

# **Bryanston Parish Council**

## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**

**13<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at Bryanston Club, Bryanston. Blandford, Dorset**

**Councillors:** Cllr C Tompsett -Chairman, Cllr C Gale – Vice Chairman, Cllr B Church, Cllr R Nolan, Cllr M Edwards and Cllr F Stocks

**In attendance:** Nicola Phillips – Clerk, 2 members of the public.

### **Democratic Period:**

It was reported that Bryanston Club's financial issues are improving, but the Club still needs to increase their income to secure its future, so **PLEASE COME AND USE THE CLUB**. It would be a great shame to lose this important asset for the village. There will be advertising through the village showing the events that will be held at the Club.

### **19/41. To receive and accept apologies of absence, declarations of interest and dispensations.**

Dorset Councillor Cllr S Jespersen and Claire McClellan – Bryanston RFE Ltd and Cllr C Conlon sent their apologies. Cllr Stocks declared a personal interest under agenda item 6 Planning. Reference 2/2019/1333/VARIA.

### **19/42. To agree the Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings dated the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

Cllr Gale proposed that the minutes were true and accurate. This was seconded by Cllr Nolan, all members agreed. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

**RESOLVED:** To agree the minutes date the 11th September 2019 (19/42 no budgetary requirements)

### **19/43. Matter arising from the meeting dated the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and new matters**

- **Up-date on Bryanston Club** – this was covered under Democratic Period.
  - **Up-date on Phone Box** – Has been attacked by teenage youths, who kicked the glass at the bottom of the box (fortunately, without damage), and also ripped up books and discarded them on the ground. The Phone Box is managed by the Parish Council and is fully aware of the culprits' identities. At this time no further action will be taken, but if the Phone Box is attacked again, it will be reported to the police for their action.
  - **To consider speed calming measures** – this agenda item will be deferred until the new year when the member of the public that agreed to head this project, is available.
  - **Up-date on the damaged bench in New Road** – The bench has now been removed and is being repaired.
- To consider climate change** – Dorset Council has announced a Climate Change Emergency and asked for support from Town and Parish Councils in leading projects in their areas to mitigate against climate change, for example, by replanting three new trees for any tree removed, and considering recycled materials when replacing village furniture. A workshop will be taking place on the 19<sup>th</sup> November from 6pm to 9pm at the Committee Suite – South Walks House, South Walks Road, Dorchester.

### **19/44. Report from representative of Dorset Council**

Dorset Councillor S Jespersen sent the following report:

**The Dorset Council Plan** - The council is seeking views from residents and partners on the draft Dorset Council Plan, outlining its priorities for the next four years. This feedback will inform the finalised Plan which will go to Full Council in February 2020, alongside the Medium-Term Financial Strategy and Budget.

As part of this consultation, two neighbouring Ward Councillors, Jane Somper and Piers Brown, and I will hold a joint meeting for all our Parish Councils. We will run through the Plan with you and take forward your views and comments. The presentation will be on Thursday 5th December, at 7.00pm at Stourpaine Village Hall. Please do come along and share your views. An email invitation will be sent to clerks to enable you to rsvp.

**Highways** - The major work on the flood arches at Durweston Bridge was completed on time and within budget. There is no doubt that residents in Durweston and neighbouring villages were greatly inconvenienced by the disruption to their own journeys and by diverted traffic. However, local communities put up with the disruption with as much good will as they could muster and, for the most part, coped well. At least the children from Durweston School enjoyed it all, with several visits to the site and school projects. I met at least one budding civil engineer at the Opening Event on 27th September.

I have been asked several times about the new Eurovia micro- surface treatments being carried out on residential roads. I am told by Highways that this is a cost-effective treatment for worn, but not structurally failing, roads which preserves and reinforces the surface and fills in cracks and holes. The micro-surface is laid over the existing surface, sometimes after holes have been patched in preparation. Therefore, we sometimes see what appears to be two repairs in the same location. Due to the size of the equipment roads are often closed while work is in progress. The schedule of this work is published on Dorset for you and none is scheduled in our Ward for the coming weeks.

