MAIDEN NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON

THURSDAY 6 JUNE 2013

**IN THE COMMUNAL ROOM WEBBERS PIECE**

**CHAIR:** Cllr.Alan Goff(AG) **PRESENT:** Cllr. Cherri Dyke (CD)

Cllr. Sally Falkingham (SF)

 Cllr. Neville Higman (NHi)

Cllr. Norman House (NHo)

Cllr. Diana Padfield (DP)

Cllr. Paul Valinski (PV)

John Ball (Clerk) (JB)

There were five members of the public at the meeting.

* Theresa Critchell said that she had now obtained permission for the new playschool building to be sited on the Greenford School field. She would keep the parish council up to date with other developments as they occurred.
* Keith Pritchard thanked the parish council for writing to the WDDC Planning Enforcement Officer to question whether the extension at 8 Newton Road had been built in accordance with the planning permission. He was not happy that the letter received back from them said that there had been no breach of planning control and would be paying them a visit to seek further information. JB agreed to provide him with a copy of the original permission to aid his discussion.
* Charles le Vay sought permission for the Allotment Association to strim one or two paths which had become overgrown on certain allotments. This was granted.

AG declared the Parish Council meeting open at 7.10 p.m.

 **ACTION**

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| **1** | **A one minute silence** was observed in memory of Rona Crocker, a parish councillor from 1999-2003, who had died the previous week. |  |
| **2** | **Apologies for absence** had been received from County & District Cllr. Jill Haynes (JH).  |  |
| **3** | **There were no declarations of interest.**  |  |
| **4** | **The minutes of the meeting held on 2 May 2013** were agreed and signed.  |  |
| **5** | **Clerk’s report on points arising/action points not covered elsewhere on the agenda:-** * JB had contacted WDDC about parking on double yellow lines and enforcement officers had visited the village on at least three occasions over the previous month.
* JB had written to the resident of 29 Newton Road who had now cut back the large shrub which had been overhanging the pavement from the front garden.
* JB had given the three signatories forms to complete and then take into Barclays Bank prior to the transfer of bank accounts. Once this had been done, he would then be able to submit the application.
* JB had checked with DCC Highways and the quote of £984 plus VAT only covered the area under the bridge. He had therefore obtained a further quote for the area under the bridge and up to the allotments entrance and this was £1,978. DP said that she was more concerned about the area from the village hall to the bridge. It was agreed that JB would write to all parties who had an obligation to contribute to the repair work and that all councillors would look at the whole area prior to a discussion at the next meeting at which final decisions would be taken.
* AG had spoken to Steve Marsh who had agreed to begin the work on the play area and village hall car park on 24 June. CD reported that Sutcliffeplay had suggested a date of 11 July for the installation of the new equipment.
* The WDDC road sweeping vehicle had visited the village on 7 and 8 May. JB had put notices on cars in Church Road and Dorchester Road the evening before in an attempt to keep the roads clear for sweeping.
* JB, AG and SF had visited the site at the former Hyde Farm in Frampton, which had been divided into plots and advertised for sale on the website perfectplot.co.uk. Only 11 of the 71 plots were in Maiden Newton parish and none currently presented any planning problems. JB had circulated the papers given to him by Frampton Parish Council. Councillors were now, therefore, aware of the issue and would be able to make a more informed response if a planning application was received.
* On further investigation, JB had found that the Sturminster Newton training workshop on community rights would cost £85 per delegate. It had therefore been decided not to attend.
* JB had attended the ‘Responding to Planning’ training run by DAPTC. Although there had been some useful elements, he had not been impressed with either the overall coverage or content and had commented accordingly on the feedback form.
* JB had obtained further details about the Fields in Trust grant scheme and had given them to PV. In the current circumstances it was not felt appropriate to apply but, when plans for some form of replacement community building were more advanced, it could be a useful source.
 |   JBJBAll |
|  **6** | **Reports on meetings attended by councillors:-*** NHi reported that CLT negotiations with Mr & Mrs Marsh about the land for Neil’s View phase 2 had re-opened.
* Discussions with Bournemouth University had reached the point where the car sharing iphone app was now ready for testing. NHi would be advertising for residents to take part for two weeks during July.
* The Village Hall AGM had taken place and CD reported that attendance had been poor. Bookings continued to be very satisfactory and she thanked the parish council for funding the car park work so that the requirements for a new disabled fire escape route could be met.
* SF and JH had attended the Frome Vauchurch Annual Parish Meeting. Darlene Ford had indicated that she now accepted that producing a joint Neighbourhood Plan with Maiden Newton was a good idea. JB would write to WDDC accordingly.
* SF had had a discussion with Doreen Payne of 74 Dorchester Road about the possibility of having a bollard put in the pavement outside her house to prevent dangerous parking. This had been discussed with one of the parking enforcement officers who had visited the village and he had suggested applying to DCC for double yellow lines to be placed there. JB agreed to investigate the appropriate application procedure.
 | NHiJBJB |
|  **7** | **Planning Applications:-**The following applications had been approved:- * 1/D/13/00222 – Crockway House – installation of new fish pass.
* 1/D/13/00522 – Hog Cliffe Farm – steel framed, metal clad, barn.

