

**The Minutes of the Stour Provost Parish Virtual Assembly held at 7.30pm on Tuesday  
24<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs J Watkins (Chairman), J Nalty, Mrs E Scott, Lady Arabella Stagg, Mrs F Stanford, Mrs C Wilkins, also the Clerk, Mrs M Cox and Mr M Hibbert (RWLO) and DCCLr Jane Somper.

The Chairman welcomed those present.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllrs P Gould (Chairman, Stours Parish Council).

2. MINUTES of the meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 were **approved** and signed by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING. -none.

4. Casual Vacancy

Polly Patrick from Stour Provost has shown an interest and can be co-opted at the January meeting of the Stours Parish Council.

5. DORSET COUNCILLOR' S REPORT

In addition to her reports, Jane said that there is a live public update on Covid, Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm. Questions can be emailed beforehand. Jane has had discussions with senior planning officers in relation to agricultural permitted developments as there has been some concerns. North Dorset planning officers will be looking at permitted development rights more robustly because of the impact on landscape, especially with special interest. There will be free parking for shoppers in towns on Saturdays between 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> December. Dorset Council felt this was an important move to support local shops. Consultations are being carried out on parking and shopping parking permits. Climate change consultations. Jane continues to have her virtual meetings and her new role is keeping her busy.

Jane was thanked for all that she does and it is a pleasure to work with Jane.

6. CURRENT PLANNING MATTERS

The following have been permitted:

Corner Cottage, S. P. install oil tank.

Corner Cottage, S.P restoration and replacement of ceiling beams, replace plaster on dining room wall, restore fire place, install oil tank and carry out associated internal and external alterations (regularisation of works).

Loxleigh S, R. erect 1 No. conservatory (demolish existing porch).

Hill Farm Stables, S. R extend and alter existing barn conversion to form additional four bed accommodation and a two-bay carport.

All Saints Church, convert former church to create 1 No. Dwelling. Erect 1 no. single storey extension and create parking bay for 2 no. vehicles.

Charlton House, S.P. to extend one chimney stack by 1200mm with 300mm additional brickwork and 900mm straight beaded chimney pot.

Angel Farm, S.P. erect ground floor rear extension and first floor extension with link to dwelling and porch on front elevation.

East View Green Lane S.R. erect single storey extension to form porch.

Woodville, Angel Farmhouse, S.P. erection of two stables, tack room and hay store.

Duncliffe Home Farm, S.R. convert loft and install 2 No. dormer windows to provide additional living accommodation.

Duncliffe Home Farm, S.R. convert loft and install 2 No. dormer windows to provide additional living accommodation and carry out associated internal and external alterations.

Shadehouse Farm Shade House Lane S.P. variation of Condition No. s (Time Limit - Operations) of Planning Permission No. 2/2015/1690/DCC to allow a further 12 months to September 2021 to complete works and reinstatement.

Green Lane House, S.R. erect single storey extension and car port.

Manor Farm, Stour Provost alterations to access into bedroom 5 and form ensuite with new stud partition wall.

Duncliffe View, S.R. erection of single storey extension to garage.

Summerfield Barn, S.P. erection of car port, workshop & store.

Land North Of 4 Copse Corner, Stour Provost Erect extension to agricultural barn and erect polytunnel.

Green Lane House S.R. erect machine store and barn.

1&2 Scotchey Lane Barns, S.P. change of use of land from agricultural to residential and insertion of mezzanine floor and windows.

Corner Cottage Mill Lane S.P. re-thatch front elevation in combed wheat straw.

The following applications refused:

4 Copse Corner, S.R., develop land by the erection of 2 No. dwellings. (Outline application to determine access, layout and scale).

Thyme Cottage, S.R change of use of agricultural land to residential curtilage.

The following applications awaiting decision:

Lyde Hill Farmhouse, S.P. change of use of land to site 5 camping pods.

Mill House, S.P. internal reconfiguration of two existing residential buildings (one a family home and one as ancillary guest accommodation). Demolition of rear conservatory and porch (Mill House). Full external refurbishment - to facades, roofs and windows of both buildings and carry out associated internal and external alterations White Post, S.P. change of use of land to residential curtilage and erect triple garage including room above

## 7. HIGHWAY MATTERS

- B3092 – speed restrictions. There was a meeting between Stour Provost and Todber parishes. It was suggested that speed tubes be placed to gather information. However, things have gone quiet on this due to Covid. Cllr Richard King (Todber) said that the parish is reluctant to pay for the speed tubes as they are considering purchasing a SID pole. East Stour are also concerned about speeding in their Village and might want to join in. It was agreed to follow this up when things are getting back to normal. Cllr Somper suggested joining in with Manston and Hammoon parish council as they have speeding issues and each parish have the same aim to reduce speed. The Chairman explained that this was tried with Marnhull parish council and was not successful as different things were wanted. Agreed that this to go on the Stours Parish Council's January agenda. Jane said she might investigate this more in the New Year.
- Fingerpost restoration: - Now completed. There are 3 in the parish. The fingers replaced, painted, with new letters. Mr Faulkner charged the parish £60 (Fifehead Magdalen parish also paid £60), which was just for Trill Lane sign and gave his work for nothing as he was furloughed. Sydenhams also donated the wood and paint. A big thanks to Mr Faulkner, Sydenhams and Cllr Nalty for organising the works.

