

**Minutes of East Stour Annual Parish Meeting held at 7.30pm on  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018 in East Stour Village Hall**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Mrs B Edwards (Chairman), P Brown, G Gilding and R Haddon. Also the Clerk, Mrs M Cox, Mrs T Bagnall, (Tree Warden) and 2members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone present.

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Mrs B Edwards was elected as Chairman and Proposed by Cllr Gilding, seconded by Mr D Little and agreed by all. Elected unopposed.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** – Cllr Mrs R Blacklock, NDDCllr Jane Westbrook, Mr M Hibbert (RoWLO), Mrs A Morphew and Daphne Emptage

3. **MINUTES** of the meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017 and 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018 previously circulated) were agreed to be a correct record and duly signed. Cllr G Gilding was thanked for doing the 5<sup>th</sup> March minutes,

4. **MATTERS ARISING.**

The removal of the bus stop posts by the crossroads – ongoing.  
Cllr Gilding said that he has spoken to the lady about the illegal car parking and blocking of the pavement, however the lady does not care. This illegal parking appears to occur when she has visitors, even though she has space in her drive. Cllr Brown has reported this to PCSO Vicky Biggs and Martin Hibbert (RoWLO). It is felt that we have done all that we can and the relevant authority has been informed.

5. **ELECTION OF RIGHTS OF WAY LIAISON OFFICER AND TREE WARDEN.**

Mr Martin Hibbert agreed to continue to be the Rights of Way Liaison Officer.  
Cllr Mrs Bagnall agreed to continue to be the Tree Warden. Both were proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Gilding and agreed by all.

6. **ELECTION OF VILLAGE HALL REPRESENTATIVE**

Cllr P Brown was proposed by Cllr Haddon, seconded by Cllr Gilding and agreed by all.

7. **ELECTION OF PLAYING FIELD OFFICERS**

Cllr G Gilding and Mr T Jones agreed that they would continue as Playing Field Officers.  
Proposed by Cllr Mrs Edwards, seconded by Cllr Brown and agreed by all.

8. **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Jane Westbrook sent her apologies and that there is nothing new to report from the last week's parish council meeting, which was mainly about the Travellers at Five Bridges, West Stour

9. **STOURS PARISH COUNCIL – TWO CASUAL VACANCIES**

To be filled by co-option. The Chairman hoped that these would be filled and it was agreed to put a notice about the vacancies in the East Stour Village newsletter.

10. **HIGHWAY MATTERS**

- East Stour crossroads – Joe Allen & Rob Camp, DCC are monitoring the junction to improve road safety and will be instigating speed tubes.
- Vehicles for sale being parked in the layby (DCC land) by Church Farm, it was agreed that it is acceptable to have one vehicle parked, but no more.
- SIDs – These are the basic models. Regarding the purchase of a new SID, Cllr Gilding is investigating prices for a better model, perhaps being solar powered rather than running on batteries.

- Community Speedwatch – Tony Jones is no longer the co-ordinator, which means there is a vacancy. The post does take a lot of organisation and is time consuming. It was agreed to ask Ann Morphew to put a request in for a co-ordinator in the East Stour Village newsletter.
- Brown's Lane fingerpost this is ongoing. CPRE has offered funding of up to £200, which is part of the cost. There are recommended workmen to use for the repair work.
- United front to speed restrictions in our villages – Mr Mike Potter, Collision Team Manger Highways, DCC made a visit and is keen to help improve road safety and has made some suggestions, 30mph terminal signs on the A30, East Stour to be replaced with new. Existing SLOW markings on approach to East Stour cross to be replaced with '30' roundels on both sides of the road adjacent to existing '30' repeater signs. Bend warning signs on both approaches to the church to be replaced – new max speed 25mph to replace existing max speed, 30mph sign for westbound traffic.

#### 11. CURRENT PLANNING MATTERS

Primrose Farm, East Stour Erect 3 detached dwellings and convert existing stone barn into 2 dwellings. Form vehicle and pedestrian access through existing access (outline application to determine access and layout), permitted.

Meadow View, East Stour extend roof to form gable, install 1 no. dormer and a balcony to front elevation and extend existing rear dormer, permitted.

Hamildon, Front Street, East Stour, Erect two storey extension, approved

Former Hillcrest, East Stour erect 2 no. carports, approved.

Hartgill Farm, East Stour erect monoslope 8 bay cattle housing unit, permitted.

Hartgill Farm, East Stour erect 6 bay cattle housing unit, permitted

11 Sandilands Close East Stour erect single storey extension, approved

Land South of Primrose Farm, East Stour Erect 4 No. dwellings and convert barn into 2 No. dwellings. Form new vehicular and pedestrian access and create 13 No. parking spaces, permitted.

