

**ST LEONARDS & ST IVES PARISH COUNCIL**

Meeting of the Full Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 7pm

Held in the Russell Room, Village Hall

Present: Cllr J B Parker, Chair

Cllr R Bryan (from 7.15pm)

Cllr A Davies

Cllr K Gawler

Cllr B Goringe

Cllr N Hindmarch

Cllr C Johnson

Cllr U Lucas

**In attendance:** Mrs Ann Jacobs, Assistant to the Clerk.

**Public Open Forum:** Four Members of the public attended from the Boundary Lane area. A spokesperson raised concerns about Boundary Lane traffic. Their opinion was that the road had become a “rat run” between the A31 and Blackwater junction and traffic volume had increased dramatically. Excessive speed and use by HGV’s serving the airport was an issue. They requested a traffic monitor was installed to gain evidence to support their request for traffic calming measures such as a chicane, similar to the one in Golf Links Road Ferndown; a width restriction of 6’6” and better signage such as a 40mph roundel painted on the road as signs in verges were often overgrown and not visible.

Cllr Bryan arrived during the item and advised that traffic monitoring evidence had already been obtained.

The Public asked that the issue was investigated and put on the August meeting agenda for a formal discussion.

**58. Pecuniary Interests:** No pecuniary interests were declared.

**59. Apologies:** Apologies were received from: Cllr M Dyer; Cllr M Goringe; Cllr J W Parker; Cllr Mrs S Marshall and Cllr B Waugh. Members voted to accept apologies from those Councillors listed. Proposed by Cllr A Davies, Seconded by Cllr JK Gawler. This was agreed.

**RESOLVED: That the apologies from the Councillors listed were accepted.**

**60. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022 -** The Minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr K Gawler, seconded by Cllr B Goringe. This was agreed, Cllr N Hindmarch and Cllr R Bryan abstained as they had not been present.

**RESOLVED: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022 pages 11 to 13 were adopted.**

**61. Matters arising from the Minutes**

1. Complaint regarding condition of Spinney Copse. The Assistant Clerk briefed members on the PC’s response. Much of the complaint was found to be unjustified. Some footpaths do need cutting back, but they are still passable – this was highlighted in the May 22 report. The scale of garden waste fly tipping is minimal and not considered a concern. Clerk responded positively to the complainer explaining what we will do.
2. New Accounts package is now ready for the end of June VAT return due to the

SAGE package failing we are awaiting a manual return for the end of March before we can proceed.

#### **62. Correspondence noted:**

Dorset Council has informed the Parish Council that a recommendation of the Community Governance Review is to reduce the number of parish councillors from 13 to 12. The reduction would be from the South Ward. If agreed changes will come into effect at the 2024 election. Cllr Bryan advised that a review will occur at all levels of Local Government. Cllr Bryan will forward a circular on this to the Clerk for circulation.

#### **63. Finance:**

The Assistant Clerk reported that there had been an issue with the Lloyds internet security. A computer glitch resulted in payments going straight through on one authorisation. It was spotted quickly but should not have been possible. A number of other Councils reported similar events on the SLCC network with Lloyds. A formal complaint has been lodged.

#### **64. Payment Schedules**

1. Payment Schedules - Members reviewed and approved the schedule of payments for June 2022 (revised) and July 2022. Copies of the schedules appear as Appendix A to these Minutes in the Minute Book. Proposed by Cllr A Davies seconded by Cllr K Gawler. This was agreed.

**RESOLVED: To approve the schedule of payments for June 2022 (revised) and July 2022.**

2. Bank Reconciliation: Members reviewed and approved the bank reconciliation for end of June 2022. A copy of the reconciliations appears as Appendix B to these Minutes in the Minute Book. Proposed by Cllr B Goringe, seconded by Cllr A Davies. This was agreed.

**RESOLVED: To approve the bank reconciliation for end of June 2022.**

Cllr Bryan was concerned about the sums held in Lloyds being above the FSCS limits and the security of the funds. He asked that information was sought on alternative accounts and options to protect the money. Cllr Parker asked that the Clerk check that this is on our risk assessment.

#### **65. Clerks Report:**

1. Annual playpark inspection report summary:  
The report recommends that the zip wire is fully serviced by a specialist company. The Clerk has organised this at a cost of £450+VAT. Concern over slight movement in the bases of two new pieces of equipment. This does not present a risk. Kompan have visited and logged the concern – they do not suggest any remedial work at this time but will monitor. They will carry out any work in the future if necessary. Kompan have been asked to confirm this in writing. The Assistant Clerk reported that the final retention payment was still currently held.  
The Hip Hop spring balancer (from the old playpark) needs a new part which has been ordered. Cllr Davies asked that costs of repairs were monitored.

Cllr R Bryan reported a conflict of interest on the next item due to his role at DC and abstained from the discussion.