**Great Dorset Steam Fair** - The Steam Fair, which impacts directly on several communities in the Ward, was generally agreed to have been well organised this year with no major problems. This is an enormous, and very complex event which brings thousands of visitors to the area. It is perhaps worth noting the tremendous amount of expertise and work involved in an event such as this and acknowledging the achievement of the GDSF team, supported by a range of Council Officers.

That's not to say there were no glitches and these will be raised at the GDSF Wash-up Meeting on 6 November. If there are any particular points you would like me to raise let me know.

**Children and Young People** - Dorset Council has agreed that young people who have spent time in foster or residential care will be exempt from paying council tax, if they live alone, or allowed 25% discount if they live with someone else, up to the age of 25. This follows a national campaign by the Children's Society, who say that managing household finances can be particularly difficult for care leavers who often do not have the same support networks as other young people. Dorset Council is responsible for 225 care leavers aged between 18 and 25, and it is estimated that 104 of these live in Dorset and are likely to qualify for council tax exemptions, which would cost the council around £46,500 a year.

In October, Ofsted looked at the council's arrangements for children in need and those subject to a child protection plan and concluded that children are now benefiting from better help and support and parents better understand the changes they need to make and are better supported. More work needs to be done and the Children's Services Directorate has begun a long-term plan to transform the way the council supports children and families.

**Fuel Poverty** - Dorset Council is working with Dorset Community Foundation's Surviving Winter appeal which gives individuals grants of up to £200. Residents over 60 who are in fuel poverty and those over 50 who meet the criteria can apply to [dorsetcommunityfoundation.org.uk](http://dorsetcommunityfoundation.org.uk). Meanwhile, residents who receive the Winter Fuel Payment and don't feel they need it can donate their payment to fellow vulnerable residents via the Dorset Community Foundation.

**Climate Emergency** - Since Dorset Council declared a climate emergency in May, Dorset Council's Low Carbon Dorset Team has received an influx of applications for support from Town and Parish Councils seeking to discover what they can do to reduce their carbon footprints.

In response we are running a Parish and Town Council Climate Emergency Advice Seminar on 19th November, at South Walks House in Dorchester. This will provide information on a variety of matters.

Contact the Low Carbon Dorset Team on [lowcarbondonset@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:lowcarbondonset@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) to book a place.

**Working with Parish and Town Councils**- Dorset Council has begun a series of conversations with Parish and Town Councils to redefine our working relationship. The first part of this consultation includes a number of workshops - and I was pleased to meet with a number of clerks and councillors from our Ward at the workshop on 24 October. We will also be sending an electronic survey in November following which all the suggestions and comments will be fed into a report on how to go forward, which will be the subject of further consultation in the New Year. Dorset Council is genuinely looking to forge a new way of working with Parish Councils, so this is your opportunity to be part of this.

**Peer Review** - In line with good practice established by the Local Government Association, Dorset Council invited a small team of officers and councillors from successful councils around the country to Peer Review our progress since May. This was a very useful exercise.

#### **19/45. Blandford+ Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Church gave the following report.**

The Public Hearing, held on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019, started with Ed Gerry (DC) explaining how things have moved on since Version 1 of the Neighbourhood Plan was examined, and the reasoning behind their backing for the present B+ NP, including the projection that 30,000 new homes will be needed in Dorset by 2038 and Blandford will be one of the major towns that will have to supply this need. This will also bring forward the need for more land for employment use. The urgent need of a new first school for Blandford was made by Ed Denham. None of the present schools have capacity to expand. John Burden, The Cranborne Chase AONB representative, explained why they were very opposed to the proposed development. He referred to the various viewpoints that had been seen in the morning and the severe impact on the AONB and its setting. Also, the slow encroachment that is being made into the AONB.

