

**MINUTES OF THE WINTERBORNE ZELSTON
ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 29 APRIL 2014
AT WINTERBORNE ZELSTON VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Mike Griffin (MG) Parish Council Chairman
Di Lewis (DL) Parish Council Deputy Chairman
Paul Humphry (PH) Parish Councillor
Lesley Wilcox Parish Council Clerk

Emma Parker (EP) District Councillor

7 members of the public

Apologies: Hilary Cox (County Councillor), Jane Somper (District Councillor)

1. **Minutes of last meeting:** agreed.

2. **Matters arising:** none.

3. **Public footpaths:** it was reported that a local farmer was concerned at potential disturbance to his reared pheasants by walkers who were not keeping to the footpaths over his land. It was agreed that a definitive map of footpaths in the area would be displayed. Della Jones added that the hard track from Tomson to Gore Lane was not a designated footpath but the landowner will often give permission to use it.

4. **A31:** there was concern in the village over another fatal accident on the A31 near WZ. However, it was acknowledged that given the volume of traffic on the road the percentage of accidents seemed quite low. Also, many accidents appear to be caused either by speeding or overtaking in inappropriate places. A 'Speedwatch' scheme (as under consideration in other villages) would not be deemed appropriate on a trunk road. DL will obtain the relevant statistics before deciding how to best proceed with discussions with the Highways Agency (the highway authority) over safety measures that could be installed. The matter will be taken up by the Parish Council.

Action: DL

5. **Parish Council Chairman's Report:** attached. MG added that the developer of the proposed Mapperton Solar Farm, 'Good Energy', had withdrawn from the Judicial Review. Therefore, the planning application had effectively become dormant. He also reported that the membership of the Youth Club in Winterborne Kingston was declining and that more volunteers were needed to assist in running it.

6. **County Councillor's Report:** not received.
7. **District Councillors' Reports:** attached.
8. **Public discussion:** there followed a spirited discussion concerning North Dorset District Council's procedures for voting on planning applications. This was prompted by NDDC's recent decision to turn down an application for work in the village despite the committee having initially rejected the decision of the Planning Officer to turn down the application. Neighbouring landowners and the Parish Council had all supported the application. The voting process was considered to be inconsistent and undemocratic.
9. Lynn Lewis put forward a vote of thanks to Mike Griffin for his work as Chairman of the Parish Council.

Meeting closed at 20.10