman reported that the PTA have confirmed arrangements for the fundraising circus event in April 2020 at the Rec.

The Chairman reported that she had attended a Dorset Council ‘Business Breakfast’ event at the Exchange in Sturminster Newton on 18th November. The Chairman though felt that this was not though focussed on the needs of all residents of the North Dorset area.

The Clerk reported the enquiries he had made regarding the Tennis Club’s suggestion that a ‘ball strike’ risk assessment should be undertaken. The council’s insurers have been consulted, and have advised that there is no mandatory requirement for a landowner to undertake such as assessment, although it is something we could consider. The Clerk has contacted the Cricket Club who have suggested that the existing informal arrangement should be maintained. The Cricket Club have advised that the potential risk only arises when adult men’s matches are being played, most of which are confined to Saturday afternoons in the summer; all matches are shown on a published fixture list, there are a few occasional midweek matches, and there are certainly no more than 20 matches of this type per year. The Cricket Club have confirmed that they have £5 million in Public liability insurance.

The Council resolved that this matter will not be taken any further. If the Tennis Club wish to install a higher fence in relation to a perceived risk, that is for them to consider and make proposals to the Parish Council, there being some £3350 in the reserve account for tennis club improvements.

**511. PUBLIC SESSION TO RAISE ISSUES**

An enquiry was raised in relation to a missing litterbin on the Trailway near Haynes Bridge. The Clerk will enquire of Dorset Rangers as to why this has been removed.

Bob Yorath raised the matter of the White Pit development and the fact that there had been no village consultation from Dorset Council and no site visit. The Clerk advised that there had been two meetings with the Developers PSP and Savills, and that the unhappiness of both councilors and former Neighbourhood Planning Committee members to their original proposals had been noted. The Parish Council is now awaiting sight of new scheme.

**512. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Cllr Batstone reported that the executive would be touring North Dorset on 23rd December. The Chairman expressed an interest in taking part in this.

Cllr Batstone had attended a one-day domestic abuse training event, which included the experience of two families where family members had been murdered. The key point emerging from this event was the need for families to be given the right support mechanisms.

Cllr Batstone reported that the issue of an incinerator on Portland was under active consideration.

**513. FOOTPATH OFFICER REPORT**

Graham Rains praised the approach of the Shillingstone Railway Project to the Trailway improvements, in keeping the Parish Council and the Dorset Rangers advised. There is a plan to run a small diesel engine on a limited stretch of track, but the model railway has had to been removed following a directive by the landowner.

Graham reported that there are complaints regarding a lack of money to fix potholes on the Trailway`.

Cllr Kennard observed that the footpaths across Church Field appear to be shrinking; Graham advised that it is the responsibility of Rangers to ensure that these are properly maintained.

**514. PLANNING**

**I) New applications received before the meeting:**

**a) 2/2019/1438/CPE | Certificate of Lawfulness for use of land for general industrial purposes as part of industrial estate (Use Classes B1, B2 and B8). | St Patricks Industrial Estate Station Road Shillingstone DT11 0SA**

The Clerk reported that the request for the issue of a Certificate of Lawfulness is a mechanism whereby an unauthorised development can be determined as lawful through the passage of time, and can be continued without the need for planning permission.

The Clerk thanked both Bob Yorath for his work in summarising the issues concerning past and current developments at this site, and Graham Rains for his excellent photographs showing the new ‘track’; this has seemingly involved part demolition of the bund that was originally installed to provide sound proofing for nearby residents. Cllr Kennard It was reported that the estate is much run down and that the roofs of buildings are very dilapidated and there is a concern that the whole bund may disappear.

The Clerk reported that he had raised a formal objection to the issue of a Certificate of Lawfulness and drawn the attention of the Planning Officer to what may be infringements of planning regulations in relation to the partial demolition of the bund, and also to the absence of any reference to the Neighbourhood Plan in the application.

The Chairman said that she was certain that Dorset Council would oppose any encroachment onto Church Filed which a protected space within the Neighbourhood Plan.

**b) 2/2019/1507/FUL - Eastbrook House White Pit Shillingstone DT11 0SZ** Erect 2 No. dwellings and create 6 No. parking spaces.

The applicant, James Cooper attended the meeting and explained that the impending prospect of the new development at White Pit had forced him to consider the viability of construction holiday lets in the short term. His plan is to construct two dwellings to use as short hold lettings until the White Pit development is complete and then revert these to holiday lettings, if viable. This information satisfied the concerns of councillors who agreed to support the application.

**iii) Application for tree works conservation area received before the meeting:**

There were no new applications for tree works.

**515. FINANCES**

**I)** The risk assessment for 2019/2020 was agreed**.**

**ii) a) Retrospective payments approved:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Amount** | **Payee** | **Reason** | **Method** |
| 12/11/2019 | £ 70.41 | Water Services | Allotments water | Debit Card |
| 02/12/2019 | £ 611.68 | David Green | Pay | SO |
| 02/12/2019 | £ 333.00 | Cricket Club | Mowing | SO |

**b) Cheques approved**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CQ/Ref** | **Amount** | **Payee** | **Reason** |
|  |  |  |  |
| 2367 | £ 61.35 | David Green | Expenses |
| 2368 | £ 88.80 | HMRC | PAYE |
| 2369 | £ 150.00 | Stacey Hankin | Cleaning |
| 2370 | £ 2,376.00 | Cliveden Conservation | Cross Head move |

**516. PLAY AREAS, RECREATION GROUND AND PROPERTY CHECK:**

The Clerk reported that there was a missing section of drainage downpipe at the front of the pavilion and a broken drainpipe fitting on the Pod. He has asked Dorset Wet Rooms to attend to these items. The damage appears to be the result of vandalism and the contractor will be asked to apply anti-vandal paint as appropriate.

**517. CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Clerk had received an email from Laura Stout email querying two matters I) the funding of the bollards outside the Co-op bollards ii) the condition of the fencing around the allotments on the east side of Holloway Lane.

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council did not fund either the bollards or the crossing point opposite the Co-op.

Cllr Kennard reported that the fencing between the allotment and the field where cattle are grazed is in poor condition and could go over at any time. It was agreed that this should be looked at. The Clerk will seek quotes for this work.

**518. TO AGREE ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:**

Update regarding the dropped kerb opposite the Co-op

**519. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was confirmed as being on Thursday 6th February 2020 at 7:30 p.m. at the Church Centre.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:25 p.m.