MAIDEN NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON

THURSDAY 4 APRIL 2013

**IN THE COMMUNAL ROOM WEBBERS PIECE**

**CHAIR:** Cllr.Sally Falkingham (SF) **PRESENT:** Cllr. Cherri Dyke (CD)

Cllr. Alan Goff (AG)

Cllr. Neville Higman (NHi)

Cllr. Norman House (NHo)

Cllr. Diana Padfield (DP)

Cllr. Paul Valinski (PV)

County & District

Cllr. Jill Haynes (JH)

John Ball (Clerk) (JB)

There were seven members of the public at the meeting.

JH mentioned the following :-

* A Clinical Commissioning Group (divided into East, West and Central areas) had replaced the Primary Care Trust in Dorset from 1 April. This meant that all 101 GP practices in the county now had control of their own budgets. This was a major change, the implications of which were wide ranging. She offered to talk to the Parish Council at more length assuming she was re-elected as a County Councillor at the election in May.
* WDDC had been sent guidelines about the Housing Benefit bedroom restriction rules which had been introduced. Pensioners, foster carers and some other groups were exempt and discretionary grants were available to help in problem areas up to 2015. Councils generally did not have the housing stock to match their requirements and nationally there were 2 million people on waiting lists. In response to a question from NHi, SF confirmed that all those affected had been written to. JH said that she would be willing to help resolve any difficult cases.
* She confirmed that she was still consulting on the issue of a future home for the playschool but was not expecting any decisions about the Surestart building until July, partly because of the impending elections which would occupy a large proportion of councillors’ time over the coming month. JH left the meeting at this point.

Theresa Critchell picked up on the playschool issue. She feared she had reached somewhat of an impasse with both the school and the County. Because of the uncertainty about the Surestart building, she very much favoured a stand-alone solution and asked if the Parish Council might consider siting it on one of two possible areas she had identified on the playing field. After discussion it was agreed that one of these was unsuitable and the other was likely to be financially prohibitive because of the cost of laying services to a location far removed from existing buildings. There was also the issue of the playing field having just been protected from development by the signing of a deed under the QEII Fields in Trust initiative. SF, as a Governor of the school, felt she needed to declare an interest and suggested that Theresa needed to speak to the Headteacher as soon as possible. SF asked fellow councillors if they would endorse a motion that the Parish Council wholeheartedly supported Theresa in her efforts to secure a permanent home for the playschool and would offer any help they could. This was agreed.

SF declared the Parish Council meeting open at 7.52 p.m.