Pimperne PC then disputed the numbers of houses required for future development and questioned the methodology used to arrive at the 400 dwellings that are proposed for this site. They are also very concerned about noise pollution and the proximity to Pimperne Village. Wyatt Homes defended their position very comprehensively, making points about setting, landscape mitigation etc. Both the above representatives were concerned that the expanse of B+NP area should be classed as strategic, so should therefore be left to Dorset Council Local Plan to make the allocation. Both Ed Gerry and Jon Dowty (NP consultant) made the point that the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) does not specify exactly how much land can be allocated in a NP, so it was merely a judgement as to whether the proposed area was too big or not.

A Pimperne resident from Salisbury Road (his property had been visited in the morning) felt that Wyatt's proposed development was ill conceived, particularly the access to the site. The Examiner stated that he would not be delivering his decision until late December at the earliest.

#### **19/46. Officers reports: All reports were either circulated or reported at the meeting.**

- **Bryanston School** – The overhanging vegetation obstructing the pavement between the main gate and New Road has been passed to the Head of Operations at Bryanston School for their attention. The members of the Parish Council considered installing a notice board at lower Bryanston. This will be deferred until the January meeting as more investigation is needed about where/if to place it.
- **Highways** – Potholes by the Club and near Home Farm have been reported and repaired. The Councillors asked the Clerk to ask Highways for a date for the promised resurfacing of the hill to the Club. The Clerk will also request for a traffic survey, as it was noted there seems to be a large increase in traffic through the village, which is causing more damage to the roads. The Clerk will also report that the trees along New Road are now overhanging the road and ask Highways to instruct Bryanston School to have them cut back. The Clerk will once again report that the drains, gullies and the roads along Fairmile have not been cleared. **Action – Clerk**
- **Village Website/IT** – The Chairman reported that there is new legislation for Parish Council websites, to ensure that anyone with a disability can access the sites with ease. After debate, it was agreed that the Parish Council

should consider having their own website, rather than using the Village Website. The Chairman will investigate and feedback for discussion at the next meeting. **Action - Chairman**

