

WEST MOORS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on Thursday 7th February 2008 in the Council Chamber, Pavilion, Fryer Field, West Moors at 7.30pm.

PRESENT:

Cllr. B. E. Wye - Chairman		
Cllr J Bartley	Cllr. A. Clarke	Cllr P Gausson
Cllr Mrs M Hall	Cllr P Holden	Cllr. Mrs C. Holmes
Cllr. J M Price	Cllr. M. Shine	Cllr K Warren
Cllr. R. Watson	Cllr. J. Young	Cllr Ms S Zyga

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. J. Weedon (Clerk)
Mrs P. Holloway (Assistant Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Cllr D Knight

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None

07/324 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr Clarke declared a personal interest in agenda item 9 item c – a request to use the Petwyn for a fundraising event form St Mary's Church.

07/325 TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6th DECEMBER 2007

Having been circulated, the minutes pages 151 - 163 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising:

Minute no 07/269, Cllr Gausson stated that the LAG should justify the statement that there is a general lack of commitment from councillors towards trying to achieve actions from the parish plan. He suggested that the LAG should expand further and name the councillors they perceive as having a problem. See minute no 07/330

Minute no 07/276a, Clerk to provide out of hours contact number to the Chairman and Vice Chairman. It was noted that in an out of hours emergency that the Chairman or Vice Chairman should be contacted who will contact the Clerk if necessary.

Minute no 276c, It was reported that the Chairman of St Leonards and St Ives Parish Council is investigating speeding along the A31.

07/326 TO CONFIRM COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

a) The Report of the Planning Committee held on the 3rd January 2008 pages 164 – 167 as circulated, was confirmed, adopted and signed.

b) The Report of the Playing Field and Cemetery committee held on the 10th January 2008 pages 168 – 173, as circulated, was confirmed, adopted and signed.

Minute no 07/290a – It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED that the sports fees be increased as per schedule on page 171 of the minutes.**

Minute no 07/290b – **It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the cemetery fees will be increased by a set amount each year plus inflation over the next 4 years (2008 – 2011) to compensate for the expected decrease in revenue due to the change in regulations which will only allow West Moors Residents to purchase burial plots. The set amounts over the 4 year period are set out below:**

Interments – for the body of a person whose age at the time of death exceeded 12 years will be increased by £100.

Interments – for the cremated remains in the burial area or in the cremated remains area will be increased by £11.

Purchase of Plots – Exclusive right of Burial for 99 years in an earthen grave will be increased by £90.

Purchase of Plots – Exclusive right of Burial of cremated remains in an earthen grave will be increased by £61

Memorials – A headstone will be increased by £20.

Memorials – A vase will be increased by £10

Memorials – A memorial in the cremated remains section will be increased by £15

Memorial – Additional inscription will be increased by £8

If a vault is required two plots will have to be purchased

The increased fees for 2008/09 are shown on pages 172 – 173 of the minutes.

- c) The Report of the Highways and Environment committee held on the 17th January 2008 pages 174 – 176, as circulated, was confirmed, adopted and signed.

Matters Arising – Minute no 07/295a, Railings at Holly Court, some members asked why these had been installed and felt that rubbish would now be more difficult to collect. It was explained that East Dorset Housing Association had installed the railings.

Minute no 07/300a, Cllr Clarke informed members that the footpath between Arnold Close and Ashurst Road may be owned by Clarkes Builders. Clerk to investigate.

Minute no 296 – It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED that the Parish Council run a Children’s Design a Christmas light competition in local schools and seek sponsorship from local businesses.**

Minute no 07/297 – It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED that the Parish Council strongly resist the introduction of car park charges at this time.**

- d) The Report of the Planning committee held on the 24th January 2008 pages 177 - 180, as circulated, was confirmed, adopted and signed.

Matter arising – Minute no 07/305b, Members felt that the Parish Council should send a representative to the planning appeal hearing in relation to the proposed development at 34 Highfield Road. Clerk to ask the Chairman of Planning committee to attend.

Matter arising – Minute no 309a, Members were informed that a member of the Local Action group may attend the DAPTC planning seminar in February. Mr Hirsh from EDDC will be addressing the Local Action Group on planning issues if clarification is still required after the seminar.

Minute No 309b, members were informed that this matter is being dealt with by Dorset County Council and should any help and advice be required to contact the Gypsy Liaison officer.

Minute no 07/307, Potential new housing sites, since members discussed this issue and made a recommendation, clarification has been received indicating that the Parish should have considered land which is owned by the Parish and not other areas of land surrounding the village. In light of this clarification it was **RESOLVED that the Clerk write to EDDC planning Department to void the complete forms indicating land suitable for potential housing development.**

- e) The Report of the Finance and General Purpose committee held on the 29th January 2008 pages 181 - 190, as circulated, was confirmed, adopted and signed with the following amendment minute no 07/316 – the wording ‘under Section 137 of the 1972 local Government Act’ be inserted before item a.

