Minutes of the Bothenhampton & Walditch Parish Council meeting held in the Church Hall, Bothenhampton on Monday 12 May 1997 Following the Annual Council Meeting.

Present: Mr.D.A.Blythe [Chairman], Mr.R.C.Batten, Mr.F.R.Botham, Mr.P.G.Hulbert, Mrs.F.M.Ball, Mrs.D.M.England MBE, Mr.G.Matthews, Mr.J.E.Mitchell, Mr.M.C.Farnham [Clerk]

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 14 April 1997, having been circulated to all members, were accepted as a true record of the meeting and duly signed.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Mr.G.C.L. Warburton and Rear Admiral Pritchard CB.

3. MATTERS ARISING

- [a] The Hyde Tennis Court Walditch; the Clerk informed the meeting that he had not heard from Mr.Salt concerning the Sports Trust second application for a further grant. He was instructed to contact Mr.Salt concerning this matter and the removal of the out of date sign.
- [b] Bowhayes Name Plate; Mrs.Ball asked if we had heard anything more from WDDC, the Clerk confirmed that the last he had heard was that WDDC would contact Dr. Thompson in relation to sitting the name plate in his garden. Mrs.Ball confirmed that she had spoken to Dr. Thompson and to date he had not been contacted by WDDC. The Clerk was instructed to write to WDDC again on this matter.
- [c] Notice Boards; the Clerk informed the meeting that he was still awaiting details of the type of Notice Boards available.
- [d] Highway Obstructions Knapp Cottages Walditch; Mr.Batten reported that the Police had come across this problem recently and that following their visit to the individual he had been parking his car with more care. As a result the problems that did exist have been reduced, however, the matter of off road parking at the cottages should still be taken up with Magna.

4. DEMOCRATIC HALF HOUR

At this point the meeting was adjourned to enable members of the public to air their views on matters of local interest. The meeting then re-convened to complete the Council's agenda. A list of items raised is attached at the end of the minutes.

5. REPORT BY CTY & DIST COUNCILLOR REAR ADMIRAL PRITCHARD CB

Rear Admiral Pritchard had informed the Clerk that it is hoped that the Planning Application for the temporary sitting of the Bulky Household Site at the old Area Highways Office in South Street, Bridport is likely to be submitted in June 1997. He also informed the Clerk that BFI have still not come up with any possible permanent sites for the Bulky Household Site.

6. REQUEST FOR GRANTS

[a] Request from the Trust for Village Hall Walditch; the Clerk referred to the letter received a copy of which was sent out with the agenda. Mr.Botham informed the meeting that a sum of £2000 had been earmarked for the payment of solicitors fees in connection with the transfer of the Hall to the Parish Council. However, following a very long drawn out process it was not possible for the Parish Council to become the Trustees for the Hall and they therefore the paid solicitors fees totalling £471.25 in May 1996. At the Council meeting held on the 13 May 1996, it was agreed that a grant of 50% of any solicitors fees up to a maximum of £350 would be made by the Council to the Village Hall Trustees. It was therefore agreed to make a grant of £314.85 to the Trustees for the Village Hall Walditch. The Clerk was also instructed to write to Mr.Scott confirming that the sum of £2000 was only earmarked for solicitors fees and not for improvements to the Hall. However if they wish to make an application for a grant towards improvements that may do so and the Parish Council would give any application due consideration.

7. NALC ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The clerk informed the meeting that they Parish Council annual subscriptions to the NALC were due and that the amount for 1997/98 was £288.41. It was proposed by Mr.Matthews and seconded by Mrs.England that the fees be paid. This was agreed by all the other councillors present.

8. FUTURE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The matter of the splitting into two Parishes was discussed at length and it was agreed that in order to make a considered decision on this matter it would be necessary to take advice from WDDC and DAPTC. The Clerk was instructed to write to both of these organisations asking for their help/advice on the legal and financial implications of such a course a action. Once this advice had been obtained it would be put before the Council for further consideration.

9. FINANCE

- [a] The Clerk informed the meeting of the current situation
- [b] The following accounts were approved for payment;
 - [1] Hire of Walditch Church Hall £12.50
 - [2] Bothenhampton Playgroup Grant £100
 - [3] Bothenhampton Brownies and Guides Grant £100
 - [4] Bothenhampton Church Arts & Crafts Flower Festival Grant £75
 - [5] Jim White April grass cutting etc. £114.55
 - [6] Cornhill Insurance renewal £118.20

10. PLANNING

- [a]. Applications received from WDDC; application No. 1/W/97/0192F land adjacent to Wanderwell Farmhouse, North Hill Way, Bothenhampton referred to Mrs.England for comments and was returned "No Objections".
- [b]. Decisions by WDDC; None Received

12. REPORTS

- [a] Footpaths and Roads; NTR
- [b] Street Lighting; Column 9 Main Street Bothenhampton not working, also 3 DDC lights in Lower Walditch Lane not working.
- [c] Neighbourhood Watch; P.C.Grimer reported that the Parish had had only two break-ins in the last 3 months.
- [d] Conservation and Open Spaces; NTR
- [e] John Holt Play Area; Mr.Blythe commented that the equipment installed was being used daily even by the children of those that objected to its installation. The grass had also received its first cut this year.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

- [a] WDDC; the following correspondence was received [1] Annual Housing Seminar 6 May 1997. [b]DCC; The following correspondence was received, [1] Dorset Community Care Plan 1997/98 [2] Council Tax 1997/98.
- [c] DAPTC; County Director's Circular 5/97 New Year Honours 1998 5/97 Policy for Dealing with Travellers and Gypsies 9/97 Local Government and Rating Bill 11/97 NALC Review of Accounts Service. NALCO Annual Subscriptions. Youth Parish Councils Follow up Seminar. Agenda of the DEPTH Western Area Meeting on the 17 April 1997.
- [d] Letter from John Scott requesting Parish Council contribution to legal fees in connection with the leasing of the Church Hall.
- [e] Letter from the Bothenhampton Playgroup thanking the Parish Council for grant.
- [f] Nations in Bloom 1997 Competition
- [g] Dorset Best Kept Village Competition 1997

There being no further business for discussion the meeting was closed at 8.55pm.

Date 12/5/97 Chairman ____

page 187