

Lower Winterborne Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 16th January 2018 at Winterborne Kingston Village Hall,
commencing 7pm**

Present: Cllrs R Sorrell, H Andrews, R Allcock

Chair: Cllr M Leaper

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also Present: 5 members of the public, District Cllr Jane Somper

18.163 Public Participation

Grit bins – They were all filled in October last year.

Dog bins – Emptied last week. It is understood that they are emptied on a fortnightly basis. *Post meeting note: DWP have been contacted and have agreed to empty the Bagwood Lane and East Street bins weekly for the time being until a decision is made regarding the larger bins.*

Wooden posts at Sackville Street have been removed and a new post put in place for the dog bin.

Agendas – A member of the public noted that the agenda was not put out on the Zelston notice board and was late getting on to the web site. Although the agenda was set through, the site is co-ordinated by someone else. This may be something that will have to be looked at in the future. Cllr Sorrell has agreed to put the agendas and minutes on the Zelston board in future.

Web site – Details have been altered about the river but there are still some anomalies on the site. Rita Burden will send the details through to the Clerk and the web site will be updated accordingly.

18.164 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Cllr Andrews declared an interest in the Kingston Hub lighting. No other interests were declared at this stage.

18.165 Apologies

Apologies have been received from Cllr Ross Jessopp, Cllr David Knapp and District Cllr Emma Parker.

18.166 Minutes the meeting held on the 21st November 2017

A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Allcock 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 Chair in the presence of the meeting.

18.167 Matters arising from those minutes for report only

Reflective tape on the bus shelter at Kingston – ongoing.

Pot hole in the road at Kingston has been repaired.

Broad Close – The sewage system still needs to be followed up.

ACTION: CLERK

18.168 County & District Councillors' Reports

Cllr Somper reported on the local Government Reorganisation, saying a broad timeline is now in place, which is subject to clarification and further refinement based on the work of Parliament. The first key date passed on the 8th January which marked the dead of the consultation period. Should the Secretary of State make a final decision to implement the proposed change, it is anticipated that an order would be signed in early June. Should the unitary go ahead, Area Hubs will be set up, one of which will be based in Blandford. At present, the combined number of county and district councillors stands at about 211. Following unitary, this will reduce to 82 councillors only. The 82 councillors will have new wards and there is a preference for single member wards on the grounds that this will give a more direct link between the elected member and the community.

The Joint Committee has established task and finish groups, looking specifically at service delivery, Council Tax harmonisation, electoral boundaries, local Parish engagement and area boards. As work develops, agendas and minutes can be found at <https://dorsetareacouncils.wordpress.com>.

NDDC Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be presented with the budget recommendations at a special meeting at the end of January. The process for setting the 2018/19 budget for the Councils has been developed but there are a number of uncertainties, which will impact on the approach to be taken. In particular, the lack of clarity around the LGR, its potential start date and potential changes in council funding following the General Election in June.

Garden waste collection – Dorset Waste Partnership has been working hard to optimise its collection rounds in order to increase efficiency and make savings. This will result in some Dorset residents experiencing changes to their garden waste collection days from the 5th February 2018. DWP will write directly to all affected households outlining the new collection dates before the new rounds come into effect. This may also result in some rubbish and recycling collection rounds being changed but all affected residents will be notified in advance.

There is still time to make comment on the NDDC Public Spaces relating to Dogs consultation.

18.169 Finance

18.169.1 To confirm payment of accounts

The following payments had been requested:

JSR Treecare	WK grass cutting	101468	833.33
BT	Hub alarm line – December 2017	101469	27.00
Mrs A Crocker	November wages + expenses	101470	417.57
HMRC	PAYE	101471	19.80
JSR Treecare	Removal of dead cherry tree	101472	305.00
JSR Treecare	WK grass cutting	101473	833.33
Derek Andrews	Hub heating repairs	101474	125.98
Mrs A Crocker	December wages + expenses	101475	621.99
HMRC	PAYE	101476	19.60
WK Village Hall	Pop In hire 17/7 – 31/12/17	101477	77.00
BT	Hub alarm line – January 2018	101478	35.28

The total amount requested from the Precept is £3,315.88

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

18.169.2 To confirm the reconciliation of accounts and position against budget

A copy of the reports had been given to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made.

18.169.3 To confirm the Precept for the year to 31st March 2019

A copy of the draft budget had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

The proposal is to increase the Precept by £6,315.34, which equates to an increase of 23.89%, giving a Precept of £32,745.34. The majority of this increase is due to the additional grass cutting requirements at Winterborne Kingston, amounting to £4,500 and a sum of £1,200 included to cover the cost of replacing the notice boards in Winterborne Kingston. All other costs have either remained the same or had a small inflationary increase.

Cllr Sorrell noted that the Hub is costing quite a bit and the budget has been increased by a further £800 to £2500. As the Parish Council has now been overseeing the building for a year, a better idea of the full cost of the building is being achieved and a more accurate budget, reflecting the true running costs, is being established. It was noted that the Hub is beginning to be hired by residents and a regular weekly booking has been achieved which will go to offset the costs.

Cllr Sorrell proposed the budget is accepted and the Precept set at £32,745.34. This was seconded by Cllr Allcock and agreed unanimously.

Breaking this figure down by the villages, this gives the following:

Winterborne Kingston	£28,390.12	an increase of £6,141 or 27.6%
Anderson	£1,519.35	an increase of £67 or 4.61%
Winterborne Zelston	£2,835.83	an increase of £107 or 3.92%

18.170 Speed Watch update

18.170.1 Cllr Andrews reported that the group are on a break at the moment. She attended a meeting at Blandford Police Station in November 2017, together with 10 other co-ordinators from around the county. It transpires that the Kingston team has the most volunteers and is more active than any other. It was noted that, if a lorry is caught speeding, the Parish Council is able to write to the company.

