The Stours Parish Council

MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL MEETING OF

THE STOURS PARISH COUNCIL on the 5th of May 2022

**7.30pm at Stour Row Village Hall, Stour Row**

Present: Cllr J Watkins, Cllr P Bowe, Cllr M Elsworth, Cllr P Sealy, Cllr R McConnell, Cllr R Robson, Cllr H Wakeford, Cllr J Uden, Cllr J Morisetti, Cllr R King, Cllr E Scott, Cllr C Wilkins, Cllr A Stagg and Cllr P Patrick

In attendance: Mrs N Phillips (Parish Clerk) - There was one member of the public

22/1. Election of Chairman and signing of Declaration of Office

Cllr Bowe proposed Cllr Watkins for Chairman 2022-2023 this was seconded by Cllr King; all members were in favour.

RESOLVED: for Cllr Watkins for Chairman for The Stours Parish Council for 2022-23 (22/1, no budgetary provision required)

22/2. To receive and accept apologies of absence and declaration of interest

Cllr P Gould, Cllr B Edwards, Cllr R McConnell and Dorset Councillors sent their apologies.

22/3. Election of Vice Chairman.

Cllr King proposed Cllr Bowe for vice-chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Stagg, all members were in favour.

RESOLVED: for Cllr Bowe for Vice-Chairman for The Stours Parish Council 2022-23 (22/3, no budgetary provision required)

22/4. Parish Council legal documents

* To consider if the Parish Council have met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 will be agreed. It was confirmed that the majority of Councillor are elected members and therefore Cllr Watkins proposed that the Parish Council adopt the General Power of Competence, this was seconded by Cllr Bowe, all in favour
  + RESOLVED For the Stours Parish Council to adopt the General Power of Competence for 2022-2023. (22/4 no budgetary provision required)
* To confirm no changes to the adopted policies and procedures for 2021/202- it was confirmed that the policies in place have not been changed.

22/5. To approve the minutes of the AGM 27th May 2021

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Sealy and seconded by Cllr Bowe, with one amendment under persons present, all agreed that the minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting. They were duly signed by the Chairman.

RESOLVED: that the minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman (22/6 – no budgetary allocations required)

22/6. Co-option for new members.

Mr Peter Stride expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council under East Stour Ward. Cllr Robson proposed Mr Peter Stride is co-opted on as Councillor for East Stour ward, Stours Parish Council, this was seconded by Cllr Wakeford, all in favour.

RESOLVED: Mr Peter Stride is co-opted on as a new Councillor for Stours Parish Council (22/6 no budgetary requirements)

22/7. Approval the governance statement and annual accounts.

The Clerk tabled the following:

• The annual governance statement 2021/22

• The end of year accounting statements 2021/22

• The Asset Register 2021/22

• The Bank reconciliation 2021/22

These were proposed by Cllr Sealy and seconded by Cllr Robson, all members agreed to approve the end of year accounts and the governance statement for the external auditor. The Chairman duly signed the governance statement.

RESOLVED: to approve the governance statement and annual accounts for 2021-2022 (22/7 no budgetary requirements).

*At this point the Chairman will close the AGM and open the Monthly Meeting.*

22/8. To agree officers’ roles.

The following officers’ roles were agreed:

• Play area officers for East Stour and Stour Provost – East Stour Cllr McConnell, Stour Provost – Cllr Wilkins

• Representative for Village halls in East Stour, Stour Provost and West Stour – East Stour Cllr McConnell, Stour Provost Cllr Patrick, Stour Row Cllr Scott and Cllr Sealy will be attending West Stour Village Hall meetings.

• Finance officer for the Stours Parish Council – The Clerk RFO, Cllr Robson and Cllr Bowe

• Highways officer for each of the Parishes – Cllr King is happy to the be Highways officer for the Stours Parish Council, so please report any issues to Cllr King. Cllr King will work with the Clerk in reported matter to the relevant authorities.

• Village Maintenance officer for each of the Parishes - Not applicable

• Environment officer – Cllr Morisetti

22/9. Reports from Dorset Councillors Cllr B Ridout and Cllr J Somper.

The Dorset Councillors reports will be available to view on the Parish Council’s website.

22/10. Approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 3rd of March 2022

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

RESOLVED: that the minutes were approved and singed by the Chairman (21/10 – no budgetary allocations required)

Matters arising from the said meeting:

To agree: Every Parish Council meeting to be held at East Stour Village Hall bimonthly- after debate it was agreed to remain holding bimonthly meetings, in turn, at each Parishes village halls.

