Minutes of High Stoy Parish Council Meeting Held 25th January 2022 7:00 pm

**Present:** Councilors Dave Whiteoak (Chairman), Kevin Pescott (Vice-Chairman), Colin Summerell, Dawn Griffin, Peter Rowland, Eveline Jones, Amy Sellick (Clerk) and member of the public, Wendy Hounsell.

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| Item Number | Item | Actioned By |
| 1 | Apologies: District Councillor Mary Penfold |  |
| 2 | Declarations of Interest: None |  |
| 3 | Minutes from meeting held on 16th November 2021 were confirmed and signed by Chairman. | Clerk to put signed copy of website. |
| 4 | Matters arising from the meeting held 16th November 2021:  4.1 Chairman updated traffic speed through Hermitage following the temporary installation of radar speed measurement equipment on telegraph poles at Three Gates, Leigh and Hermitage Village for 2 weeks from 20th September. Chairman completed extraction of data and distributed to those present. Chairman of Leigh village council has analysed data from Three Gates camera and is in communication with Dorset Council regarding this. Data shows around a third of traffic is travelling in excess of 40 miles per hour towards the sharp bend. It was agreed that High Stoy Parish Council would support Leigh in their actions. In terms of Hermitage a surprising number of vehicles travel through the village. The average speed is around 25 mph.   * 1. Councillor Pescott gave an update regarding flooding in Hermitage. A letter was drafted and sent on 12th December to Executive Director of Places requesting urgent action to repair the drainage system and importantly repair the blocked gulley on the corner of Orchard House, Hermitage. Councillor Pescott followed up via email to District Councillor Mary Penfold on 14th January. Clerk confirmed that she spoke with Mary on 21st January – Mary confirmed that she had followed up but had heard nothing back yet. Clerk contacted Karen Gondelle of Dorset Council on 24th January and resent email copy of letter to Karen.Gondelle@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk.   2. Hilfield grit box- Chairman visted site on 23rd December and agreed with Mrs Rebecca Smith of Church Farm that a couple of paving slabs would be put on spot where Grit Bin can go. Clerk ordered Grit Bin from Dorset Council, Adam Frost, on 24th December. Works order was issued on 4th January and is ready for installation. Clerk awaiting notice from Mrs Rebecca Smith to indicate that slabs are in place where the grit box will go. | Clerk to inform Adam Frost when slabs are in place. |
| 5 | Highway Matters:  5.1 Chairman Whiteoak received email from Hermitage resident Anna Vines regarding damage to verges in the village. A solution to the problem was discussed but was not established. It was discussed that part of the damage to the verges likely took place when the road was closed and fibre was installed. It was also noted that tree logs (c. 9’’ diameter), have been placed on the verge next to the road outside Yew Tree Cottage which it was thought would contravene Dorset Counil Highway Rules and may be illegal.  5.2 Councillor Pescot informed that, following his conversation with the Water Board today, he was informed that the Water Board will be closing road in Hermitage in around 4-6 weeks time where the water booster is (near the Post Box). | Clerk to follow up with Paul Thatcher to establish what the rules are regarding placing obstacles on verges. Chairman Whiteoak to reply to Anna Vines’s email with the outcome of the discussion and with any information from Paul Thatcher. |
| 6 | Footpath Matters:  6.1 Lyn Couch and Chairman Whiteoak intend to go out and inspect stiles Hilfield the Parish. They will do so as the weather improves.  6.2 Broken stile reported in December in Batcombe at end of Bailey Drove, by Clerk. Now repaired. |  |
| 7 | Planning Applications:   * 1. **WD/D/19/002710**- Change of use of land and erection of luxury holiday lodges at The George Albert Hotel. Application revised 01.04.21 with reduced number of lodges. PC: Objected DC: Under consideration.   2. **P/HOU/2021/00264** – Scotley Farm. Proposal for 2 storey extension. PC: No objections DC: Under officer consideration.   3. **P/LBC/2021/02043 –** Redford Farm, Melbury Bubb. Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of replacement. WITHDRAWN   4. **P/FUL/2021/02042** – Redford Farm, Junction to Martinsfield. Erect replacement outbuilding for storage and vehicle parking, (demolish existing). DC: GRANTED   5. **P/FUL/2021/03669 –** Common Farm, Hermitage**.** Erection of butchery unit and conversion of existing outbuilding to office/staff room. PC Objection. DC: Under consideration.   6. **P/FUL/2021/03426** – Harris Farm, Batcombe. Change of use of land to extend residential curtilage. PC No Objections. DC: GRANTED.   7. **P/HOU/2021/04527 –** New Inn, Batcombe. Demolishing existing outbuilding and erect garage. PC No Objections. DC: GRANTED   Planning Notice – For Information only:  **7.8 P/PAAC/2021/05682 –** Holnest Farm, Hermitage. Change of use and conversion of agricultural building to dwelling (Class C). |  |
