Minutes of High Stoy Parish Council Meeting Held 11th February 2020 at Hermitage Village Hall 7:00 pm

**Present:** Councilors George Grazebrook (Chairman),Dawn Griffin, Eveline Jones, Peter Rowland and Amy Sellick (Clerk), Unitary Councillor Mary Penfold, members of the public including RoWLO - John Damon, Wendy Hounsell, Brother Hugh, Barry Crook and Graham Frampton.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2 |  | Clerk to follow up. |
| Item Number | Item | Actioned By |
| 1 | Public open session: Unitary Councillor Mary Penfold mentioned that new council is blending well. Looking at initiatives for re-use of plastic. Requested that we put forward any ideas. | Clerk to follow up with Mary. |
| 2 | Apologies: David Whiteoak (Vice Chairman), P.C.S.O Alex Bishop. |  |
| 3 | Minutes from meeting held on 28th November 2019 were signed by the Chairman. | Clerk to post on website. |
| 4 | Matters arising from the meeting held 28th November 2019: * 1. An update on progress of the application to claim the Hermitage footpath through Prince’s Wood was given by R.o.W.L.O John Damon. Has had some informal meetings with walkers of the path. Need to sort out which Councillors and R.o.W.L.O will see which individuals.
	2. Footpath around Hermitage Green, Trustees have confirmed that they own the car park. Councillor Grazebrook indicated that they have consent. Now need to fill in relevant form and send it off.

The Green is does not appear to be registered as ‘a Green’ on the Dorset Explorer website in the same way as the definitive paths. This could protect it from any future planning proposals.* 1. Clerk gave an update on Website Accessibility: Accessibility Statement has been added to the footer of the site. On initial review of the website, VisionICT have advised that our site looks good from an accessibility perspective with text already added to images and links with clear purposes. They don’t believe there will be any additional work to do at this stage but will confirm when they have had the opportunity to review fully.
 | John to get together with Councillor Kevin and Chairman George to co-ordinate who will talk to who.Clerk to re-send forms to Chairman and Chairman to complete form and get signed by Roger and Kevin.Clerk to find out if we need to do anything to get it registered. |
| 4 | HighWays Matters: 4.1 Chairman reported damage at Osmond farm where the fibre cable went down the tarmac is damaged as well as at Flamberts Farm. 4.2 Clerk reported no road closures planned within Parish. | Clerk to report on Dorset for you. |
| 5 | Footpath Matters: Update from RoWLO;5.1 R.o.W.L.O reported that there was a problem with the footpath at top of Batcombe hill down into Batcombe, with the gate chained and bolted shut N3/18 and N3/19. Dorset Ranger has reported that problem has been resolved and all footpaths are accessible now.5.2 Footpaths have been affected by wet weather. Warning for people to be careful. |  |
| 6 | Planning Applications: 6.1 **WD/D/19/002710**- Change of use of land and erection of luxury holiday lodges at The George Albert Hotel. Parish Council Objected. Awaiting decision from Dorset Council. Wendy Hounsell asked when works are likely to be completed. Mr Crook indicated that all work is intended to be completed within the year. Need to wait for the kart season to finish before starting. Mr Crook mentioned that there is no way that they will be looking to get housing on the site. They intend to look to enhance the hotel and tidy up the site. Chairman asked what happens to people already living there. Mr Crook mentioned that those who work on site they hope to re-home on the site. Chairman also questioned what will happen to the wireless broadband mast, Mr Crook said that another mast will be put up on Angel Water site.6.2 **WD/D/19/002854**- Scotley Farm. Dorset Council Approval of Reserved Matters. |  |
| 7 | Correspondence: 7.1 Clerk reminded Councillors of communication from ‘*Power for People*’ regarding Local Electricity Bill: The Bill, if made law, would empower local communities to sell locally generated clean energy directly to local customers by establishing a statutory Right to Local Supply. This is currently impossible because of the huge setup and running costs involved in doing so. The ultimate result of this would be: 1. Local communities and businesses could buy their electricity from a local energy company.
2. Building more local renewable energy would be financially viable with financial costs made proportionate to the scale of a renewable electricity supplier’s operation and therefore empower councils, together with their communities, to sell locally generated renewable electricity directly to local people.
3. Communities would benefit from the revenues that new local energy supply companies would generate, such as more local skilled jobs, energy efficiency schemes and investment in local facilities.

‘Power for People’ have requested that Parish and Town Councils resolve to support the bill.Chairman proposed that we support the bill, seconded by Councillor Peter Rowland. Other Councillors were invited to read the email and will defer decision re. support to next meeting in May. | Clerk to re-send email to Councillors. |
| 8 | Financial Matters:8.1 Bank Balance as at 18th January 2020 was £5,291.848.2 Retrospective items for payment: 8.1.2020: Vision ITC Website hosting 2020-2021: £1508.4 Forthcoming items for payment:VisionICT Accessibility Statement: £54Clerk Pay (inc. Tax payment to HMRC): £539.24McAfee Antivirus software annual subs Clerk computer: £39.99DAPTC Training: Finance for Councillors for Cllr Whiteoak: £60 | Clerk to make payments respectively.  |
| 9 | Any other business:9.1 Chairman has received complaints regarding speed of tractor traffic in the village. This seems to be down to contractors. Chairman has investigated whether there is a way to get a speed limit through the village but this looks to be around 4 x Parish Council annual income. Councillor Peter Rowland indicated that tractors should not be able to exceed 20 mph any way. Resident from Hermitage wishes to put up a sign indicating that there are children crossing on the Green. 9.2 Councillor Whiteoak requested that it be noted that members of the relatively new Cerne Abbas Surgery PPG (including Denise and Alan Ward), mentioned about requesting funding from Parish Councils for projects at their last meeting. As far as Dave is aware they currently don't have anything specific in mind but wanted to alert the Parish Council to the possibility of being asked to make a contribution at some point.9.3 P.C.S.O Alex Bush informed that there are no recent crimes to report. However, back in November there was a couple thefts around the Evershot/Melbury area. Of one of these thefts some items were recovered and returned to the owner, having been found dumped nearby. It is possible that the offenders left them so that they could recover them later.9.4 Date for next AGM meeting Wednesday 27th May, 7pm at Hermitage Village Hall.  | Clerk to email Paul Thatcher asking about the possibility of having a speed limit in Hermitage.Chairman looking into possibility of getting a camera to record speed. |
|  | Meeting closed at 7:40 pm |  |

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

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