

LOWER WINTERBORNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17th January 2017 at Winterborne Kingston Village Hall, commencing 7pm

Present: Cllrs R Allcock, D Knapp, S Jacobs, J Jenkins, H Andrews, R Sorrell

Chair: Cllr D Lewis

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also present: 10 members of the public

1. Public Participation

16.130 Bridleways – During July 2016, bridleways around the area had been blocked off by white tape. It transpired that this was for a race, starting and finishing at East Farm, and operated by White Star Running based in Poole. Cllr Jenkins was unaware of the event. Cllr Lewis read out a letter that had been received from Mr Rupert Tory saying that, from the proceeds of the race, £60 had been given to the church and £200 to the Scout Group. The Clerk will contact Mr Tory and ask him to inform the Parish Council of future events in advance so some warning may be given to walkers and horse riders affected by the closure of the paths.

Joan Nash asked what is happening to the telephone kiosk. The Clerk will contact BT.

ACTION: CLERK

2. Declaration of Interests

16.131 No interests were declared and no dispensation requests had been received.

3. To receive apologies for absence

16.132 Apologies had been received from District Cllrs Jane Somper and Emma Parker, Cllr Ross Jessop, Cllr Mark Leaper, Rita Burden and Graham Hyde.

4. To consider the co-option of a Parish Councillor for Winterborne Kingston

16.133 This will be held over to the February meeting.

5. Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th November 2016

16.134 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Sorrell proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Andrews and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

6. Matters arising from the minutes, not covered by the agenda

16.135 Bus shelter light – Cllr Lewis now has the reflective tape for the bus shelter.

Redlands – No response has been received regarding the new entrance.

Kingston notice board – Three new sets of keys have now been cut.

Laptop – A new laptop has now been purchased.

7. County & District Councillors' Reports

16.136 District Councillors' Report

Although unable to attend, a report had been sent. Regarding the reorganisation of councils in Dorset, 2b was the favoured option – this being Poole, Bournemouth and Christchurch forming one authority and the remainder of the county another. This goes to a full vote at the end of January, after which a submission will be made to the Secretary of State.

The Democratic Services Department has been moved to South Walks House with effect from 23rd January. Committee meetings will continue to be held at the Norden Council offices until the end of March. As from April, planning, licensing and full council meetings will take place at Durweston Village Hall. All other committee meetings will take place at South Walks House in Dorchester.

8. Speed Watch Update

16.137 Cllr Andrews reported that Don Portsmouth is very much missed by the group. A letter of thanks had been sent to him. Volunteers are in short supply and one date as already had to be cancelled as a result.

Regarding the C6/A31 junction – several questions had been sent to Highways, via County Councillors regarding various aspects of road safety along the A35 and A31, most specific to this parish is the C6/A31 junction. Highways responded saying ‘With the limited funding available it is important we base any decisions regarding changes to junctions on clear evidence to ensure that the changes will be effective and directed at locations where the need is greatest. Verified data shows that there have been two serious collisions and three slight collisions in the five year period 2011-2015 at this location. Whilst any collision is regrettable, this relatively low level of collisions would not support the need for interventions. However, if there is any change in the collision record which suggests the need for further study of this junction, then we would look to do so. A full strategic study of the A31 to identify its future needs across the whole route is under consideration. The suggestion regarding the junction with the C6 (traffic lights at key times/roundabout) will be taken into account at that time.’

Local knowledge shows that many of the collisions that occur on this junction are not reported. Cllr Andrews proceeded to read an article from the Wareham & Swanage Gazette which suggested that £175million is to be spent on roads. However, the article was not clear as to exactly where the money was likely to be spent. Cllr Andrews proposed that, for now, the petition regarding the junction is put on hold. This was seconded by Cllr Jacobs and agreed unanimously.

16.138 SCATS Site - Cllr Andrews, together with Cllr Lewis and the Clerk met with representatives of Dorset County Highways on 13th December, 2016, to discuss speeding issues through Kingston. It was suggested that one solution may be the installation of a ‘village gateway’ to the northern end of the village. This would give a noticeable demarcation area and, if the verges were tended regularly and flower boxes put in, it may encourage drivers to slow down more. The Clerk will check on the situation regarding CIL payments and see if it would be possible for the Parish Council to request some of the money to cover the cost of such work.

