

# WINFRITH NEWBURGH & EAST KNIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Held in the Village Hall and Via Zoom

Starting at 7pm

Draft copy

### **Councillors present**

Nic Johnson (chairman), Brenda Mustoe (vice-chair), Mark Morley and Charles Smith.

Clerk – Mandy Stephens

1 parishioner present

All those present in the Village Hall wore a face covering. Social distancing and track & trace were in place.

4 parishioners via zoom

### **1. Apologies**

296. Dorset Cllr Laura Miller, Cllrs Andy Muir and Richard Barrett.

### **2. Parishioners open forum**

297. None.

### **3. Minutes – 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

298. The Chairman asked the Cllrs if they agreed the minutes. The full council agreed so the Chairman signed them off as a true record.

### **4. Declaration of interest**

299. None

### **5. Matters arising**

300. None

### **6. Dorset Cllrs reports**

301. Attached is Cllr Millers report.

### **7. Plans to develop land adjacent to the Red Lion public house**

302 Nothing new to report at this meeting.

### **8. Tree planning**

303. None

### **9. Planning application**

304. None

### **10. Speed watch report**

305. Due to Covid-19 this has been suspended till mid-January.

### **11. Traffic through the village**

306. Report from Cllr Smith

Parish Cllrs from the villages of Winfrith, West Lulworth, East Lulworth and East Chaldon have met and consulted face-to-face, by Zoom and online to consider the problem of traffic volumes and access routes to Durdle Door and Lulworth Cove. So far, no other workable proposals have come forward to solve the problem. From the various reactions to the initially proposed routes (East Holme/East Lulworth/Burn Gate/Daggers Gate; West: / Innovation Park/New Buildings/BG/DG it is obvious that both have logistical problems and are associated with considerable cost. The alternative of a Durdle Door Relief Road (Winfrith bypass) proposed by David Pocknall (retired, local, highly qualified civil engineer) meets some of those objections. There are other similar route options all of which pass over farmlands leased to the tenants by the Weld Estate (map to follow). The length varies from 1.5km to 3km, the longer length not dissimilar to the Burn Gate to Daggers Gate upgrade, the shorter obviously cheaper. All avoid the complications of the other two routes. They have three further obvious benefits.

1. They give the motorist a simple direct route to the car parks at Durdle Door and Daggers Gate.
2. They remove considerable farm traffic from the centre of Winfrith Village as it links Fields Farm and Newburgh Dairy.
3. They enable traffic to Lulworth Cove to avoid much of West Lulworth high street.

In our view they are superior to the other alternatives and justify further exploration of the viability of the route in logistical terms with the Estate and in due course with Highways. After such discussion it may be desirable to employ a properly qualified person to assess the optimum route and approximate costs. The funding of the building of the road itself will obviously be the subject of much further investigate including widest possible options. There are various specialist companies offering traffic management solutions some of which provide a long-term income to be set against the costs of road works and installation.

#### Durdle Door / Lulworth Cove

I suggest that until Richard is well again, Cllr Mark Morley steps into his place. I know that he and I have disagreed on possible solutions, but I believe we can find common ground. In particular, to achieve the twin objectives of reducing the volume and routing of traffic to avoid Winfrith and West Lulworth village centres. My most recent investigation has involved a company called NSL, who installed a "Congestion Charging Zone" into a tiny part of Durham city (the peninsular) in 2003. It initially worked on a lifting bollard system but was subsequently converted to Automatic Number Plate Recognition. It was hoped that it would halve the traffic. It achieved an initial reduction of 90%. Even the modest charge of £2 produced a revenue of £3000.000. It continues and is generally highly regarded. I have not yet had any direct contact with NSL, nor

do I know if they have worked with rural road problems? But there must be many iconic tourist destinations accessed by roads entirely unsuited to present volumes and we might be a useful test case. It is an advantage that the Door / Cove are only accessed by two roads. Both of which have sections where some form of congestion charge / road pricing is possible. The revenue so generated to be used to provide an improved access road to the Door. Once we have some level of agreement with other Parish Councils, particularly West Lulworth, it will be time to approach Andy Turney and the Weld Estate. I accept that these ideas are radical. Other ideas have already been explored but it is to be hoped that we can come up with something better than “same again but slightly better organised”. Which is in fact no solution at all.