Minute no 07/315 – It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED that the grant policy and application form be approved and adopted.**

Minute no 07/317 – It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED that the Risk Management statement be approved and adopted.**

07/327 TO RECEIVE DORSET COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Gausson informed members that the Council tax increase from DCC has been recommended at 4.5%, 3.8% of this increase is for retail and wage inflation. The Audit Commission has now completed its evaluation of services and the Council has been downgraded from 4 star to 3 star. Adult Social care and Diversity appears to be the main areas that require improving. A brief account of the Corporate Plan for 2008 – 2011 has been presented to the cabinet and a copy is currently held in the Parish office. Information has been produced on road collision and casualties in Dorset, information held in Parish Office.

Pinehurst/Station Road roundabout, the safety and audit checks are now complete. The overall cost of the roundabout is around £13,000 which has come from the LTP budget. Some of the kerbing around the roundabout is due to be painted to make it more visible. Buses, there have been cuts right across Dorset and there has been no change to bus timetables even though there have been numerous protests. County Council are looking at alternative suppliers for the future.

07/328 TO RECEIVE EAST DORSET DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

a) Cllr Holden reported that EDDC's Environment, Health and Housing Sub committee has investigated the issue of affordable housing and written a first draft on its findings. The investigation has been wide-ranging and far-reaching. A full report is due in March and its conclusions may well prove to be contentious. Cllr Holden felt that this sub committee has been particularly good and full credit must be given for its openness, impartially and thoroughness.

There is concern regarding the continuation of the 'Voluntary Ambulance Car Service' After making enquires it can be reported that a new provider for this service is being sought but the transfer will not happen unless a new provider can ensure as good or better service. This service will continue.

b) Cllr Clarke reported that the withdrawal of the direct bus service to Bournemouth is still causing concern and there is a shortfall in government funding for the bus pass scheme of £49,000, this shortfall will be footed by the council tax payers. It was reported that housing growth has been set as a priority above the environment as the Regional Panel ruling on the Regional Spatial Strategy has reinstated the figure of 2400 new homes in the coming years, they have also added an additional 1000 more. The introduction of car parking charges at Parkway will not be a recommendation at EDDC. The deliveries of black refuse sacks have been discontinued in order to fund kerbside recycling. Black sacks can now be purchased for £2 a roll. The EDDC budget recommendations for 2008/09 show an increase of 4.9%.

07/329 TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Wye conveyed his thanks to Hugo and councillors for helping move woodchip into the play areas. Maps for the notice boards are currently on order. The old notice board is being refurbished.

07/330 LOCAL ACTION GROUP UPDATE

Bus cuts - It was reported that the new 37 route is becoming overcrowded and elderly people are having to stand up. The LAG will be writing to EDDC and DCC for details on subsidies and is writing to central government to make the Secretary of State aware of the situation.

Flat building – The LAG are writing to each member of the EDDC planning committee to explain local objections to flats in Station Road.

Relationship with Parish Council – The LAG has proposed that an informal meeting be held between the two groups to promote a better understanding of where the LAG fits into local representation. Members were then informed that the Clerk is currently organising a meeting with representatives for EDDC after April to address the issue of the roles and responsibilities of the Parish Council and Local Action Groups. Minutes from the LAG are available in the Parish Council office and will also be published on the village website.

It is the intention of the LAG to hold an open day to advise on the progress of Parish plan action points. The LAG feel that this is an opportunity to consult the public on whether they would be happy to pay for expensive improvements/facilities through their Council tax. Some members felt that it is the Parish Councils responsibility to consult with the public on this matter and not the LAG's.

The LAG have an opportunity to apply for a grant towards items that are in the Parish Plan. They are currently considering a Youth shelter and a Speed indicator Device.

Cllr Zyga left the meeting at 8.55pm

07/331 TO RECEIVE PARISH CLERKS REPORT

- a) Bus Cuts – The Local Action Group, along with Parish, District and County Councillors and Chris Chope MP handed a petition into Wilts and Dorset Buses expressing concern at the cuts in bus service affecting West Moors. The copy of the petition was also handed into Dorset County Council.
- b) Referendum on E.U. Treaty – Recently there has been lots of publicity about Parish and Town Councils holding Parish Polls on the E.U. Treaty. A letter has been sent to all Councils from a group who wish the government to hold a referendum on the E.U. Treaty asking Town and Parish Councils to hold Parish Polls. We have been informed by The National Association of Local Councils and the DAPTC that such polls are not appropriate as Parish Polls should be for Parish affairs only and therefore any costs incurred may be ultra vires (beyond our powers) and irrecoverable.
- c) Parish Office – emergency repairs to the Parish office roof have been completed after it was discovered that the roof was leaking. The warranty on the cabin had expired but as a goodwill gesture County Cabins completed the repairs and charged only for the materials.