2. Proposed TRO for Woolsbridge Road. The Assistant Clerk reported: Complaints about lorries causing a hazard when parking outside houses in Woolsbridge Road near the roundabout to use Greggs has prompted requests for TROs to prevent parking in that area. DC Highways have produced a proposed TRO. The Clerk has written to residents in the area to gauge their opinion on the proposal. Clerk will bring back to council for discussion when the results of the consultation have been received. At the time of the meeting of the 13 letters issued to residents 5 had responded so far and all were against the TRO. All of those responding reported that the service road was the main issue with large vehicles left overnight on top of the yellow lines all ready in situ.

Cllr Goringe suggested that the yellow lines on the service road were extended back to the bend. Cllr Davies stated that the design of the road at the junction with Woolsbridge Road was dangerous and should be reviewed. The Clerk was asked to compile a report once more responses have been received.

**66. Community Engagement.** The Chair suggested that the Council should look to improve its community engagement. He suggested that improved communications with residents such as reclaiming use of the free directory on a regular basis, improved use of the website (including an update of the site), and also running some “campaigns” covering litter picking initiatives and the control of dogs on Braeside rec. The Clerk was recently bitten twice by a dog running amok and suggested that dogs should be kept on a lead at all times in the rec. A campaign including large posters on the fence reminding dog owners to keep dogs on a lead and to pick up after their dogs was discussed and agreed. A campaign on social media where the PC lays down some rules of use of the park and if they are not followed then some restrictions on use may be introduced and enforced.

Cllr Bryan asked if the dog attack had been reported to the Police?

This was discussed. Enforcement is an issue but raising awareness via signage and banners might help and could be progressed but would need monitoring. If this was not found to be helping it could then be escalated in need. An action plan was needed.

In terms of the website, more information on Councillors on the website was suggested explaining about the different Wards. Councillor email addresses were in the process of being arranged.

In Summary: The Clerk is sorting the Councillor emails as a priority. Website needs to be improved and kept updated. The Chair is happy to produce the magazine items which will include one on how the planning system works.

The website and other forms of communication needs to inform the public of how they can engage with the Council. It was agreed that a banner about dogs clearing up and control to be erected.

**68. Brief Reports from Dorset Council Members** – Members received reports from Dorset Councillors:-

Cllr Goringe had circulated his reported via email prior to the meeting a copy of which appears as Appendix C with these minutes in the Minute Book. Some of the Parish Roads scheduled for surface dressing have now been delayed as it was discovered that British Gas had scheduled work. They will be resurfaced once the gas works are complete.

Cllr Bryan reported: Following a meeting this afternoon, 19 bus routes had been lost including the early school bus to Ringwood because funding was not possible. The bus companies report a shortage of drivers and wage increases combined with the increase cost of diesel as the cause. DC is looking at the impact of this and there are 2 school children who will be affected in this Parish, they will be taxied to school. The routes are not profitable due to lack of use. Route 38 is for now, being retained.

#### **69. Parish Councillors' Reports –**

1. Cllr Davies reported that he had been contacted by a resident of St Ives Wood about a noise issue due to damaged drains in the Horton Road. There are five drains between the Ashley Heath roundabout and St Ives Wood which are sunken or damaged and as lorries and other vehicles pass over them it causes a noise nuisance. The resident had already contacted DC but had not had any satisfactory response. Cllr Bryan will contact Mark Adams to take a look.
2. Cllr Davies reported on the recent meeting of Homewatch at Victory Oak; despite advertising and the attendance of Homewatch and the Police, no residents attended. Cllr Davies has spoken to the Clerk and asked him to monitor Facebook as Victory Oak residents have formed their own page.
3. Cllr Gawler reported that the resurfacing work of Hill Way had been completed but only the main part had been done, the hammerhead area had been left. Cllr Bryan asked him to email the details so that he could investigate.
4. Cllr Davies reported that only half of Struan Drive had been swept the rest had not been done and this left loose chippings.

**70. Climate Change.** Cllr Bryan reported that the new Director, Stephen Four was putting together a programme for Parish and Town Councils to assist and inform them. DC hopes that the Parishes will work with DC to inform residents. Cllr Bryan reported that there were about thirty different grants available to assist people in making changes to benefit the climate. The Parish Council could play a useful role in explaining these to residents in an effort to make them less complicated and more accessible.

Cllr Goringe informed members that the VHMC was looking into the installation of a charging point for the Village Hall carpark.

#### **71. Exchange of information:**

1. Next meeting 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022
2. Cllr Davies was concerned about the condition of 74 Woolsbridge Road and particularly the boundary hedge and queried if the Lengths man had been instructed to cut this back?
3. Cllr Goringe reported that there was an OHVG issue with the service road from St Ives End Lane to the Church.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm

Chair