STOURS PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Todber Parish Annual Meeting held at 7.00pm on**

**Tuesday 24th May 2021 in St Andrew’s Church Todber**

PRESENT: Cllrs P Bowe (Chairman), R King, Mr M Hibbert, Rights of Way Liaison officer, and 9 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed those present.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Bowe was nominated by Cllr King, seconded by Stephanie Webb and agreed by all. Elected unopposed.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Mr Paul Gould, (Chairman, Stours Parish Council), DCCllr Jane Somper, Jacintha Bowe, Paul and Carol Matcham.

3. MINUTES of the virtual meeting of 19th November 2020 (previously circulated) were agreedto be a correct record and duly signed. Proposed by Cllr King and seconded by Chris Warne.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Matter arising were dealt with under the appropriate agenda items.

5. ELECTION OF RIGHTS OF WAY LIAISON OFFICER AND TREE WARDEN

Mr Martin Hibbert said that he would be happy to continue as footpath officer. Proposed by Cllr King seconded by Stephanie Webb and agreed by all. Martin was thanked for continuing this role. Martin gave notice of his intention to step down next year, anyone who might be interested is welcome to contact Martin to discuss what the role involves.

Tree Warden – Paul Matcham had agreed to continue in the role if no one else wished to take it over. There were no other nominations; Mr Matcham was duly elected.

6. CASUAL VACANCY

There is still a vacancy for the Stours Parish Council, if anybody is interested please talk to Paul or Richard

7.FOOTPATH AND TREE MATTERS

Footpaths - Martin Hibbert reported – The gate on the footpath near Pigeon Farm is in disrepair. Dorset County Council are aware, Martin will contact them to try and expedite the repair.

Martin will be launching his ‘Adopt a Footpath Scheme’, which encourages parishioners to maintain a specific local footpath, this will make the role of the next RoWL Officer’s role much easier. More details to follow later in the summer.

Trees – Nothing to report.

8. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

DCCCouncillor’s report had been previously circulated, and was duly noted.

9. HIGHWAY MATTERS

Community Speed Watch

Due to Covid 19 restrictions there had been very little activity over the past twelve months. The group still stands at five members. Cllr King appealed for further volunteers to ensure that community speed watch in the village remained viable.

Deployment of the Speed Indication Device(SID)

Cllr King informed the meeting of the latest figures recorded by the SID, which showed the average speed at 31 mph and the 85% at 37mph, both figures show a slight increase which is a worrying trend. Maximumn speed recorded was 70 mph.

Replacement Speed Gun

The group has loan of an up to date speed gun for trialling. If successful, the parish will look to purchase.

10. CURRENT PLANNING MATTERS

Unit 1 Church Close Business Park, Church Close Todber DT10 1JH, Extension to accommodate reception area, additional officers and improve store/workshop areas. The Chairman stated that parish council were happy to support the application, the meeting agreed with this recommendation.

Unit1 Hambledon Business Centre, Hunts Hill, Todber DT10 1JA. Demolish existing commercial buildings and replace with 3 dwellings. The chairman stated that the Parish Council were happy to support the application as it would enhance the village. All those present agreed with this. The Chairman had received a comment from a parishioner supporting the application but querying whether the development could have incorporated cottages. (Further information received indicated that the plans drawn up were dictated by current planning regulations)

11. MILLENNIUM GREEN AND WOODS

The Chairman apologised for having made little progress in researching making the millennium green into a wildflower meadow. Martin Hibbert suggested contacting those responsible for successfully completing a similar project in East Stour for advice.

The millennium woods require some ongoing maintenance. Cllrs Bowe and King will arrange this.

12 COMMUNICATION

1. New look Parish Website – parishioners were encouraged to look at and use the website more, as it was now more user friendly and accessible. The Chairman suggested that it could be used more to disseminate parish news. This will be discussed further at the next Parish Meeting.

2.Notice Board – It was agreed that the parish notice board requires some repairs and maintenance. Cllrs Bowe and King will arrange this.

13. ACCOUNTS

Balance as at 31 March 2021 – £1560.13.

The annual grant to St Andrew’s Church (Todber PCC) of £200 can now be paid. Also it was agreed to give £70 to St Andrew’s Church (Todber PCC) in consideration of the Church being used for the parish meetings. Proposed by John Penn, seconded by Phil Arnold.

13. MATTERS OF INTEREST AND INFORMATION

The East Stour Post Office at East Stour Village Hall, is open Wednesdays 10am – 12pm. Also First Class Coffee should soon be available again

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Roy Sheppard wished to have noted his thanks to Mr Mike Courtney, Cllr Richard King and Cllr Paul Bowe for their work in repairing the layby.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.35 PM and thanked everybody for attending.

.............................Chairman ............................Date