07/332 TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Urban Heath Partnerships – Invite to a Seminar on 27th Feb at Waterford Lodge Hotel, Christchurch to update guests on their activities. Cllr Holden is attending
- b) East Dorset District Council – Neighbourhood Management in East Dorset. Letter explaining PACT and outlining what 'safer neighbourhoods' mean. Noted.
- c) Letter from Mr Malcolm White – Requesting permission to stage a fundraising event on the Petwyn for St Mary's Church. Members discussed the responsibility of insurance for such an event and parking problems that may be caused. Members felt as this was not a commercial event then using the village green was suitable. It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED that St Marys Church be allowed to hold a fund raising event on the Petwyn subject to them taking the responsibility for appropriate insurance and ensuring that cars do not park on the Petwyn or cause obstructions in the surrounding roads.**
- d) Letter from EDDC regarding patrols for dog fouling on Parish Council land. This service could be offered at approximately £15 per hour. It was proposed that the parish council express an interest, the proposal was not seconded. It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED that the Parish reject the offer of dog wardens patrolling Parish Council land at a cost of approximately £15 per hour.**
- e) Letter from EDDC re organising and co-ordinating litter picks. The equipment required is available from EDDC. It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED that the Parish Council should support this initiative.**
- f) Consultation on Orders and Regulations relating to the Code of Conduct. The Clerk, Chairman and Vice Chairman are to comment on behalf of the Parish Council.

- 07/333 TO DISCUSS THE PARISH COUNCILS ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PROPOSED COMMUNITY BUILDING**
This item was postponed until after the meeting to discuss the community building had taken place, it was thought that the meeting was taking place on the 14th February in the Youth Club building. Item to be placed on the next agenda.
- 07/334 TO DISCUSS THE USE OF VOLUNTEERS IN WEST MOORS LIBRARY**
Members discussed a letter received from DCC re the use of volunteers and the introduction of self service technology in the library. The use of volunteers has highlighted many issues such as CRB checks, health and safety. Members felt that no further action should be taken at this time.
- 07/335 TO DISCUSS THE VILLAGE WEBSITE**
Members reviewed a flow chart highlighting options available for a Parish Council website. Currently the Parish Council has a small section on the Village website that can be difficult to find and use. After a vote, members felt that the current arrangements were adequate. However Cllr Holmes explained that the software to develop a Parish Council website is £250 and hosting is approximately £20 per year and has agreed that someone has offered to produce the website free of charge. Members then felt that a prototype should be made and presented to the Council at a later date for consideration.
- 07/336 TO DISCUSS THE PLACEMENT OF A MEMORIAL IN THE VILLAGE**
The Parish Council has been approached by Mrs Hill whose mother recently passed away. The lady lived in West Moors for 30 years and her family would like to place some sort of memorial in the village. They are open to ideas but have suggested a bench. After discussions it was proposed, seconded and
RESOLVED that the bench currently in Moorland Road be replaced with a new bench with a plaque on. The Clerk to source a suitable bench and to gather costs for installation and then write to Mrs Hill with the costs.
- 07/337 TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL LOGO ON AFC BLUEBRIDGE FOOTBALL SHIRTS**
Members were informed that as of May 2008 AFC Bluebridge would be renamed AFC West Moors and in order to have identify with the village that they represent they would like to use the Parish Council logo on their football shirts. After discussion on the use of the Parish Council logo on football team shirts it was proposed, seconded and
RESOLVED that the logo should not be made available for use on AFC Bluebridge (AFC West Moors) football shirts.
2 members voted against this proposal
- 07/338 TO APPROVE WORKS TO RECTIFY DAMAGED PAVING AROUND THE WAR MEMORIAL**
Members having already received information regarding the repairs to the paving on the Petwyn and options to stop the paving being damaged in the future decided that the item should be referred to the Highways and Environment Committee for consideration.
- 07/339 TO RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS**
- a) Cllr Holmes asked the Chairman of each committee to write a short article for publication in an annual Parish Newsletter. Cllr Holmes also reported on the Retail Stakeholder events.
 - b) Cllr Warren reported that contractors on the shop development along Station Road have removed the paving when undertaking work and filled the area with tarmac. Clerk to write to EDDC.
 - c) Cllr Wye reported on a Transport TAG meeting. At the meeting Holt and Colehill did not have any figures on the effectiveness of the SID they had been trialling. St Leonards and St Ives are interested in the joint purchase of a SID. Clerk to pursue

and find out where permission would be granted to place poles for a SID. Cllr Wye also gave a report on a meeting of the Children and Young peoples TAG, one main area of concern raised was the lack of affordable transport to Poole and Bournemouth and the lack of employment for young people. It was also reported that EDDC have a mobile youth shelter that travels to rural areas of the district. Cllr Wye informed members that the planning committee are unhappy about the lack of response from EDDC to Parish council objections for planning applications. It has been noted that many other town and parishes are not happy with planning issues and the matter is being raised with the DAPTC. It is suggested that a letter is formulated and sent to all town and parishes in East Dorset regarding this matter. This item to be placed on the next planning agenda.

07/340 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Consideration for monthly meetings of the Parish Council to be placed on the Finance and General Purpose agenda.

07/341 TO EXCLUDE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – that because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it was likely that if Members of the Public were present during the discussion, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information and they therefore be excluded from the Meeting in accordance with Section 1, subsection (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting) Act 1960

07/342 TO APPROVE AND SIGN CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES FROM THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE HELD ON 29TH JANUARY 2008

Having been circulated, the confidential minutes pages 3 - 4 were agreed and signed as a true and correct record.
Recommendations from these minutes were resolved.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.05pm

SIGNED DATE
Chairman