Todber Parish Meeting

Minutes of Todber Parish meeting

 Held on the 20th of April 2023 at 7.00pm at St Andrews Church

Present: Cllr P Bowe, Cllr R King and Cllr P Matcham and 14 members of the Parish.

In attendance: Mrs N Phillips – Clerk Cllr J Watkins (Chairman of the Stours Parish Council)

**1/23. Apologies for Absence**

Dorset Council Cllr J Somper

**2/23. Declaration of interest and dispensations**

There were none.

3/23. Election of Chairman

*At this point, the Clerk had sent the following information to all Parishes regarding the correct prosses for Parish Meetings, where Parishes come under a Parish Council.*

*Parish meeting may be convened by the chairman of the parish council or any two parish councillors, or in a parish that does not have a separate parish council by the chairman of the parish meeting or by any representative of the parish upon the principal council. (LGA 1972m Sch 12, para 1.5(1)(a)-(c). or in either case by six electors for the area for which it is to beheld, (LGA 1972 Sch12, para 1.5(1)(d). The parish council may also convene it but is under no obligation to do so unless its consent is required before the parish council does certain acts. Therefore, an election of Chairman was not necessary. It was agreed for the Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council to chair the meeting.*

4/23. To agree the Minutes of the meeting dated the 4th of October 2022.

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Bowe and all members of the Parish agreed they are a true and accurate record of the meeting. They were duly signed by the Cllr Bowe

RESOLVED: that the minutes were approved and signed by Cllr Bowe (4/23)

5/23. Matters arising.

• Update on the Millennium Green and Woods – Cllr Matcham gave an update on the progress completed on the Millennium Green and Woods since last year. It was noted due to the contractor not cutting the grass when scheduled to do so, the area became messy. It was confirmed that a new contractor will be appointed to ensure that the areas are cut when they should be, which should help with encouraging wildflowers to grow. There will be more wildflowers planted this year and also spring bulbs to be planted in the Autumn. Some of the residents asked for conformation of how long it will take to get this are established so that it does not look managed instead of messy. It was reported that this is not a quick result project and can take a few years to get the flowers ect established, but with better management, the areas will be kept tidy. If anyone would like to help volunteer to help with planting flowers ect, please contact Cllr Matcham.

• King Charles III coronation celebrations – there are no organised events for the Parish for the coronation, but due to the success of the picnic on the green last year, it was suggested that this becomes an annual event, and a date has been proposed 10th June from 2pm. Please come along and bring your picnic. If any residents have any ideas to add to the picnic afternoon, please contact any of the Councillors.

• Todber Church proposal to use for village hub – Cllr Bowe reported that the Parish Council have agreed to support the take this proposal forward to the PCC. The next stage is to produce a development plan, with the support from the Parish Council, giving details of why it is important to have village hub. This proposal will also be considered by Victorian Society, Historical Church Society and the Arch Deacon.

6/23. Elections of Officers roles for the Parish

The following was agreed.

Cllr R King remains to be the Parish Council’s highways officer, but it was noted that if anyone has any concerns over any highways matter, they can report them to the Clerk, Cllr R King or direct to Dorset Council Highways team.

The Clerk reported that now Dorset Council send out tree applications, there is no need for a tree officer for the village, but if anyone has any concerns over a tree works in the village, please report them to the Clerk or Dorset Council tree officer.

Also, if any residents have any rights of way concerns, please report the to the Clerk or Dorset Council Rangers.

The Millennium Green and Woods officers are Cllr Bowe, Cllr King and Cllr Matcham. If anyone is interested in joint the officers, please contact Cllr Bowe.

7/23. District Councillor report: - The full report from Dorset Council Cllr J Somper is available on the Parish Councils website. The following are bullet point from the report.

Road Maintenance/Potholes - Dorset Council welcomed £2,914,000 from the £200 million set aside by Chancellor Jeremy Hunt during his Spring Budget announcement. Dorset Council monitors and maintains approximately 2,400 miles of road.

Parking Fines - The Police and Crime Commissioner and the Leader of Dorset Council recently wrote to the transport minister asking them to consider increasing parking fines particularly in rural and seaside areas.

Conserving The Natural Environment - At the recent Dorset Council Cabinet meeting the Portfolio Holder responsible for the Natural Environment, Cllr Ray Bryan presented a report on the natural environment, climate & ecological strategy for approval.

Cover report - NECE Strategy 2023 refresh - Cabinet 28 March.pdf (dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Another important decision was made ‘The Natural Environment Decision Wheel’ a decision tool which will be woven into decision making at Dorset Council. It will provide a robust and transparent process that will support the delivery of the NECE strategy and the councils’ ambitions enabling policy makers to understand the wider implications on the environment of decisions being taken.

Env Climate and Ecology decision wheel - Report and appendix A.pdf (dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

I am sometimes contacted by residents who are looking for information on what they can do in their own communities, homes and villages to help preserve their local environment. There are many sources of information available on the Dorset Council dedicated web page. Climate and Ecological Emergency - Dorset Council

Electric Vehicle charging points - Dorset Council aim to provide access to charging points within a 10-minute drive for most residents within 10 years.

Second Homes Council Tax - Dorset Councillors have been discussing proposals for council tax premiums on second homes and empty properties, in anticipation of the new flexibilities for councils in the forthcoming Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill. At that time, it was hoped that the Bill would receive Royal Asset by 1 April 2023.

8/23. Current Planning Applications



9/23. Officers report

Cllr R King gave the following report:

Road Signs - At the end of Red Lane, the Give Way sign has been re-erected and chevron replaced after collision damage. Thanks to Clerk Nicky for helping with this matter.

SID - For health reasons Cllr King had to relinquish management of our Speed Indication Device which is placed on a pole in Red Lane.

Community Speed Watch - The group is not active, but Cllr King have kept it alive in name only. The Parish need to re-assemble the group and retrain. The Parish still have a Bushnell speed gun on loan from the police.

Speed Limits - Dorset Council has agreed in principle to 20mph speed limits on all eligible village roads. One of the criteria is that there must be an active speed watch group. The Parish Council is keen to reduce the speed on the B3092 especially now that there is a new access from Firbank and Northfield. We hope for a reduction to 40 mph and wish to gauge residents' opinion about that. The Stours Group of Parish Councils, of which Todber is one, is forming a working party to look at speed limits in the villages.

10/23. Accounts for the end of the year



11/23. Matters of interest & information – A coffee and cake morning and plant sale is arranged at the Church on Saturday the 3rd of May 2023.

12/23. Agenda items to be agreed for the next Parish meeting in October 2023, date TBC - Budget

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.45.

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