**SYMONDSBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes of the annual meeting of Symondsbury Parish Council held on Thursday 9 January 2025 at 7pm at Symondsbury School.

**0001 PRESENT:** Cllrs – S Ralph, R Elwes, B Hamblett, S Evans, P Hartmann, P Colfox and B Bates. In attendance: Natalie Bealing, Clerk. There was one member of the public in attendance.

**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:**

Cllr David Bolwell attended and gave the Council an update. He explained that Dorset Council were in the middle of budget setting and would need to make some significant savings. A discussion ensued around possible avenues for savings. He also highlighted that he had been co-opted onto the Local Plan Group – Councillors were asked to get in touch if they had anything to add/raise.

Cllr Ralph asked about the Dorset Planning Committee. Cllr Bolwell chairs the group. There was then a discussion about the Eype Amenity Area. Cllr Hartmann explained that it is a National and Local Asset.

Cllr Bolwell also advised about upcoming roadworks from the Crown roundabout to Burton Bradstock. Cllr Colfox asked if there was any news on the Miles Cross roundabout – there isn’t.

The Police reported as follows:  
The start of December saw a spate of non-dwelling burglaries in the Netherbury to Pymore area, where offenders broke into outbuildings, stealing power tools.  Around this time, we had a report of someone attempting door handles to their property, which they were alerted to by their doorbell camera.  They interacted with the male over the camera and he said he was there to fix a leak, which was obviously false and he quickly left.  The location is given as West Road, but the victims address is in Chideock, so we are not sure which location it happened at this time.  Please review your security and contact the Police if you would like any crime prevention advice.

**0003: Planning Matters:**

**P/HOU/2024/07131** **Proposal:** Erect two storey rear extension, internal alterations, new verandah and storm porch. New driveway and vehicle parking area **Location:** Venlan, Denhay Lane, Broadoak DT6 5NN

**Consideration:** The Committee felt that the extension was substantial in size however did reflect the internal reorganisation and the proposed use for a lifetime home allowing for all ages in the family. The extension was kept within the form of the building, except for the new verandah. Notwithstanding the inconsistencies of the Northern elevation the proposals did not create any loss of amenity to the surrounding environment and there were no comments from neighbours. There was some concern expressed as to the new access route using the existing drive servicing the neighbouring properties however this, subject to comments from Dorset Highways on suitability, was really a legal matter. **Conclusion:** The Committee felt they should support the application. **Decision:** Support

**P/NMA/2024/07382** **Proposal:** **Advisory only** - Non material amendment - make 10 tenure swaps (over 20 plots) from S106 shared ownership to S106 Affordable Rent and vice versa to planning permission P/RES/2021/04848 (Construction of 760 dwellings, public open space (including play space and landscape planting), allotments, an orchard, sports pitch provision, with associated changing rooms and car parking, pedestrian, cycle and vehicular links, drainage works and associated infrastructure (Reserved matters application to determine appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following the grant of Outline planning permission number WD/D/17/000986 - Amended scheme).**Location:** Land at Foundry Lea, Vearse Farm, DT6 5JT

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

**0005: Matters arising and actions from last meeting:** The Clerk confirmed that actions were either complete or on the agenda for further discussion.

**0006: To resolve payments and receipts for the month of December 2024:** a) Clerk’s salary, b) HMRC; c) Dorset Council; d) Life Education; e) CPRE

To **update** on online banking: Current account £7,965.06 Savings £24,401.16

**0007: Budgets and Precept:** The Clerk presented the latest forward look for the 25/26 budget. The new budget was agreed (6 approved, 2 abstained) and the Precept set.

**0008: Grit Bins:** The final bins in the Parish had been audited, with thanks to all Councillors. One bin needs urgent replacement – Clerk to arrange.

**0009: Resilience:** Cllr Hamblett gave a short summary of the paper that he had distributed prior to the meeting.He explained that building resilience in the community is key. The Council discussed maintaining a list of resources and the difficulty in ensuring that this is up to date. Cllr Bates suggested that we look at the various risks in the plan and decide how to deal with them – perhaps two per meeting? Clerk to add Resilience to all upcoming agendas. Cllr Hartmann asked how the plan could be enacted by a member of the public, especially if it is available on our website and there is a power cut, for example? Cllr Hamblett hoped that the plan would work without getting the Council involved and that the co-ordinators in each area would be well prepared. Cllr Colfox ended the agenda item with a vote of thanks to Cllr Hamblett for his work on this so far.

**0010: Reports from Lead members:**   
**Cllr Bates – k) Allotments** Cllr Bates had submitted a report prior to the meeting. A discussion ensued about whether more money (to add to the £1000 already allocated) should be set aside for the West Road allotments for maintenance work. This was proposed but not seconded.   
**Cllr Ralph – a) Footpaths** The change to the parish boundary between Netherbury and Symondsbury has had the effect of deleting W36/32 from Netherbury to join W12/18 Symondsbury.

**0011: Clerk’s update:** The Clerk explained that VE Day will be celebrated on 8 May this year and that national plans include beacon lighting, bell ringing and flag flying. The day also coincides with SPC Council. The topic would be added to the agenda for next month’s meeting. She also highlighted a event on new planning policies, being organised by DAPTC on 4 March. She had sent several jobs into Dorset Council to arrange clearance of the gullies and drains around Symondsbury village. And finally, congratulations to local resident, Diana Parker who is currently participating in the Great British Pottery Throwdown on Channel 4.

**0012: Items for future meetings:** VE Day plans; Assets Register; Resilience, Symondsbury Community Centre

**0011: Date and location of next meeting** Thursday 13 February 2025, 7pm, Symondsbury School Hall.

**Meeting finished at 8.50pm**