West Stour Parish

Minutes of West Stour Parish meeting

Held on the 5th of April 2022 at 7.30pm

at West Stour Village Hall

Present: Cllr P Sealy, Cllr M Elsworth, Cllr J Watkins (Sours Parish Council Chairman) and eleven elected members of the Parish

In attendance: Mrs N Phillips - Clerk

**9/21. Apologies for Absence**

Cllr P Gould, Mr J Parker, Dorset Council Belinda Ridout sent their apologies.

**10/21. Declaration of interest and dispensations**

There were none.

**11/21. Election of Chairman**

The Clerk asked for nominations for Chairman for West Stour Parish. Cllr Sealy was nominated; this was seconded, and all were in favour for Cllr Sealy to elected as Chairman for West Stour Parish.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Sealy elected as Chairman for West Stour Parish (11/21–no budgetary provision required)

12/21. To agree the Minutes of the meeting dated the 7th of October 2021

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

RESOLVED: that the minutes were approved and signed (12/21 no budgetary requirements)

Matters arising.

* Notice Boards – Concerns were raised that the Parish Council notice board is still being takin up with the Parish Council’s notices, not leaving enough room for the public notices to be placed. Cllr Sealy reminded everyone that this is a Parish Council notice board as the Parish Council are required to ensure Agenda’s and Minutes are easily visible on their boards and sometimes the minutes do take up more than one side. It was noted that at the Parish Meeting in May, it was agreed to have the Parish Council minutes reduced to bullet points to try and get them on to two pages. The Clerk confirmed this will be done as from now and a note on the end of the minutes to state that the full minutes can be seen on the Parish Council website. Action – Clerk

13/21. Election of Officers

Mr Andrew Marshall agreed to take on the role as the Footpath Officer from Mr Martin Hibbert, who will be retiring in a few months’ time. The Parish would like to thank Mr Hibbert for all of his years of work volunteering as the Parishes Footpath Officer.

Footpath Officer – Mr Andrew Marshall

14/21. District Councillors report.

The District Councillors reports are available to see on the Parish Council website.

15/21. Current Planning Applications



Concerns were expressed that Dorset Council Planning department may not always consider or acknowledge residents’ comments on neighbouring applications. The Clerk stated that if their comments are not visible on Dorset Council Planning portal, please send a copy to the Clerk, who will forward them on to the Planning Officers to ensure they receive them. Concerns were also raised, that here has been no response from the Enforcement Officers regarding complaints over the vast amount of lighting at the Dorset Show Ground. The Clerk will contact the Enforcement Team for an update. Action – Clerk

16/21. Officers report:

The Clerk informed the Parish that Dorset Council Road Safety Team have meet with the Stours Parish Council and will be putting an action plan of ideas to help with speeding traffic. The plan will be discussed at the Stours Parish Council meeting in May.

17/21. Accounts for the end of the year

The Clerk tabled the following accounts for 2021-2022



18/21. Matters of Interest & Information

Cllr Watkins – Chairman for the Stours Parish Council, reported that the Parish Council have awarded each village £200.00 towards the Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. It was reported that the Village Hall committee and volunteers will be arranging different events for the long weekend to celebrate the Jubilee, which will include mini railway, sunflower seed being given out, picnic and music.

Cllr Watkins reminded the general public that the other recreation area, Stour Provost, and East Sour are always open to the residents of the other villages withing the Stour Parish group.

The Clerk and Cllr Gould will be meeting with Councillors from Buckhorn and Western to look at ways to resolve issued at the Five Bridges. An update will be given at the Parish Council meeting in May.

A request to plant spring bulbs next to the Millennium bench was tabled. The Clerk confirmed that if residents cut this area of verge, she can see no reason Dorset Council will not approve this.

The Clerk was asked to contact Dorset Fire Service to ensure all of the fire hydrants are serviced regularly, as a lot are being covered with mud and debris. Action – Clerk

It was confirmed that the tree maintenance in the Church Yard will take place later in the year after the nesting season. Concerns were also expressed over the maintenance of the trees next to the Phone Box. The Clerk will contact Dorset Council to see if they are responsible for the trees. Action – Clerk

A request for confirmation that the once the new Dorset Plan is in place, that the Parish Council will adopt it to ensure any building/development in the villages will referred to the plan when submitting their application.

The Parish Councillor and Clerk were thanked along with the volunteers supporting the Parish.

The SID indicator device was not working and has now been moved, but it is still not working. The Clerk confirmed that a battery had been replaced, but obviously this was not the issue, so it will be reported again Guy for his attention.

19/21. Agenda items to be agreed for the next Parish meeting on in October, date to be confirmed.

Budget – Invitations to Mr Trim to discuss support for the village – review notice board – update on road safety There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.25

Signed……………………………Website address http//: www.stours-pc.gov.uk

Should you wish to contact any Councillor please us the address; clerk@stours-pc.gov.uk