| 8 | Correspondence:  8.1 Dorset Community Governance Review, the email from CGR, dated 7th December indicated amended review timetable as follows:   * *Draft recommendations to Full Council – 15 February 2022* * *Public consultation on draft recommendations – 28 February 2022 to 23 May 2022 (12 weeks)* * *Final recommendations to Full Council - 14 July 2022*   Chairman Whiteoak followed up with local Parish Council Clerks to see if there were any comments. There was little interest from Clerks to report.  8.2 DAPTC Training – Chairman Whiteoak listed available training from DAPTC in January and invited Councillors to attend future training should they wish to.  8.3 Note from Alex Bishop PCSO 5404:  *With regards to crimes, figures in the High Stoy area over the last couple of months are fortunately very low.*  *There was an incident between dog walkers at Hilfield Hill recently, where we had an allegation of assault, following dogs not being under control.  In law, dogs have to be under control at all times, including not being able to escape boundaries.  This does not specify that they have to be on a lead, but if a dog not on a lead wanders off or is out of reach of the owner and does not recall, this is not under control.  Best practice when walking dogs is to put them on a lead when there are/or potentially are other animals around, such as other dogs or livestock.  If you are walking through fields, please put dogs on leads until you know the whole field is clear of animals, including livestock.  Livestock worrying or dogs attacking other dogs (or people) are offences.  There are also many people who are scared of or do not like dogs, so please bear this in mind and be considerate of others as well.*  *At this time of year there is often a rise in collisions on the road, more often than not due to driver error in poor conditions.  Considering the road conditions and other hazards on the road that may occur (such as pedestrians, horse riders, etc) please take care, especially in the lanes when approaching junctions and bends.  Always slow appropriately prior to a bend as you are more likely to skid if you brake around it, but also consider that there may be a hazard in the road you need to stop for or avoid.  Road positioning is always important to bear in mind as this can make the difference between a collision and a near miss.  At this time of year it is also a good idea to check your vehicle over regularly for good tyre tread and pressure and the fluid levels.  Tyre condition and pressure can also make the difference when braking/stopping.* |  |
| 9 | Financial Matters:  9.1 Account balance as of 16th January 2022: £7576.49  9.2 Items for approval:  Parish Clerk Pay January – March 2022: £553  9.3 Retrospective items for approval:  Rental of Leigh Village Hall: £45  Rental of Hermitage village hall 2021: £40  VisionICT – Website Hosting and Support Feb 2022-Feb 2023: £150  Clerk informed that Parish Council are paying fee of £5-6 per month due to Charitable Status of Bank Account with HSBC.  9.4 2022-2023 Precept was discussed  Items to consider for payment 2022:   * Finger Post repair at top of Batcombe Hill : Estimate £689.04, excluding DAONB Materials contribution. An anonymous donor from Batcombe has offered to contribute towards this cost. It was agreed that High Stoy Parish Council will contribute £500 towards this cost. * Hermitage Grit Bin £320 inc VAT. * £2000 should be allowed within budget for legal representation should we need it at a future date. £1000 from reserves and £1000 from 2022-23 Precept.   Precept 2022-23 £5460 | Clerk to investigate back ground to this. Clerk to investigate moving bank accounts to Lloyds and change status of account to allow online payments. |
| 10 | Any other business:  10.1 Chairman Whiteoak questioned whether we should arrange any publicity surrounding Batcombe Finger post. | Clerk to ask Johnny Gibbs if he would like to include anything regarding this for Batcombe. |
| 11 | The next Parish Council meeting AGM will take place on 31st May at 7.00 pm. |  |
|  | Meeting closed at 08:30 pm |  |

These minutes are to be signed by the Chairman, following approval, at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Signed;……………………………………………………………………………………………