East Stour Parish

Minutes of East Stour Parish meeting

Held on the 13th of April 2022 at 7.00pm

at East Stour Village Hall

Present: Cllr J Watkins – Chairman of the Stours Parish Council. Cllr Bobbie Edwards. Cllr J Uden, Cllr J Pitman, Cllr R McConnell, Cllr R Robson, and Cllr Wakeford

In attendance: Mrs N Phillips – Clerk, there were three members of the public present

**8/21. Apologies for Absence –** There were none

**9/21. Declaration of interest and dispensations**

There were none.

**10/21. Election of Chairman**

Cllr Uden proposed Cllr Edwards is elected as Chairman for East Stour Parish, this was seconded by Cllr McConnell, all precent in favour

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Edwards is elected as Chairman for East Stour Parish (10/21 – no budgetary requirements)

11/21. To agree the Minutes of the meeting dated the 14th of October 2022.

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Wakeford and seconded by Cllr Uden, all agreed they are a true and accurate record of the meeting. They were duly signed.

RESOLVED: that the minutes were approved and signed (11/21)

**Matters Arising from those minutes**

**Vacancy –** The Parish have room for one more Councillor to join the Stours Parish Council. If you are interested in joining the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk or Chairman – Cllr Edwards for more details and also come along to a Parish Council meeting to see what it entails.

**East Stour Parish Council –** When Dorset Council put out the review of Boundaries, an idea was put forward for East Stour to consider becoming a stand-alone Parish Council, instead of being linked with Stours Parish Council.

After debate, it was agreed to provide more information for the residents of the village to consider if they would like their own Parish Council or to remain working alongside the Stours Parish Council. **Action - Clerk**

12/21. Election of officer’s roles

The following roles were agreed

Play Area/ recreation ground Cllr McConnell and Cllr Pitman

Flag Flyer Cllr Uden

Village Hall Representative Sheila Squire

Footpaths/rights of way Cllr Wakeford

There are other organisations within the in village, Library, TESS (The East Stour Society), that have their own representatives.

13/21. District Councillors report

The Dorset Councillors reports can be seen on the Sours Parish Council’s website

14/21. Current Planning Applications

The following was tabled



15/21. Officers’ reports

Play area/recreation ground – The play area had its annual inspection and there are some works that are required. The Clerk obtained one quote to give an idea of what costs will be involved. After debate, it was agreed for the Clerk to obtain two further quotes and to confirm which works are the most urgent to be completed. Action – Clerk

This has highlighted the importance of allocating funds for repairs to the Play Area, as repairs and replacements are costly. It was agreed to look at the Play Area as a future project.

The contractor who laid the path in the recreation area is meeting with Cllr Robson to look at the issues with the surfacing in the wet weather next week.

The price charged to Fast Feet Football for using the recreation area for their games and training was discussed. It was noted that most of the participants came from outside the village. It was agreed that the price charged was probably significantly too low and in any event was much lower than the cost of maintaining the grounds. More information will be obtained and will be discussed at an ad hoc Parish Council meeting to be arranged as soon as possible. Action Cllr McConnell – Clerk

The Clerk was instructed to request that the grass cutting contractor apply weed killer to the footpath to help with the protection of its surface. Action - Clerk

The Wildflower Meadow and Pleck - Mr Bob Partridge was unable to attend the meeting but had asked for his comments to be read out at the meeting. Ann Morphew had also emailed regarding issues with the Wildflower Meadow. Asking for volunteers to come forward to help with the maintaining of the Wildflower Meadow, as Mr Bob Partridge, who has been managing the maintance for eight years, is happy to help now and again, he is not in a position to continue with maintaining it with just the support or of a few people. If no one comes forward, the area will go back to being a Hay Meadow. After debate, it was agreed to contact Dorset Council, as this area is their land, to inform them that this area will no longer be maintained by the Village and request they sow wildflower seeds, as they do on other verges within Dorset. Action – Clerk

The Chairman will ask the Gardening Club if they are interested in maintaining the Wildflower Meadow.

Footpath/rights of way – Cllr Wakeford reported that the ongoing matter of the broken gate across the footpath is being replaced by the Farmer in due course.

16/21. Account for the end of the year

The following was tabled.



17/21. Matters of Interest & Information

Cllr Watkins – Stours Parish Council Chairman announced that the Parish Council have agreed to donate £200.00 to each Parish towards the costs for the Queens Platinum Jubilee. It was confirmed that The Udder Farm Shop are arranging celebrations over the Jubilee weekend and that TESS and others are happy to volunteer to help. After discussions on what else to do to commemorate the Queens Platinum Jubilee, it was agreed to look into purchasing a one or two Cherry trees. Cllr Wakeford agreed to manage this project. Action – Cllr Wakeford

Cllr Robson suggested that the Parish look at ways to improve the communication for the village, either by WhatsApp, google or other social media platforms. It was agreed for Cllr Robson to investigate these social media platforms and it was also suggested that the Clerk contact the Stours Parish Council’s website provider to see if they have anything in place. Action – Cllr Robson and Clerk

The Chairman reported that the bus shelter has been taken down and the fallen tree removed from the Wildflower Meadow. It was also noted that Hanna’s Seat will erected next to the kiosk and should be in place in the next week or so. The Clerk will also ask the contractor to put the plaque on the old bench, which has fallen off. Action - Clerk

The East Stour Society (TESS) are holding a coffee afternoon on the 21st of May 2022 at the Village Hall, for residents new and old, to come along and see what is available for them in the village. It will also be a good opportunity to meet new people. TESS are also raising funds to Ukraine, by making the village go gold. They are selling sunflowers in a pot for £2.00 each. There will be flyers sent around to the residents of the village giving more information on both matters. They look forward to meeting you at the coffee afternoon.

18/21. Agenda items to be agreed for the next Parish meeting in October 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.25

Signed…………………………………………………………………………………………

Website address http//: [www.stours-pc.gov.uk](http://www.stours-pc.gov.uk)

Should you wish to contact any Councillor please us the address

[clerk@stours-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stours-pc.gov.uk)