Update: On the Five Bridges Matter – the Clerk reported that she and Cllr Gould had attended a meeting on site, with Roland Skeats from Dorset Council, Cllr Phillippa Chapman (Chair) and Councillor Fred Shotter and the Clerk, Sandra Mackintosh from Buckhorn Weston & Kington Magna Parish Council and Dorset Councillor B Ridout. Roland Skeats confirmed that the parking area, where the travellers used to reside, is a public highway and cannot be shut off to any members of the public by using a gate or bollards. This means it does not make any difference of ownership of the land in question as a gate cannot be erected. After further discussions, it was agreed for the Clerk to contact Graham Stanley at Dorset Council to see if this area can be improved and promoted as a picnic area, which this has already been registered as. It was felt that if the area is frequently used, it would deter travellers setting up camp.

Update: Dorset Council works to improve road safety around the villages – the Clerk and Cllr King had already reported on their meeting with Dorset Council Road Safety Team. Dorset Council have agreed to put down additional road markings to try and slow traffic down, this will be completed after the scheduled road works on the B3092 have been completed. It was also noted that if a Parish wish to look at reducing speed limits, the residents of the villages will need provide a petition, which can then be forwarded to the Parish Council, so further discussions can take place with Dorset Council.

Consider: Ways to improve the Carborne Footprint in the villages – Cllr Morisetti reported that she is working with Dorset Climate Action network on ideas of how to promote ideas of how to improve the carbon footprint in the villages. An open day will be organised, showing local homes that use other sustainable products, giving the general public more information of ways to improve their Carbon Footprint. Cllr Morisetti has highlighted another quick way to improve warming your home, by lining single fabric curtains. Cllr Morisetti also expressed concerns over Dorset Council’s protocol on debating matters in public meetings. This was raised after members of the public protested to a meeting, by gluing themselves to furniture at the meeting, so the meeting was then moved to another room, but debate was stopped, and it went straight through for resolution. The Clerk will raise this matter with the Dorset Councillors.

21/11. Finance

To record: Payments paid between meetings – The Clerk had circulated payment schedule since March’s meeting, these had been approved via email.

To agree: Payment Schedule for April 2022 - The Clerk had tabled the Payment Schedule for April 2022 for the sum of £1420.17. This was proposed by Cllr Robson and seconded by Cllr Bowe, all agreed for the payments on the payment schedule be paid, the schedule was duly signed Chairman.



RESOLVED: to pay the payment on the schedule to the total sum of £1420.17 (21/1 current account)

22/12. Planning: review of applications received

P/HOU/2022/02004 – Chequers Farm – Stour Provost - erect single & two storey rear extensions – awaiting

Dorset Councils decision

P/CLP/2022/00840 - Branscombe Kennels – Stour Provost– Certificate of lawfulness – awaiting Dorset

Councils’ decision

P/HOU/2022/01199 - Wadmill Farm – Stour Row – erect side extension – awaiting Dorset Councils decision

P/FUL/2022/01205 – Kingsley Church – West Stour – erect a detected single storey dwelling – awaiting Dorset

Councils’ decision

P/MPO/2022/02692 – Land to the East of Lodden – Modification for S106 – duly noted

P/PABA/2022/02602 – Hartgill Farm, East Stour – Erect agricultural building – PC no objection, noted that they must

ensure the rights of way is still accessible

P/PAAC/2022/02602 – Jadewood Farm, Stour Provost – Change of use from agricultural to dwelling – PC no

objections

P/FUL/2022/02612 - Manor Farm, Stour Provost - replace former slurry lagoon – PC no objection

It was also agreed that any planning application the Parish Council receive that is for renovation or new build, that

comments will be sent to Dorset Council planning department asking them to ensure the developers have

considered using energy efficient materials.

21/13. Chairman’s report

The Chairman reported the following:

* Thanked her fellow Councillors and Clerk for their support in the past 12 months.
* Is looking forward to the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations that have been arranged in the villages.

21/14. Wards and officers’ reports

* Stour Row – Concerns over a rights of way footpath in the village being shut off by a gate, by the resident that lives next to the rights of way footpath. Mr Martin Hibbert – foot path officer, was kind enough to come out and have a look and reported it to Dorset Council Rights of Way officer, Graham Stanley. It has been noted that there seems to be a mistake on a map showing the rights of way, Graham Stanley is looking into this matter and will rectify it with the resident directly. A great deal of thanks was sent to Mr Martin Hibbert
* East Stour – The gate across the rights of way that had been broken, has now been replaced. Hanna’s bench plaque has been refitted and the new bench has been put in place. The Bus Shelter has now been removed.
* Todber – The notice board has been repaired and re-sited to a better position for people to read the notices. The wildflower project for the millennium green is under way. The Village is looking forward to the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations by having a village picnic.
* West Stour – The Queens platinum jubilee celebrations are to be held at Ashley House.

21/15. Clerk Report.

The Clerk announced the resignation of Cllr Jerry Pitman. He will be sadly missed, and the Parish Council will send thanks for all of his work and support whilst serving on the Parish Council and for East Stour Ward.

21/16. Items for next agenda and date of next meeting. Todber layby.

The Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 7th July at East Stour Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.38.

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