**ACTION**

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| **1** | **There were no apologies for absence.** |  |
| **2** | **There were no declarations of interest.** |  |
| **3** | **The minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2013** were agreed and signed. JB read out one sentence in paragraph 7 re allotments which he had amended following a conversation with DP. |  |
| **4** | **Clerk’s report on points arising/action points not covered elsewhere on the agenda:-**   * The transfer document for the purchase of Network Rail’s land outside the Village Hall had been signed by SF and NHo for the Parish Council but JB was still awaiting a copy from Porter Dodson with Network Rail’s execution. * It was agreed that JB would instruct Porter Dodson to proceed with the purchase of Rock Pit Farm car park even though WDDC had not repaired the surface. Porter Dodson would also be asked to see if WDDC would be prepared to sell the White Horse Mews car park without the road and visibility splay. * JB had circulated the 4 booklets SF had collected about AONB projects. * JB now had all the necessary forms from Barclays Bank for the transfer of bank accounts and would let the signatories have individual forms to complete. * The repair work required to the road surface in two areas of The Drift was discussed. SF said that this had been carried out approximately every five years and contributions to the cost had previously been obtained from other users/residents as well as DCC. The quotes obtained by JB from Honeybun Plant Hire were expensive and DP felt that repair with planings would be a better and much cheaper option. She also felt that income collected from allotment rents should be spent on the allotments themselves rather than the access road. JB was asked to obtain further quotes based on the planings option. | JB  JB  JB  JB |
| **5** | **Reports – Chairman:-**   * SF circulated a written report (attached). * She had obtained a useful handout on the changes to benefits from April at a meeting of the West Dorset Housing Forum. JB would circulate this to councillors.   **There was nothing to report from other Councillors** | JB |
| **6** | **Planning Applications:-**  Supportive comment had been submitted on the following application:-   * 1/D/13/000222 – Crockway House – demolition of an existing fish pass that is not operational and installation of a new fish pass in a similar footprint.   The following application was discussed and no objections were raised:-   * 1/D/13/000089 – 63 Dorchester Road – erect two storey extension. |  |
| ***7*** | **Allotments:-**   * The new allotment area had now been prepared and AG, DP and JB agreed to meet there the following Wednesday to mark it out into plots. | AG/DP/  JB |
| **8** | **Play Area:-**   * JB had completed and submitted the application form for a WDDC Leisure Development Fund grant for the additional play equipment. This would be considered at a meeting on 23 May. CD was awaiting quotations from two more suppliers. | CD |
| **9** | **Work in Village Hall car park and Play Area – quotations**   * AG had obtained two quotes (from Webb & Ford and Steve Marsh) which he had submitted to the previous meeting. Since then, he had met Chris Hazledine on site and he had agreed to provide a quote in time to be considered at this meeting. This had not arrived. * The two available quotes were considered. DP proposed and SF seconded that Steve Marsh’s be accepted and JB was asked to write to him accordingly. AG mentioned that he had discussed the need to provide some additional underlay in the car park and that this would mean that the final cost would be a little more than the quotation. JB would ask Steve Marsh to liaise with AG about the timing of the work - SF said that she would ideally like it to be completed by the end of April but AG felt that this was unrealistic. He would, however, do all he could to get it done in early May so that the ground in the play area had time to settle before the new equipment was installed. | JB |
| **10** | **Playing field and MUGA:-**   * No more gate licence payments had been collected and JB agreed to liaise with PV and write to those still outstanding. * PV reported that the garden rubbish outside the back of two of the Greenford View houses had now been cleared. * One of the houses in Greenford View was having some building work done and had asked PV if permission could be granted for some materials to be transported across the playing field into the rear garden. PV was asked to liaise with them and ensure that the field was dry enough before this took place. | JB/  PV  PV |
| **11** | **Accounts for payment:-**   * Post Office – PAYE (April) - £85.45 (745) * John Ball - Petty Cash - £100 (746) * Magna Housing – room hire for April - £12 (747) * S C Marsh Ltd – allotment rotovating - £180.00 (748) |  |
| **12** | **Risk Assessment monthly condition reports:-**  The inspection checking sheets had been completed for each property risk and no action was required. |  |
| **13** | **Any Other Correspondence:-**   * An e-mail had been received from Gemma Parker, who lived in the village, asking whether it would be possible for her to arrange a Kennel Club licenced dog show, possibly together with a car boot sale, this summer. It was agreed that the playing field would be offered to her at a cost of £150 for a day. She would also need to consider whether she would need to use the Youth & Community Centre for kitchen and toilet facilities for which an additional hourly charge would be made. JB would write to her and would also cover insurance requirements. * DAPTC Chief Executive’s Circular 3/13 – circulated. * Matters & Issues document for Pre Hearing meeting of Bournemouth, Dorset & Poole Minerals Local Plan Core Strategy Public Examination – circulated. * The annual Parish Spring Clean had been arranged for Sunday 28 April. Posters had been put on boards. * JB had received the annual audit letter from BDO. He would be starting work on the accounts this month and they would be presented for approval at the June meeting. * Dorset Cultural Partnership Bulletin March 2013 – circulated. * Invitation to a talk to be given by Oliver Letwin MP on Neighbourhood Planning at Stinsford Parish Council on 19 April – circulated. * Invitation to attend ‘Councils: A Changing Future’ in Bournemouth on 19 April – circulated. * Invitation to ‘All Together’ an event organised by Community Connections with Magna Housing at Bridport on 16 April – circulated. SF hoped to attend. * E-mail about an online survey from NALC on the future of the Quality Parish and Town Council scheme – circulated. * Copy of letter written by John Parker to all Dorset MPs about Localisation of Council Tax Support – circulated. * E-mail asking for Dorset participants for ITV1 antiques programme ‘Secret Dealers’ – forwarded to Judith Stinton for The Herald. * E-mail advertising a performance of A Midsummer Night’s Dream at Blandford Forum in July - forwarded to Judith Stinton for The Herald. * E-mail from John Parker re winter maintenance – circulated. * Letter from DCC re Traffic Regulation Orders – circulated. * SF had received a reply from the Library Service to her second letter about the reduction in the Mobile Library provision. Having spoken to the service driver, she intended to write again. * SF and AG would be attending the DAPTC Central Area meeting in Cerne Abbas on 9 April. * DP said that, as she would not be at the May meeting where a Chairman and Vice Chairman would be elected for the coming year, she would like to nominate NHo for Vice Chairman. | JB |
|  | Meeting closed at 9:20 p.m. Date of next meeting 2 May 2013 at 7.00 p.m. |  |