### **12. To agree to costs for the 20 is plenty signage through the village**

307. There was a Dorset Council Place and Resources Overview Committee meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020 where there was an agenda item for the Toolkit for 20mph limit. Cllr Mustoe only found out by chance about this just in time to make a comment. Cllr Mustoe will talk to Dorset Cllr Laura Miller on how the council can be informed of these meetings. Cllr Mustoe proposed that the council seek the support of their Dorset Cllrs for a 20mph limit.

### **13. Defibrillator**

308. Report from Pat Yonwin

We are pleased to report that the first two defibrillators have been installed at Winfrith Hall and the Rainbow Garage. They have been registered with South West Ambulance Service and are ready to be used.

The Lulworth Responder team (Stephen Pack) will check on them every month and will submit a report to SWAS. Roger Stevenson (WVH) and Stephen Guy (Rainbow Garage) will visually check on them each and report any problems.

We have adequate funding for one more defibrillator and its installation. We plan to meet in the New Year to discuss where this could be installed. Further fund-raising initiatives will also be discussed.

The locations in mind now are – Winfrith First School, The Red Lion and in the area of St Christopher’s Church. We will only proceed with further purchases once necessary funding is in place.

We are planning familiarization and first aid training as soon as Covid regulations allow us to use the Village Hall in a sensible manor.

Thank you to Winfrith and East Knighton Parish Council for being part of this successful local project.

### **14. Emergency plan for the village**

309. Work on this is still in progress

### **15. The children’s play area on the playing field and the pavilion.**

310. Nothing further to report on at this meeting.

## **16. Repair to the parish council notice board**

311. Cllr Muir submitted costings for the repair work to the inside of the notice board.

To replace the existing cork tiles with 3 individual boards would cost £119.97  
It was agreed to get the costings of a new free-standing double-sided notice board before a decision is made. The Council believe that the current position of the Council notice boards gets overlooked.

## **17. Playing field lease**

312. Nothing new to report on.

## **18. Precept**

313. Due to the increase in the Council's expenditure the precept will go up by £1,000 from £14,000 to £15,000.

## **19. Update on the land at Colehill Drove**

314. The caravan on the top field of Colehill Drive is still present. Cllr Mustoe proposed that the clerk fill out the Enforcement Enquiry form attached to the planning officer's email.

## **20. Parish Council Website**

315. The clerk put forward to the Council that it would be a good idea for them to have their own website that would be fully compliant with Government Law. Daptc (Dorset Association of Parish & Town Council's) would be able to supply this fully compliant website along with training. It would cost £199 plus vat per year.

316. The Cllrs present agreed 3 – 1 to go ahead with the website.

## **21. The correct procedure on the long-term absence of a Cllr**

317. The clerk sought advice from Daptc on this matter. However, at the meeting the partner of the Councillor in question acted on their behalf and said that they would have to resign with immediate effect.

318. This was accepted by the Chairman.

## **22. Parish Council vacancy**

319. The Council now have two vacancies. It was agreed to advertise these positions in the parish magazine & Facebook. If you are interested, please contact the clerk.

## **23. Committee Reports –**

Daptc (Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils)

320. No report.

Rights of Way

321. The pathway along the Riverside Walk is being undercut in one section. This will need to be watched as could cause issues later.

Transport

322. No report.

Flood Plan

323. The logs held by metal supports at Willowbourne Gardens did as expected,

get washed away down the River. They were however retrieved.

#### Village hall

324. No report.

#### Playground / recreation

325. The gate leading into the playing field opposite the village hall is very stiff and remains open.

#### Tree & Hedgerow

326. No report.

#### Village maintenance

327. Cllr Muir has reported the damaged road sign on Gatemore Road.

#### Stake holder

328. Due to Covid the end date has been delayed by approximately 18 months.

### **24. Clerk's monthly financial report & general report**

329. The clerk issued the financial report.

330. Proposed by Cllr Mustoe and seconded by Cllr Smith.

331. Five cheques needed to be signed. A Stephens wages (£328.09) A Stephens Zoom (£14.39) and Wessex Ground Services (£411.23) CPRE (£36) and Gibbs Electrical for the installation of the defibrillators (£600)

332. Proposed by Cllr Mustoe and seconded by Cllr Morley.

### **25. Correspondence**

333. None.

### **26. Matters of interest & Information**

334. None

### **27. Items for the next agenda**

335. 20mph speed limit through the village.

### **28. Date of next meeting**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.15hrs.