18.170.2 To consider working with Milton Abbas with regards to a Speed Indicator Device

Milton Abbas are considering purchasing a SID and have asked if any other parish councils would be interested in sharing the cost. It was felt that the money was not budgeted and may just involve additional work without resulting in any reduction in traffic speed. The most effective form of control continues to be the presence of the Speed Watch team and they would still need to attend the site, with or without the SID in operation. The Clerk will contact Milton Abbas, saying we would not be taking up their offer.

ACTION: CLERK

18.171 WK Community Hub update

The Clerk reported that there were bookings for the Hub over the Christmas period amounting to over £300. Interest continues to grow, and thanks are extended to Lynn Luxford for the work she and her husband have done at the Hub and for the time she puts in opening and closing up after hire groups.

Heating continues to be a problem. It was suggested that additional heaters are installed and run from a coin meter. Cllr Sorrell reported that it would cost £150 to put in a coin meter and Derek Andrews will check the price of infra-red heaters. These are the most cost-effective way of heating an area rapidly.

There is also an issue with regard to the safety lighting of the path which needs to be addressed.

It was noted that only approved portable electrical equipment should be used in the Hub.

Derek Andrews will be asked to cost out the possibility of a remote-controlled light positioned on the corner of the building and one on the steps. Cllr Leaper will meet with Derek Andrews and discuss the options for both the lighting and the heating and this will be brought back to the February meeting.

ACTION: CLLR LEAPER

18.172 To consider dates for the 2018 meetings

A list of the suggested meeting dates were issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. These are:

February 20 th	Zelston
March 20 th	Kingston
April 10 th	Zelston Parish Meeting
April 17 th	Kingston Parish Meeting, followed by Parish Council monthly meeting
May 15 th	Kingston – Parish Council AGM
June 19 th	Zelston
July 17 th	Kingston
August 21 st	Kingston
September 18 th	Zelston
October 16 th	Kingston
November 20 th	Kingston
December	No meeting

All meetings are scheduled to start at 7pm.

Cllr Andrews proposed that the dates are accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Sorrell and agreed unanimously. The dates will be posted on the Parish Council web site and on the notice boards.

18.173 Planning Applications & Tree Work Proposals

2/2017/1823 Ravendale, Bagwood Road, WK – erect 2-storey side extension, including rear balcony. Erect detached garage

No objections.

2/2017/1928 Crofters, Sackville Street, WK – erect double garage (demolish existing)

No objections.

18.174 WK Playground BU

18.174.1 Recreation Ground – grass cutting and rabbit holes

The Clerk reported that two letters of complaint had been received regarding the state of the grass cutting at the Recreation Ground and the fact that the length of grass made it difficult to see the rabbit holes.

At present, it is too wet to cut the grass and it was noted that the area is a field, open to the public and not a park. By its nature and location, it is going to have rabbit holes and uneven ground. We have the choice of closing the field as it may present a potential hazard, or putting up a notice warning residents of uneven ground. The Parish Council's insurers have recommended a notice if we feel it is necessary to do so. It was agreed that a notice will be put up.

A letter will be sent to the two residents who have written in, setting out the options put before the Parish Council and informing them of the action to be taken.

ACTION: CLERK

18.175 To receive an update on the Village Gates

The Parish Council initiative has made it through to the Tesco vote. The judging takes place on the 28th February and we are on the way to winning £1,000 which will pay for the gates, but will not cover the cost of the additional landscaping, etc.

18.176 Telephone kiosks

A quote for £1250 has been received to repair the Kingston and Anderson kiosks' doors. It was agreed that one more quote will be obtained before a decision is made. At the same time, the Clerk will contact BT to see if they have any spare doors.

ACTION: CLERK

18.177 Home Watch/Flood Watch

18.177.1 Flood Watch

Zelston – The river is looking very good and is now full.

Kingston – the river is flowing quite fast now and the sludge between the bridges is being moved.

18.177.2 Home Watch

Kingston – The farm behind the Botany Bay had diesel stolen in the last 10 days. The only other thefts are of tractors. Residents are warned to beware of giving consent to the banks for using your details. The police have said this is a golden opportunity for scams to act on the back of this new initiative. It is possible to check on the Dorset Police web site and look under the cybercrime section to see if a web site is valid or not.

18.178 Parish Councillors' Reports

Cllr Andrews – Nothing to report.

Cllr Sorrell – Asked if there is a problem with the web site as minutes are not being posted until quite late. No problem – just a delay in timings due to holidays. There are now two entrances on to the A31 – Redwoods and Hope Willows. Has NDDC agreed to a new exit? This will be followed up. District Cllr Somper suggested contacting County Cllr Hilary Cox. Cllr Sorrell also reminded members that he had expressed concern in the passed over the western exit from Winterborne Zelston on to the A31 being dangerous. Rita Burden said she understood someone had contacted Hilary about Redwoods but was not aware of the outcome.

Cllr Allcock – The defibrillator is ready to be installed and a power supply will be required. Training sessions will also be set up upon Cllr Jessop's return.

18.179 Correspondence receive since the agenda was set

Nothing to report.

18.180 Items for the February agenda

Members are reminded to pass any items to the Clerk by the 10th February.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.25hours.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th February, at Zelston Village Hall, commencing 7pm.