- **Trees** - Dorset Council contacted the resident of 8 Forum View, informing them that they should have sought planning permission before the removal of their tree. The Parish Council would like to remind residents that Bryanston is in a Conservation Area and any tree works requires planning permission before any work can be carried out, including trimming.  
The resident of 17 The Cliff is very concerned about the safety of the two Ash trees in the verge outside her house. The Clerk has now contacted the Tree Officers at Dorset Council, asking of this matter to be looked into as a matter of urgency.  
A tree fell across The Cliff on 31<sup>st</sup> October, bringing down the phone line, despite being a calm day, Thankfully, although no one was harmed, considerable disruption resulted to telephones and broadband services. The tree fell as the result of decay.  
As stated before, the importance of trees has never been greater as they trap carbon, So, if any tree is removed then at least two other trees should be planted. The Chairman will investigate trees being offered by the Forestry Commission free of charge to community groups. **Action - Chairman**
- **New Road Parking area and Benches** – the bench had already been reported.
- **Environment Team** – The Chairman reported that the Parish Council needs a new contract with Langers and Sons for any additional grass cutting in the village. It was proposed that a three-year contract be written up for agreement by both parties. It was agreed the Clerk will contact Langers and Sons to ask for a quote for next year's grass cutting, including an additional cut at Lower Bryanston – between New Road and Fairmile. The Clerk will confirm that Langers & Sons are happy to sign a three-year contract and obtain a copy of their Public Liability insurance **Action – Clerk**
- **Planning** – Cllr Stocks tabled a planning report giving details of decision made.  
**2/2019/1316/REM** - Brewery Site, Bournemouth Road - This is a reserved matters application following the original outline approval in 2015(2/2015/1269/OUT) and the 2017 Variation application (2/2017/1706/VARIA) granted in 2018. It was agreed that Bryanston Parish Council should **OBJECT** to the proposed application for the following reasons: the proposals markedly change the whole ambience of the development. A unique design and development opportunity has been potentially lost for this part of the Conservation Area, and the resulting development is likely to be a significant disappointment, in particular as there is no indication about the rest of the site, including the conversion of the retained brewery buildings.  
**2/2019/1389/VARIA** - Solar Farm at Canada Farm, Fairmile Road: The site is effectively invisible from Fairmile Road and there are no implications for the parish. **No objection** to this application.  
**2/2019/1333/VARIA** - 56 New Road Lower Bryanston- Condition No. 2 of Planning Permission 2/2017/0864/FUL not complied with to install wood burner flue. **No objection** to this application.
- **DAPTC** – There was a record number of motions to be considered at this year's AGM. As there was no representative from Sherborne TC (the proposer) the first motion about climate change could not be discussed, but it was very clear from the mood in the room that climate change is being seen as an emergency but not as yet really being dealt with. Other proposed motions covered planning, infrastructure and the need for public transport. All motions were passed by those present, so DAPTC will be lobbying NALC to put pressure on central government to tackle these issues.
- **Dorset Council Working with Town and Parish Councils**  
Cllr Church attended a presentation on the 24th October. All Councillors will have the opportunity to have their say on the best ways DC and Town and Parish Councils can work together as a survey will be emailed to councillors. The matter that was uppermost in Councillors mind was that there should be much greater consideration and consultation given to Town and Parish Councils regarding planning issues. The feeling, as always, is that local Councils are consulted too late and not enough weight is given to the views of people directly affected by planning outcomes.
- **Footpaths** – Nothing to report.
- **Bryanston Estate**  
At the September Parish Council meeting, a member of the public asked for clarification about rumours that some of the Bryanston Estate land is being sold off as part of the changeover from the old to the new tenant farmer. The Bryanston Estate have confirmed that land was being transferred to the new tenant at the end of September and none of this *affected* Estate land is being sold, and no land is changing in use.  
Further to the tree from Estate land which fell on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October across The Cliff, the Estate have said that it undertakes an annual tree survey from which there is a schedule of works required for all trees across the Estate. The Estate also undertakes ad-hoc inspections, if required, and is also currently running a schedule to deal with the threat from Ash die back. Within this plan is the replacement of lost trees behind the Bryanston Club.  
The Chairman will ask the Bryanston Estate for an urgent check of all trees on their land, especially those close to houses and the road. **Action – Chairman**  
The ivy on the wall, at the corner to the entrance to the Cliff, was reported as causing an obstruction to motorists. The Chairman agreed to raise the issue with Bryanston RFE who may own the wall. **Action - Chairman**
- **A350 group** – A proposal from the A350 group, for the Parish Council to financially support purchasing air quality monitors for the group to organise a rota of mums and dads to take air quality monitors on the school run. The air monitoring equipment cost £159 each and the idea is to build up a database of air quality that children are exposed to. The Parish Council recognised this as a valuable project, but there is no school in the village for measurements to warrant the purchase.

*At this point Cllr Edwards gave his apologies and left the meeting.*

## 19/47. Finance

The Clerk tabled the Payment Schedule and Financial statement for September and October for the sum of £1229.95. This was proposed by Cllr Church and seconded by Cllr Gale, all agreed, and the Chairman duly signed the payment schedule.