ACTION: CLERK

Highways further agreed to refresh the existing 321 Slow markings and bars, add another set of bars at the northern end of the village and put in 30mph roundels adjacent to the repeater signs.

9. WK Community and Youth

16.139 To review the loss of the equipment owned by the original Youth Group – for clarification only

At the time the Youth Club closed last year, no inventory of equipment was available and the Parish Council were led to believe that all the contents were the property of the then Youth Club. Cllr Andrews has since received a disc containing an inventory of equipment, together with written lists. In addition, as residents donated various pieces of equipment, thank you letters were issued and all of these are still on file. The location of the majority of the equipment is known and Cllr Andrews has received a letter confirming the various locations.

Mr Shaxson confirmed that all the contents belonged to the Youth Club. Cllr Sorrell requested clarification on the position of the Parish Council in this matter. The Chair and Clerk will discuss a way forward and this will be brought to the February meeting for finalising.

16.140 Youth Club update

Cllr Knapp reported that the Club needs more volunteers. Cllr Lewis will meet with Cllrs Knapp and Jacobs to consider a way forward.

ACTION: CLLRS LEWIS. KNAPP & JACOBS

10. Planning Applications

16.141 2/2016/1802 Coll Wood View, 29a Broad Close, WK – erect 2 storey & single storey side extension. Install flue. Demolish garage.

No objections were raised.

2/2016/1788 Hilltop Barn, Bushes Road, WZ – demolish existing dwelling, erect 1 dwelling and outbuildings, including stables, garage, sheep & pig pen, tack room & hayloft. Form new access drive & retain 5 parking spaces.

No objections were raised.

2/2016/1389 Abbots Court House, East St, WK – Change of use – amendment to plans.

This was for information only and not for comment. However, concerns were raised about the access road, the size of what is now being suggested for the site and that it is considerably bigger than we were led to believe at the original presentation.

19:25 The Clerk arrived.

11. Finance

16.142 To confirm the payment of accounts

The following payments had been requested:

Mrs A Crocker	Purchase of laptop	101383	399.00
Mrs A Crocker	November wages + expenses	101384	671.44
HMRC	PAYE	101385	5.20

J Carr	WK Grass cutting	101386	400.00
British Telecom	Security alarm	101387	27.65

These amounted to £1,503.29 from the Precept and have already been paid.

A Reed	Pop In Christmas Lunch subsidy	101388	173.60
J Carr	WK Grass cutting	101389	400.00
Blanchards Bailey	Land Registry fee	101390	319.00
Mrs A Crocker	December wages + expenses	101391	495.38
HMRC	PAYE	101392	5.40
British Telecom	Security alarm	101393	25.73
WK Village Hall	Pop In hall hire July – Dec '16	101394	77.00

These amounted to £1,496.11 from the Precept.

Cllr Knapp proposed that the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Sorrell and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by two councillors in the presence of the meeting.

16.143 To confirm the reconciliation of accounts and the position against budget

Copies of both reports had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made. Cllr Sorrell proposed the reconciliation and budget position are accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Knapp and agreed unanimously.

16.144 To confirm the Precept for the year 2017/18

All members had received a copy of the proposal prior to the start of the meeting. It was proposed that the Precept is increased by £7,617.00 to £26,430.00. The main increases are:

Winterborne Kingston:

£2,340	added to the grass and hedge cutting budget to take account of the work Highways will no longer be undertaking.
£1,000	being the service and repairs for the new Kingston mower
£1,000	towards the cost of a replacement mower
£200	added to the asset maintenance budget to cover general repairs
£1,700	in respect of costs for the Youth Building. In previous years, no such allowance has been set aside.
£814.70	Poor weather contingency and village maintenance – to begin to build up a fund to replace such things as notice boards but also to allow for any work that may need doing that the County Council is on longer willing or able to do.
£100	Community Speed Watch – printing, batteries, etc.

Winterborne Anderson

£210.80	Poor weather contingency and village maintenance – to begin to build up a fund to replace such things as notice boards but also to allow for any work that may need doing that the County Council is on longer willing or able to do.
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Signed:

Winterborne Zelston

£274.80 Poor weather contingency and village maintenance – to begin to build up a fund to replace such things as notice boards but also to allow for any work that may need doing that the County Council is on longer willing or able to do.

The increase enables the Parish Council to build up some reserves in order to achieve the recommended two thirds of the Precept figure.