8. FOOTPATH AND TREE MATTERS – Mr Hibbert gave a report: the footpath at Stour Provost Mill is flooding again as it is the rainy season, a repeat of last year. Martin has had discussions with the landowner. The landowner says if it is flooded not to walk the footpath. He does not want people diverting from the original path. The only real way is to get the path diverted away from the house, but this would mean the installation of a bridge. This could cost £30,000 to £40,000, which the landowner does not want to pay for. Martin suggested mounting a project, being the Stour Valley Way by getting match funding and help from the community.

Agreed that the landowner has a responsibility to keep the area as safe as possible. The path has moved 3 or 4 metres as has become more dangerous because of what the new owners have done. Martin said that Graham Stanley, Dorset Council has said the footpath is reasonably within tolerance. Suggestions made to put fencing or a wooden hand rail up and officially moving the path up a few metres to make it safer. Martin said that he would go back to the landowner and make a formal request of fencing and slight diversion. Also, Martin will get a formal response from Dorset Council.

Lyde Hill Farm, there is a 20-year cycle of footpath problems. Some of the has been land sold off and the owners have stopped dairy farming. Martin will keep track of who the new owners are, so he can liaise with them with regarding the footpaths. The camping pods, in the application emphasise was made that the footpaths are within walking distance of the Udder Farm shop from these pods, this would in fact entail using most of the footpaths that he has failed to maintain over the past 20 years.

There is a bridge, which is collapsing that needs replacing between the school and Yeatmans Farm and will be replaced withing the next financial year.

Martin was thanked for all that his does.

Tree matters – nothing to report.

#### 9. STOUR ROW CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD

There is a buyer. It is being bought on the plans approved. The new owners are likely to take over the maintenance of the churchyard, as it will be their property and this will mean that we will not have to pay Karen James to mow the churchyard.

#### 10. THE PAVILION AND PLAYING FIELD MATTERS

i) Maintenance replacement of gate and or gate posts. The gate post does need replacing. As the gate is in good condition, but as it is wide, it will be necessary to have a strong post set in concrete to support the gate. Cllr Nalty will do the groundwork and meet the contractors to get different quotes. Being a conservation area, it was agreed that it should be a hardwood post (oak) to match the gate. It was agreed to get quotes from Sparkford Sawmills and Townsend Timber for the post and to get a quote for installation and report back to the parish council.

ii) Grass cutting. It has been less expensive this year. The quality of the cutting is much better as being cut by a cricket club member. The cricket club's equipment is used. Great praise to Chris Rabbets. Clerk to thank Chris.

iii) Playing field and equipment. Replacement of swing seats. It was agreed to order 2 flat and 2 cradle seats now and ask Martin Down, Works Manager, Gillingham Town Council to install them, as he has offered to it for free.

Cllr Mrs Scott said that she had been chatting to some dog walkers and they mentioned that it would be nice to have more playground equipment. Funding would probably have to be raised depending on what was wanted and the costs, as there would be a need to budget for it if using precept monies. The investigation of provision of new equipment to go on the next parish council agenda Another issue following an accident, a child was climbing on the cricket cover frames and had to have hospital treatment (the child was not seriously hurt and parents aware the child should not have climbed on them). It was agreed that Cllr Nalty and Mrs Wilkins have a word with John Bishop, Chair of the Cricket Club and ask them if they could provide more obvious, stronger roping and warning signs about not climbing on the frames.

Another issue came to light is that children are accessing the little gate to the water meter, which is near the busy B3092. Subsequently it was agreed that the padlock be replaced and that the Clerk contact Wessex Water to make arrangements for the reading of the meter. Also, a safety fence/rail to be erected by the hedge/verge.

There is still a great concern of dog mess on the field (some of it is also foxes' mess) and irresponsible owners.

iv) Pavilion, there were plans to get it upgraded inside but we have not found anyone to do the work. Agreed to revisit this and make further enquiries. David Ryder (from Kington Magna) was suggested.

v) Cricket Club and Football Club matters. The Cricket club had a few matches towards the end of the season. A lady's football team was going to use the facilities, but due to Covid-19, no amateur matches could be played. When they can be played (after December 3<sup>rd</sup>) it is hoped that the ladies will be able to make use of the facilities.

vi) Review of hiring fees. It was agreed to charge £20 for residents of Stour Provost parish and non-residents £25 per day.

11. ACCOUNTS – The balance as at 31 October 2020- £9,889.96.

Precept for the year 2021/2022. The accounts have been perused and were discussed. It was proposed by Cllr Nalty that that the precept be £4000, seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilkins and agreed by all.

The annual grant to Stour Provost PCC of £200 can now be paid.

The damaged bus shelter. A claim has been made with Avia. Have had a quote from Basil Dudridge, Kington Magna Metal Works to repair it, but we are still waiting to hear from Lock Construction Ltd, who said that a new shelter is needed. The parish has to pay the first £250 and the rest will be paid by the insurance company.

## 12. MATTERS OF INTEREST AND INFORMATION

East Stour Post office is open 10am – 12pm Wednesdays at East Stour Village Hall. First Class Coffee is also held at the same time. (when rules permit).

In the Blackmore Vale Magazine it was reported that at Duncliffe Wood car park, a number of cars are being broken into.

Clerk to chase Dorset Council Highways and ask **exactly when** they are going to fill the grit bins in Stour Provost as they have been advised that they need filling as they have failed to do so.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm. The Chairman thanked everybody for attending.

.....Chairman

.....Date