N Phillips	wages	£ 294.50
N Phillips exp Sep & Oct	Clerks expenses	£ 75.60
Langers & Son Ltd	grass cutting	£ 114.00
DAPTC	Cllr Training	£ 40.00
Royal British Legion	wreath	£ 20.00
Blandford Town Council	NDP	£ 52.80
N Phillips BT phone bill	annual phone & broadband	£ 240.29
N Phillips wages	wages s/o	£ 392.76

**RESOLVED:** to pay the invoices listed on the payment schedule (19/47 – finance)

The Clerk had tabled a proposed budget for debate. The Parish Council had to take into consideration the additional running cost for 2020-2021 for grass/verge cutting and a website for the Parish Council. After debate, Cllr Tompsett proposed to raise the precept from £6160.00 to £8267.67, this was seconded by Cllr Gale, all members present in favour. (full details of the budget and proposal can be obtained by the Clerk)

**RESOLVED:** for Bryanston Parish Council to set their precept for 2020/2021 at £8267.67(19/47 – precept)

#### 19/48. Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave the following report:

This year, Bryanston School had commissioned remembrance crosses to be laid, in a separate ceremony, in memory of the 85 ex-pupils who were killed in WW2 and the Korean war, and also the Bryanston village residents James Forrester who was killed in the Boer War; George and Frederick Cheney, James Croft, Harry Mitchell and Samuel Reglar in WW1; and Henry Back, Bernard Morgan and Eric Sturgeon in WW2.

The Parish Council is hoping the second version of the Blandford+ Neighbourhood Plan will pass examination and go on to be successful at the final referendum. Once adopted by Dorset Council, the Bryanston policy would be statutory and give protection from unwanted development as well as providing the guidelines that could influence other planning applications. For added protection, as Bryanston has many historic and characteristic buildings, the residents and Parish Council should consider grade-listing more of them. Currently only some are listed, such as Home Farm and some of the buildings to the south. Although we live in a Conservation Area, that is not enough in itself to protect from renovations, alterations and extensions that may not be in keeping with the village design principles. The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council should consider requesting grade listing the remaining buildings in the Home Farm complex, together with the old power station, currently Bryanston Club, and houses at the bottom of New Road amongst others. This will be discussed in more detail in the New Year.

In May, Dorset Council declared a climate emergency. Parish & Town Councils are about to be invited to participate in climate change discussions to find out how to: reduce their carbon footprint, produce a Climate Emergency Plan, find available support and funding, find examples of carbon reduction projects already underway by Dorset Town and Parish Councils. Bryanston may be a small village but there is much that can be done, for example, planting more/replacing trees, encouraging everyone to save electricity and water, and choosing foods with less food miles. I propose the Parish Council should take the lead in taking steps to reduce climate change.

The desire to reduce food miles, and the desire for healthier eating means more people want to grow their own fruit and vegetables. Under the 1908 Allotments and Small Holdings Act, councils have a duty to provide land if six people or more request an allotment. If no land is available, the authorities are required to force private landowners to free up space. Bryanston currently does not have any allotments. The Parish Council should now consider the provision of allotments for the village. If residents are interested in having an allotment, please let the Chairman or Clerk know.

Dorset Council's Plan for 2020 to 2024, outlining the council's priorities for the next four years. Everyone is urged to read this document and complete the online survey: <https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=157000427080>

The consultation closes on 20th December 2019. Please note, this is really Dorset Council Corporate Plan and should not be confused with Dorset Council Local Plan.

Good communication is key if the council is to effectively engage with everyone in the village. The village website, Facebook page, updates in 'Village Matters' in the newsletter have all contributed to improve communication, along with 3 noticeboards within the village. I propose the Council should now reconsider a 4th noticeboard for Lower Bryanston.

Finally, I would like to thank the Parish Council team who have worked hard for the village community all year. Wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

**19/49. Clerk report** – all correspondence has been circulated and actioned as required.

#### 19/50. Items for the next agenda and date of next meeting.

**Climate Change, Listed Buildings, Allotments, Website, Spring flower planting and Speed Calming petition**

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Bryanston Club, commencing at 7pm.**

**Should you wish to contact the Clerk please use the email address below:**

**[bryanston@dorset-aptc.gov.uk](mailto:bryanston@dorset-aptc.gov.uk)**

**There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20.50pm.**

**Chairman .....**