Land East Of Old Orchard, Front Street, East Stour, Develop land by the erection of 8 No. dwellings with garages and parking. Form new vehicular and pedestrian access, and form a new path to the front boundary road side. (Outline application to determine access and layout), refused.

Little Meadow, East Stour Erect replacement agricultural building and siting of polytunnel (retrospective), awaiting decision. It was agreed that it was a pity that the Mr & Mrs Boyd (applicants) were not in attendance in order to answer some questions about this retrospective barn development application. The Parish Council does have some comments, e.g. the size of the small holding, not aware that a business is being conducted from the premises, no effective drainage from the animal waste, proximity to private residential homes, the actual use of the barn tools or animals, is it a sustainable development and the building is not a like for like replacement and appears to be larger and these will be submitted to NDDC Planning Control.

#### 12. FOOTPATH AND TREE MATTERS

Footpaths - Mr Hibbert reported that now the ground is drying out the main issue is spring growth, particularly nettles and brambles. This is being worked on as time permits.

Martin was thanked for his report and all that he does for the footpaths. The only significant issue outstanding is two sleeper bridges awaiting repair, one by Lamb's House & one at East Stour Common. The Stour Vale parishes' walks are popular and the next one will be in June.

The next White Hart Link walk Bank Holiday Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2pm from Motcombe Meadow walking to Shaftesbury via Kingsettle wood. Funds are being raised for the White Hart Link and is one of the projects supported by the Tesco token scheme (as well as Stour Provost cricket club). Please support if you can. In his absence everybody thanked martin for doing a wonderful job with the footpaths.

Trees –Mrs Bagnall said there is nothing to report.

#### 13. GILLINGHAM SOUTHERN EXTENSION

Cllr Gilding said there is nothing further to report.

#### 14. WILD FLOWER MEADOW

The Chairman circulated the article in the RSPB magazine about this meadow. John Gould works very hard on the meadow but he does need help.

15. HANNAH'S LEGACY

The Chairman and Mr Rolly Skeats, DCC, visited the spot identified by Hannah to place a bench in her memory, however the Ordnance Survey numbers written in Hannah's will are incorrect. Mr Skeats said there is no problem having a bench there as long as it is 1 metre from the road and that the parish council maintains the bench and area. Agreed to have a recycled bench.

16. PLAYING FIELD AND PLAYING EQUIPMENT MATTERS

Cllr Gilding said that he has heard from the Stonemason and he should be laying the path from the corner of the hall to the war memorial in mid-July. A section will be dug out and filled with scalplings/aggregate for the picnic bench gifted from Stour Vale Markets. Mrs Dowding has kindly allowed the materials to be stored in the car park until required. Henry Miller has kindly agreed to take away the spoil. When the stone laying and memorial have been completed it is planned to have an official opening. It has been a long process, 4 years of hard work. The Chairman thanked Cllr Gilding for all his efforts in this matter.

New 'No Dogs' signs will be ordered to replace the existing faded ones, also a sign stating the purpose of the playing field (a requirement from the Play Inspection company).

There was an incident where somebody had a barbecue on one of the recycled plastic picnic tables, which has now left an imprint of the hot tray. Fortunately Cllr Gilding saw the people using the barbecue and prevented further damage. It was agreed that there should be no barbecues on the playing field.

The arranged remedial work will be done on the equipment by Steve Wattridge.

17. TIDYING UP THE VILLAGE

Dog mess is still a problem in the Village. Marnhull parish council do litter picks in their village. Some Villagers do pick up litter in East Stour. Along Back Street there is a plot of land which is overgrown with a portalo, apparently the neighbours are trying to contact the landowner. Elsewhere there are some big dumpy builder's merchant bags that have been on the pavement for quite a long time. The verges and pathways are overgrown with vegetation this could be rectified by a professional person, agreed to get some quotes, as funding has been put aside for this type of work. Councillors to write down what needs to be done to improve the look of the Village and make it more welcoming.

18. ACCOUNTS

Balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 - £8645.12. The precept for 2018/2019 is £6,000. Some questions were asked and answered. The following amounts are set aside £500 for footpath maintenance, £3000 working with highways, £250 playground signs, £2000+ for a new SID, possibly funds for SID solar lamps, £3,100 Steve Wattridge plus the usual annual expenditure incurred by the parish.

19. MATTERS OF INTEREST & INFORMATION.

East Stour Post Office opening hours Wednesday 10.00am – 12pm. Also open is First Class Coffee.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Chairman.....Date.....