

Fontmell Magna Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8th January 2018 at St Andrews Primary School, Fontmell Magna at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr H Horstead (Chairman), Cllrs M Ayre, M de la Perrelle, R East, M Humphreys, L Williams.

In attendance: Cllr. Graham Carr-Jones – County councillor and initially 23 members of the public for the presentation by DCC Highways and then 13 members of the public at the Parish Council Meeting.

Andrew Martin, Andrew Brown and David Clegg from DCC Highways gave an update on the A350/C13. Andrew Martin confirmed that DCC Highways were holding regular stakeholders meeting with the parishes along the A350 to discuss the works along the A350. The next meeting was on 15th January 2018. He confirmed the recent DCC cabinet meeting decision to maintain the advisory system on the A350/C13 and confirmed that various mitigation measures were being put into place on the C13. These mitigation measures included a pull in at the top of Spreadeagle Hill and better signage in Blandford and Shaftesbury. The improvements at Gore Clump had been delayed as a result of land ownership issues and it was anticipated that it would now take 6 to 9 months to resolve the issues. The remainder of the works should be complete in April/May 2018.

David Clegg the site agent for the works on the A350 confirmed that the works had commenced in November 2017. They had been doing some repairs to the verges as well as resurfacing the road. They had been using a new product and would therefore have to go back in March to sort some problems. On Monday 15th January 2018 they were commencing the works through Iwerne Minster to Sutton Waldron and hoped to finish these works by 5th February 2018.

The works from Sutton Waldron through Fontmell Magna would then commence on 12th February 2017. It was hoped these works would be finished by 2nd March 2018. The works were going to be noisy and the plan was to do the noisy works in the early evening. The road would be open during the day and the road would be safe to travel across. If residents were expecting specific deliveries they should allow more time for the deliveries to get through. There would be improved signs through the village and gateways at the beginning of the village. South of the village the gateways would be where the 30mph signs were and north of the village the 30mph sign was being moved to near the cricket pavilion and the gate way would be here as well. Andrew Brown had given more detailed drawings to Cllr. East showing the improved signage through the village. He would discuss these in more detail with Cllr. East. The Traffic Regulation Order changing the speed limits was going to take a little longer and Highways would have to come back later to change the speed limit signs.

Andrew Brown was asked whether there could be no overtaking through the village and whether the signage by the crossroads could be improved. Andrew Brown confirmed he would review this. It was commented that Mill St. and Church St were both in need of repair. Highways confirmed they would look into this. The life expectancy of the new surface was expected to be approximately 25 years. It was confirmed that there should also be a significant reduction in the noise levels.

The issue of the safety of pedestrians through the village and particularly by Parsonage Street was raised. Andrew Martin confirmed that DCC Highways had been looking into putting in a pathway but this would involve traffic lights which he understood the village did not want. Highways were however still open to consultation and would look at the road markings and signage. They had not looked at having a 20mph speed limit through the village. They were asked if they had undertaken a risk assessment. Andrew Martin confirmed they would look into having a 20mph speed limit through the village and would report back to the Parish Council. Rumble strips would not be

appropriate as they were very noisy. Cllr. East confirmed he had spoken to Highways a long while back asking whether a pinch point could be installed south of the village. He had been advised that this was not possible for safety reasons. Andrew Brown confirmed he would see whether a solid white line could be painted on the stretch going out south of the village. Cllr. East confirmed he would review the drawings and invited anyone who wished to discuss the same to contact him.

The Chairman thanked Highways and then proceeded to the Parish Council meeting which commenced at 20.10.

Public Questions:

Judy Westgate reported that there was a large pothole by the Fontmell. Cllr. East confirmed that potholes could be reported online. If people did report potholes on line could they let the Clerk know. The Clerk confirmed that if people wanted her to report any potholes they would need to let her know exactly where they were and the size of the same.

08/01/01 Apologies for Absence. Cllrs Gideon Roberts and Catherine Langham - District Councillor.

08/01/02 Declarations of Interest. There were no declarations of interest.

08/01/03 Resignation and continuing responsibilities. Cllr. East confirmed he would be resigning with effect from the end of the meeting but confirmed he was willing to continue to represent the Parish with regard to the A350/C13. He would like to complete the current project with regard to the works on the A350 and then concentrate on the strategic route. The Chairmen thanked Cllr. East for his work whilst on the Parish Council and the Councillors unanimously agreed that they would like Cllr. East to continue to represent the Council on the A350/C13 matters.

08/01/04 Minutes of the Meetings on 13th & 28th November 2017. Both sets of minutes were approved without amendment. **Nem Con**

08/01/05 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting. There were no matters arising.

