The Stours Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE STOURS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

on the 9th of January 2025 **at 7.00pm at Stour Row Village Hall,**

Present: Cllr J Watkins – Chairman, Cllr B Bowe – Vice Chairman, Cllr C Wilkins, Cllr A Stagg, Cllr P Matcham, Cllr P Patrick, Cllr Estelle Edwards, Cllr Pat Mitchell, Cllr David Amlot MBE, Cllr Peter Stride, Cllr R McConnell, Cllr Judy Uden, Cllr R King.

In attendance: Mrs N Phillips (Parish Clerk), Dorset Councils, Cllr Carl Woode, No members of the public.

**Public Consultation:** there were no questions raised.

24/47. To receive and accept apologies of absence.

Cllr H Wakeford, Cllr M Kirkham, Dorset Cllrs Cllr Jane Somper, Cllr V Pothecary and Cllr B Ridout

24/48. Receive declaration of interest and dispensations

There were none.

24/49. To approve the minutes dated the 7th of November 2024

The minutes were proposed by Cllr R King and seconded by Cllr R McConnell, 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 (24/49 – no budgetary provision.

required)

To do list for works – the Chairman and Clerk went through outstanding items for each Parish. A copy of the to do list is available from the Clerk.

Update from each Parish:

Stour Row/Stour Provost

* Cllr P Matcham and Cllr P Patrick have been producing a document that will be submitted to Dorset Council road safety team, giving information and evidence of why the speed limit along B3094 from where the 40mph becomes national speed limit from East Stour to Marnhull should be reduce to 40MPH. Once the document is completed, it will be circulated to all Councillors before submitting to Dorset Council.
* Cllr P Patrick will contact Wessex Internet to request a donation for the village, which will go towards replacing a well rotten noticeboard in the village.
* Cllr C Wilkins reported that there is a Dutch Elm tree that is dead in the recreation area that needs attention. The Clerk will contract a tree surgeon for confirmation that the tree needs felling and to obtain the cost. Action - Clerk
* Cllr C Wilkins reported that there is an unsafe stile along the footpath that runs from the village to Fifehead Magdalen along the Stour Valley Way. The Clerk will report this to the Rangers at Dorset Council. Action - Clerk
* The damage at the bus shelter at the crossroads at Stour Provost has been reported to the bus company. There has been no response. The Clerk will obtain a quote to get the plastic panels replaced. Action - Clerk

East Stour

* Cllr Wakeford sent a report which is as follows: Has been in conversation with James Hussey, road safety department about an email received from local resident. It is noted that any road traffic incidents in the villages even if the police or ambulances are in attendance as they are not necessarily logged to the Highways Agency, If any traffic calming in the village is considered, all incidents, near misses etc, need to be logged with Dorset Council using the following link <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/roads-highways-maintenance/road-safety> Reports need to be made within seven days of the incident. The Highways dept have not had any reported incidents since 2020.
* The Clerk will get the drains cleared again along Witch Lane.
* Will wait for the independent play area safety inspection before obtaining quotes for repairs.

Todber

* The Clerk will chase Dorset Council Highways team to replace the broken sign advertising the entrance to the Catholic school that has been hit by a vehicle. It had rusted away. Action - Clerk

West Stour

Planning

* Land North of Church House. Comments submitted on the revised plans, observations reinforced the conservation area points and precedence in previous building adjacent to the site. Dorset Planning approved without addressing Parish Councils observations.
* Further update requested (5 Jan 25) by Cllr Amlot to North Dorset Planning Enforcement on the creation of a track behind Foxgloves on the Church Farm Estate, nothing heard to date.

Church Street Tree Cutting IVO Phone Box. The Clerk will request a map from Dorset Council, showing the verges in the village they are responsible for, as they feel they are not responsible for the tree in question. Action - Clerk

Neighbourhood Plan- Insufficient availability of interested members for the inaugural meeting in November. Intent to hold first meeting in January.

SID

* What is the current situation in relation to the recent email regarding SID’s – the Clerk confirmed that she has emailed Guy asking for details of when and where he managed the SIDs for East and West Stour. The Clerk will also email the SID team to give them information about the SIDs for East and West Stour, so that they can get a quote for the management of the deployment of the SIDS for both Parishes. Replacement batteries will be ordered for all of the SIDS. Action - Clerk

Parish Council Noticeboard

* New larger noticeboard has been ordered, funded by Wessex Internet, the West Stour Precept and Village Hall Fund.

Footpath to Riverside Garage – the Clerk confirmed that a letter has been emailed and sent in the post to Mr Trim and the Hawtree family, the Clerk will send the letters to the Councillors for their information.

Cllr P Matcham attended a Joint Ward meeting to meet with our MP, Simon Hoare, who gave a brief update on the housing and planning policies that National Government wish to implement and what that looks like for Dorset. Cllr P Matcham will write a brief update on the meeting for the Councillors and circulate.

24/50. Reports from Dorset Councillors.

Dorset Councillor reports had been circulated and can be seen on the Parish Council’s website or a copy can be obtained by the Clerk

24/51 Finance

To record: Payments paid between meetings – The Clerk had circulated payment schedule for November 2024 for the sum of £1761.37 which had been approved via email for payment.

To agree: Payment Schedule for October 2024 - The Clerk had tabled the Payment Schedule for December 2024 for the sum of £2544.94. This was proposed by Cllr D Amlot and seconded by Cllr C Wilkins all agreed for the payments on the payment schedule be paid, the schedule was duly signed.

 

RESOLVED: to ratify the November payments and agreed the December payments (24/51 – current account)

The bank reconciliation had been circulated and agreed.

The Clerk received a grant application from East Stour Village Hall. After debate agreed East Stour Councillors agreed to grant East Stour Village Hall £535.00.

24/52 Planning: review of applications received (DC = Dorset Council)



24/53. Chairman’s report

Nothing to report.

24/55. Clerk Report- correspondence – all correspondence has been circulated.

24/56. Items for next agenda and date of next meeting. Update to do list – SIDS – Grants – Traffic Management

The Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 6th of March 2025 at East Stour Village Hall at **7.00pm**.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.10pm

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