**SYMONDSBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes of the annual meeting of Symondsbury Parish Council held on Thursday 12 December at 7pm at Symondsbury School.

**0001 PRESENT:** Cllrs – S Ralph, R Elwes, B Hamblett, P Colfox, P Hartmann and B Bates. In attendance: Natalie Bealing, Clerk. There were apologies from Cllr S Evans There were no members of the public in attendance. Apologies had also been received from Ward Councillors.

**0002: Disclosures of Interests and Dispensations:** To **receive** disclosures of personal and prejudicial interest from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting**:**  There were none declared.

**Democratic Half Hour during which members of the public are invited to raise matters of interest and Information from DC Councillors and Dorset Police:**The Police reported as follows:  
In the early hours of 17 November, there was a theft of heating oil from an address in Eype. The owner found the tank open, with some oil left on the ground.  They estimate half the tank was emptied.  If anyone is concerned about their security, please contact us.  Also, be vigilant and report any suspicious activity to us, at the time on 101, or 999 if you believe a crime is in progress.

Between 30 November and 2 December, a digger was stolen from a location in Broadoak.  There was also a trailer stolen from the Bettiscombe area around the same time, so likely connected.  Our advice as above applies.

**0003: Planning Matters:**

**There was a presentation from Andy Gale, National Highways, outlining plans for the Eype Amenity Area.** He left immediately after the presentation and the Planning Committee then discussed this application and the others received this month.

**P/FUL/2024/06791** **Proposal**: Demolition and removal of existing buildings and structures and the construction of a new highway depot, including single-storey office building, 3,000 tonne salt barn, and garages with associated parking and landscaping. **Location**: Picnic Area Cafe  
New Street Lane, Bridport, DT6 6AS **Conclusion**: The Council had particular concerns around traffic flow from and to the site and the A35, and also the loss of amenities for the public and commercial traffic. In conclusion and following debate the Planning Committee confirmed they could not support the application. **Decision:** Object

**P/VOC/2024/07019 Proposal:** Erection of garden room to include shower, wc and sauna. Formation of pool (variation of condition 2 of application P/HOU/2024/01526) **Location:** Venlan Denhay Lane, Broadoak, DT6 5NN **Consideration:** The Planning Committee unanimously supported the application. **Decision:** Support

**P/NMA/2024/07160 Proposal**: **Advisory only** Non-material amendment to planning permission **P/HOU/2024/06028** (Erect rear first floor extension and alterations) - change wall material from vertical timber cladding to render. **Location**: The Old Smithy, Atrim Road, Dottery, DT6 5PU

**Planning appeal P/FUL/2024/01341:** Tuckers Cottage, Watton Lane, Bridport DT6 5LZ **Consideration:** The Committee will review what they had previously submitted and prepare a letter to go to The Planning Inspectorate.

**0004: To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 November 2024:** The minutes of the meeting were approved and signed.

**0005: Matters arising and actions from last meeting:** The Clerk confirmed that actions had been dealt with.

**0006: To resolve payments and receipts for the month of November 2024:** a) Clerk’s salary, b) Creeds, c) Stationery

Current account £8,773.79 Savings £24,371.39

Two requests for funds had been made this month – one from the Life Education charity and one for the renewal of CPRE subs. Both were approved for payment, with the CPRE one staying at the current level. The Clerk would bring the paymrnts to the January meeting.

**0007: Lengthsman:** Cllr Ralph reported back on a meeting that had taken place earlier in the week with Bridport Town Council regarding future Lengthsman provision. The services would be going up by £10 per hour (to £35) and the list of contracted jobs would need to be identified and scheduled in at the beginning of each year. Cllr Colfox would investigate alternative options to the current service and also review the work needed at the West Road allotments to enable some of the existing plots to be passed on to new tenants.

**0008: Budgets and Precept:** The Clerk presented the budget projections for the rest of 24/25. Several of the figures would need to be adjusted in light of this evening’s meeting, and a new budget would be presented at the January meeting for approval.

**0009: Grit bins:** The Clerk asked Councillors for updates on the current status of the grit bins in their vicinity. There are several still to be inspected but generally the bins have fared well.

**0010: Leaf Cycle:** Unfortunately, most of the Councillors had not been able to update themselves on the scheme prior to the meeting due to an issue with the IT. Cllr Hamblett gave a very brief overview of plans, based on a successful scheme running in Ireland, and was asked to come back to a future meeting with some costings and suitable sites for the bins.

**0011: Reports from Lead members:**

**Cllr Hamblett** – **m) Resilience** Cllr Hamblett gave a short update on progress with the plan. Cllr Colfox asked for a copy of Dorset’s top items on the risk register, which were also covered on their emergency plan.

**0012: Clerk’s update:** The Clerk explained about a Bridport scheme to put free trees in gardens and estate land. She updated the Council on the latest 20mph scheme in the parish and her efforts to re-engage with Broadoak and the churches – something which had sadly tailed off since Amanda Streatfeild had left Council.

**0010: Items for future meetings:** Budget and Precept, Grit Bins

**0011: Date and location of next meeting** Thursday 9 January 2025, 7pm, Symondsbury School Hall.

**Meeting finished at 9.15pm**