08/01/06 County Councillor and District Councillor's reports. Cllr. Carr-Jones the County Councillor reported that today was the last day for representations to be made to the Secretary of State regarding the Unitary Authority. Cllr. Carr-Jones had circulated the proposed timeline for implementation of the proposal. It was hoped that the proposal would be approved before the next recess. He confirmed that Christchurch had had a poll but none of the other authorities wanted a two-tier authority. He did not think Christchurch could join the rural Dorset authority.

08/01/07 Development Control Matters. There were no development control matters.

08/01/08 To consider report from the RFO and to consider and approve draft budget for 2018/19. The Clerk had received some comments from the councillors and had circulated an amended Budget. She and the Chairman had spoken and it was suggested that the precept could be reduced this year. Cllr. Humphreys commented that the Neighbourhood Plan might need to look to the Parish Council for further funds if no more grants were forthcoming. Cllr. Williams declared an interest in the Village Hall. He confirmed that the Village Hall had raised it rates and now paid for itself but thought that the play equipment was an asset of the village and did not see why the Parish Council should not contribute to upkeep of the play area equipment. Cllr. Humphreys confirmed he thought that the Neighbourhood Plan might need a further £2000.00 between April and September 2018. In all the circumstances it was agreed by 6 of the Councillors with one Councillor abstaining that the precept for 2018/19 should remain at £7000.00.

08/01/09 To resolve to pay Bills presented.

It was agreed to pay the DAPTC invoice in the sum of £35.00 in respect of the Allotment training course.

The Clerk's salary of £336.00 per month for November and December 2017 had been paid by standing order.

08/01/010 Other Parish Matters

- a. **Highways** - Cllr. East confirmed that Melbury Abbas had made a formal challenge to the recent decision by the DCC Cabinet to retain the advisory system one-way system on the A350/C13. DCC were dealing with this legally and were responding robustly. He also confirmed that he and the A350 community Group were continuing to press for a proper north/south route. The current position was that DCC had asked central Government to fund a study with a view to confirming the case for an improved north/south route. He confirmed that he had recently seen a document discussing the major road network but Dorset had been missed out. He would be following this up. The Parish Council had recently written to the residents asking them to comment on Q29 of the local plan review to confirm that the land set aside for bypasses in Shaftesbury and Spetisbury should continue to be set aside for this purpose. Cllr. East also confirmed he was meeting with Highways next week and would raise the condition of Mill St., Church St., and Gupples Lane in Hartgrove.
- b. **Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllr. Humphreys confirmed there had been an article in the last Gossip Tree. The working group were reviewing the responses they had received and were considering what changes needed to be made to the Neighbourhood Plan. There had been various discussions with Planning and the Conservation teams at NDDC. The major issue was the core density of housing on site 20. Discussions were on going and hopefully a compromise would be reached shortly. The updated plan would hopefully be ready at the end of the month and would be submitted to the Parish Council for approval in March. If the Parish Council approves the revised plan this would then be submitted to the District Council for approval. Pennyfathing Homes the potential developers of site 20 were going to hold an exhibition towards the end of January. The consultation on the Conservation Area Appraisal was due to end on the following Friday and the CAA would then be submitted to the District Council for approval.
- c. **Bedchester Allotments** – The Chairman commented that he considered that the Parish Council needed a firm commitment from DCC to install a water supply and parking. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council would also need to consider the management structure for the allotments and whether there would be an Allotment Association who were reasonable for the management or whether the Parish Council would be responsible.
- d. **Community Defibrillator** – The Chairman confirmed that he had been informed that Abbeyview would be contacting him shortly with advice. Bedchester had nearly completed raising the funds and were investigating the electricity supply to the phonebox.
- e. **Unified Parish Website** – Cllr. Roberts would hopefully report at the next meeting.
- f. **Police Liaison** – It was confirmed that the Clerk should invite the Rural Crime Team to attend either the March or September meetings.
- g. **Maintenance of Bedchester Notice Board and Pump House** – the Chairman confirmed he would look at the state of repair and report back at the next meeting.

08/01/011 Other Matters arising from Correspondence. The Clerk confirmed she had received various emails regarding the drains in West Street and thought they had been sorted but was being kept in the loop in this regard. She also confirmed that she now

had the names of the various farms to be contacted regarding the mud on the roads and would draft an appropriate letter to be sent out.

08/01/012 A.O.B. Cllr. East thanked the Parish Council for their support and invited anyone who was interested in joining the Parish Council to contact the Clerk.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.58 pm.

Date

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Chairman, Fontmell Magna Parish Council