Comments had been passed to WDDC on the following application:-* 1/D/13/00509 – 14 Hill View – construction of two 2 bedroom dwellings.
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| **8** | **Allotments:-*** JB reported that both half plots which had been available in the main allotment area had now been let. He had also written to the clerks of the neighbouring parishes of Cattistock, Frampton and Toller Porcorum offering plots to any residents interested.
* DP and NHo had carried out an inspection of the allotments and identified a number which were not being sufficiently tended. It was agreed that letters would be written to the three main offenders.
* Charles Le Vay (CLV) attended the meeting to discuss his request for the parish council to consider handing over management of the allotments to the Allotment Association (AA). CLV said that the suggestion had been mooted at an AA meeting a little while previously but that the Committee’s recent feeling was more ambivalent. He personally felt that the current management arrangements worked well and was not in favour of any change. Most councillors felt similarly and AG suggested that the subject should be put on the back burner, leaving it open for the AA to make a further approach if strength of feeling intensified. PV thanked CLV for the excellent work that the AA did.
 | JB |
| **9** | **Play Area:-** * JB reported that the application to WDDC’s Leisure Development Fund had been successful and that a £2,000 grant had been agreed.
* It was agreed that the £10,000 cost of the new equipment would be split as follows:- £4,000 from the Parish Council’s Play Area reserve; £4,000 from the Friends account – mainly from Maiden Newton at War but £350 donated by Ian Sargeant, and £2,000 from the above grant.
* CD had kept SutcliffePlay, the equipment suppliers, informed of progress and JB agreed to send them an official order. They had given CD an installation date of 11 July and JB would confirm that this was acceptable.
 | JB |
| **10** | **Playing field and MUGA:-*** A junior football tournament would be held on 15 June with a number of visiting teams and PV invited anyone who was interested to watch.
* Barclays had been surveying all the sites they had invested in over the last few years and were keen to ensure their sustainability rather than building new ones. As a result, PV was confident that more funding would be forthcoming in due course.
* SF mentioned that, for the past few years, the Barclays money had paid for a weekly programme of children’s sports activities every Friday during the summer holidays. The cost of using Teamtheme for these had been approximately £750. CD proposed and NHi seconded that the parish council should pay for this in 2013. This was unanimously agreed.
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| **11** | **Accounts for payment:-*** DAPTC – training costs - £50 (756)
* Post Office – PAYE (June) - £94.85 (757)
* John Ball – Additional training hours - £37.60 (758)
* John Ball – Broadband costs (March-May) - £38.87 (759)
* Magna Housing – room hire for June - £12 (760)
* Jess Carver – grass cutting (May) - £300 (761)
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| **12** | **2012/13 Accounts*** JB had circulated copies of the Annual Accounts Return for the year ended 31 March, having completed Section 1 (the accounting statements) with the end year figures. He took councillors through these figures, giving explanations for significant variances from the previous year. The accounting statements were approved by the council and signed by JB and AG. They would be sent to the external auditors by 30 June.
* JB then read out each of the paragraphs in Section 2, the annual governance statement, and the council approved that, for each of the eight statements, a tick could be placed in the ‘yes’ column. The ninth statement was not applicable. AG and JB signed at the foot of the page.
* Section 4 was the annual internal audit report and JB confirmed that Gary Free, who had agreed to carry out the internal audit this year, would be looking at the books etc. the following morning. An agenda item would be included for the July meeting to discuss any points raised. Councillors asked for their thanks to be passed on to Gary for taking on the internal audit at short notice.
* JB handed out copies of two tabular statements for the year – a receipts and payments/balance sheet and a budget v actual summary. Rather than take councillors through the detail at this point, he suggested that they should be studied before the next meeting and form the basis for a discussion on expenditure plans, for which he would provide a paper.
 | JBJBJBJB |
| **13** | **Risk Assessment monthly condition reports:-**The inspection checking sheets had been completed for each property risk and no action was required.  |  |
| **14** | **Any Other Correspondence:-*** Dorchester Town Council – invitation to a retirement event – circulated.
* DCC – Joint Health & Wellbeing strategy update – circulated.
* WDDC – Conservation and Community Planning Grants – circulated.
* WRVS Press Release – Befriending service in Maiden Newton – circulated.
* DCC - Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment – completed.
* DCC/NHS – National Carers’ Week event on 12 June – circulated and put on boards.
* NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group – invitation to stakeholder event – circulated.
* DCC – People’s Postcode Trust Small Grants Programme – circulated.
* DAPTC – Spring 2013 newsletter – circulated.
* Local Government Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of West Dorset – circulated and poster put on boards.
* DAPTC – Minutes of Central area Committee meeting – circulated.
* Dorchester Area Community Partnership – invitation to CommuniTEA event on 13 June – circulated and put on boards.
* Dorset Community Action – Changes to service delivery – circulated.
* DAPTC – Chief Executive’s Circular 4/13 – circulated.
* Trees for Dorset – letter re protection of Jubilee Tree – noted.
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|  | Meeting closed at 8:43 p.m. Date of next meeting 4 July 2013 at 7.00 p.m. |  |