Cllr Sorrell proposed that the Precept for 2017/18 is set at £26,430.00. This was seconded by Cllr Allcock and agreed unanimously. The Clerk will complete the appropriate forms and submit the request to NDDC.

ACTION: CLERK

12. To confirm the meetings dates for 2017

16.145 The following dates have been proposed by Cllr Lewis:

January 17 th	Kingston
February 21 st	Zelston
March 21 st	Kingston
April 11 th	Zelston Village meeting
April 18 th	Kingston (village meeting followed by Parish Council meeting)
May 16 th	Kingston – Parish Council AGM
June 20 th	Zelston
July 18 th	Kingston
August 17 th	Kingston
September 19 th	Zelston
October 17 th	Kingston
November 21 st	Kingston
December	No meeting

These were seconded by Cllr Allcock and agreed unanimously.

13. Neighbourhood Plan v Village Plan Update

16.146 As Cllr Jessopp was unable to attend, this item will be put back to the February meeting. Cllr Lewis reminded members that the last Village Plan was drawn up in 2005. The first step would be to review the Plan and decide what has been achieved and what could be taken forward. There will then need to be a discussion as to whether or not we would wish to go forward with a Neighbourhood Plan.

14. Review of the Asset Register

16.147 A copy of the current Register had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Jacobs proposed that the Register is accepted without any further additions or deductions. This was seconded by Cllr Jenkins and agreed unanimously.

Signed:

15. WK Playground Update

16.148 Cllr Knapp reported that there is a tree branch that needs tending to. The moss on the rubberised surfacing also needs treating but this can only be done during dry weather conditions. The gate does not stay shut and Cllr Jessopp will be looking at repairing this. There are no issues relating to the Cemetery.

16. Home Watch and Flood Watch

16.149 Home Watch

No details are available of crimes over the last month as the Police Newsletter is no longer issued. However, it is worth noting the number of SCAMS that are about. The Police have updated their website with a tab that includes the latest SCAMS to be wary of. This can be found at www.dorset.police.uk

16.150 Flood Watch

There has been no sign of flooding this winter, to date. However, at the end of November, Graham Hyde attended the Annual Flood Wardens Seminar run by the Environment Agency, at which one of the sessions was given by DCC Highways. Attendees were informed that, due to a lack of funding, Highways will no longer be clearing or maintaining drains in the road on a regular maintenance basis as they have in the past. They will, however, respond to blockages that are reported to them. This can be done by reporting the incident via the dorsetforyou web site.

The challenge is to get residents to notice when the drain near to them is blocked and to do something. Highways further suggested that the wardens and volunteers should make regular checks of the drains to ensure any leaves and debris are removed to prevent blockages.

17. Parish Councillors' Reports

16.151 Cllr Jenkins – The pothole on the C6 by the Greyhound has been reported. The kissing gate on Duck Street – the bramble bank has been removed. Cllr Andrews observed that the next style along is not very dog friendly. The dog bins at West Acres and Bagwood Lane still need replacing. With wintry weather forecast for the coming weeks, the question of the snow plough was raised. Which local farmer is on the lists as being registered with DCC for clearing roads if necessary? The Clerk has the full list and will check and report back.

ACTION: CLERK

Cllr Andrews – Nothing to report.

Cllr Sorrell – Attended the CCG meeting. He gave an outline of the proposal and encouraged everyone to submit a response before the 28th February deadline. The Best Kept Village Competition – a reminder has been sent to all those who may wish to enter.

Cllr Jacobs – Brought the TV show, Repairshop, to members' attention. The idea for the show is to take personal objects and repair them. However, one element of the show is to look at community assets that are in a poor state and set about repairing them. She suggested the Red Post might be something that could be submitted. Cllr Sorrell pointed out that it is our understanding that it is going to be repaired and Charborough Estate will cover the cost. That said, Cllr Jacobs will contact Charborough and put the proposal to them.

ACTION: CLLR JACOBS

Cllr Knapp – Nothing to report.

Cllr Allcock – Nothing to report.

Cllr Lewis – Reported that she has e-mailed Cllr Jessopp to let him know that the British Heart Foundation have another round of funding available for defibrillators. A new telecommunications box has been installed south of Winterborne Zelston, near the Botany Bay, and households have received e-mails from BT to suggest the broadband may now be improved. Hopefully, SuperFast Broadband will not be too far away.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.36pm

Signed: