



Bothenhampton & Walditch
Parish Council since 1886

**MINUTES OF BOTHENHAMPTON & WALDITCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held REMOTELY at 7pm on 11th JANUARY 2021**

| Initials | Present | Initials | Present |
|----------|-------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| JB | Cllr Jim Basker (Chair) | CA | Cllr Chris Addis |
| AL | Cllr Ann Langridge | MW | Cllr Martin Warne |
| GSt | Cllr Graham Styles | | |
| EB | Cllr Edward Berry | TC | Tan Cox (Clerk) |


Also Invited: Cllr Sarah Williams / Cllr Kelvin Clayton / Cllr Dave Bolwell

| Ref | Agenda Item | Action |
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| | Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Eligibility: No Declarations were received | |
| | Apologies: Cllr Sarah Williams | |
| | CLERK'S NOTE Due to the COVID-19 virus and social distancing requirements this meeting was held remotely using video conferencing software. The L01-20 Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (coronavirus) (flexibility of local authority and police and crime panel meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, Regulation 5(2) require that all participants should be able to be seen and heard throughout the meeting and this condition was satisfied. | |
| 1 | Reports from Dorset Council Councillors: Both Cllrs Bolwell and Clayton attended the meeting. Cllr Clayton said that he had attended a Dorset Council Covid update meeting last Friday, which was followed by a meeting of the West Dorset councillors with Chris Loder. CL wanted to pass on the message that some people are not taking the current situation seriously enough and are not following the rules. CL asked for all councillors to pass on the message that the rules must be followed. To help this, DC will be sending a 'stay at home' post card to every Dorset Council household. The PC was asked to reinforce this message where possible. | |

Minutes agreed on 8th February 2021

| Ref | Agenda Item | Action |
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| | <p>Cllr Bolwell raised the issue of both Homestead Farm and the application regarding Marrowbone Lane.</p> <p>Marrowbone Lane Cllr DB confirmed that a report had been commissioned by neighbours of the applicant and this report has now been received and forwarded to the parish clerk and the councillors. He made reference to the report and said that he had made a site visit and spoken with interested parties. He confirmed that he has been liaising with the Planning Officer based at Dorset Council and feels that, on balance, she is wavering on the side of allowing the application. The option remains to call the application into the Planning Committee for enhanced scrutiny if necessary. He confirmed that the Planning Officer has asked for additional documents: Biodiversity report and a traffic plan for Marrowbone Lane. This item is raised again at Section 5 below.</p> <p>Homestead Farm Cllr DB confirmed that Dorset Council has not taken any enforcement action because there will be a public enquiry into this at a later date. No date for the public enquiry has been set yet. This item is raised again at Section 5 below.</p> <p>Sycamore Avenue This was raised by the Clerk following her email to Cllr Bolwell for him to become involved in this issue because there did not seem to have been any progress on the replanting of trees along the Walditch Road (The Avenue). Cllr DB said that he has already contacted Dorset Council about this and will forward the email to the Clerk for onward transmission to the parish councillors.</p> | |
| 2 | <p>Democratic Half Hour:</p> <p>There were no items for discussion.</p> | |
| 3 | <p>Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – Monday 9th November 2020:</p> <p>The Minutes of 9th November were approved, and a copy will be posted to the website.</p> <p>Councillors were asked to comment on the Summary of Actions on page 5. As follows:</p> <p>Regarding Dorset Council’s Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan – most councilors did read the document and sent their comments to Dorset Council via the survey link. Action completed but see Section 8 below.</p> <p>A letter on the above was drafted by the Clerk and sent on 14th November 2020.</p> <p>Regarding Dog Fouling signs – signs were ordered by the Clerk. Cllr CA to install signs as necessary. Action completed.</p> <p>Regarding Hairdressing salon at 1 Howards Close – Action completed.</p> | |

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| 4 | <p>Reports from External Organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● WATAG – no meeting ● BLAP – 18th November 2020 (remote). Cllr GSt attended this meeting and fed back the main points – digital connectivity and inclusion (to outline initiative to increase skills in the community), connectivity around the gigabit voucher scheme. <p>BLAP Liason – 13th January 2021 (remote) The Clark reminded councillors that the meeting on the 13th is about Climate Change. Cllr AL said that she has already accepted the invitation for that meeting.</p> <p>BLAP Steering – 10th December 2020 (remote) Cllr AL attended this and said this was a meeting between local community groups (CAB etc), attendance by parish councillors was not relevant. Funding for BLAP committee meetings admin and support runs out in March 2021 – we may be asked to contribute to funding future BLAP meetings. Steering group meetings should not be attended in future, we should just ask for minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● BANP/JCC – 17th December 2020 (remote) Cllr JB attended and confirmed that the Resolution regarding future funding that the parish council had prepared (specifying future funding of £500 this year and £1100 next year for 3 years, subject to review after this date), was presented to other attendees and consequently extended to other parish councils so that they could give formal consent to pay. <p>Cllr JB confirmed that there is a Dorset Local Plan (Draft) being made available towards the end of January 2021 for comment. This will be available shortly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bridport Youth Forum Working Party – no meeting and discontinue attendance. | |
| 5 | <p>Planning:</p> <p>Planning Consultations</p> <p>The planning consultation and decision notices specified on the Agenda were noted.</p> <p>PLANNING CONSULTATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● WD/D/20/001007 18 SOUTH LAWNS, BRIDPORT, DT6 4DS ● WD/D/20/002349 19 UPLANDS, WALDITCH, BRIDPORT, DT6 4LE ● WD/D/20/002660 LAND SOUTH OF LANGDON GREEN, MARROWBONE LANE, BOTHENHAMPTON <p>Cllrs discussed this planning application in depth. It was agreed that the Clerk would extract the salient points from the commissioned report and make the parish council's objection to the planning application, including the setting of a precedent on this land and in this area.</p> | Clerk |

| Ref | Agenda Item | Action |
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| | <p>Planning:</p> <p>Planning Consultations (cont)</p> <p>It was also agreed that Cllr EB would draft a letter, drawing comparison with the Homestead Farm development, and re-iterating the various concerns highlighted both in the report and during their meeting with the parties involved specifically citing Policies L1 and L2 of BANP. Letter to be sent to the Clerk to be put on headed paper.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● WD//D/19/003186 HOMESTEAD FARM, MAIN STREET, BOTHENHAMPTON, BRIDPORT, DT6 4BJ <p>Cllrs acknowledged that the application will now be subject to a public enquiry.</p> <p>PLANNING DECISION NOTICES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● WD/D/20/001007 18 SOUTH LAWNS, BRIDPORT, DT6 4DS <p>PLANNING APPEAL NOTICES</p> <p>None</p> | Cllr EB Clerk |
| 6 | <p>Finance and Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Payments for Approval – 19th November 2020 - 11th January 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Derek Smith x 2 (paid as per contract) ● Loppers (paid as authorised) ● Advert for Bridge (paid as authorised) ● Dorset Council x 2 (paid as per contract) ● Post Office ● Batteries ● Print Cartridge <p style="text-align: right;">  Approved </p> <p>The Clerk said that the payments listed had already been paid and had been authorised via email. The invoice cover sheet was signed by the Chairman and scanned back to the Clerk.</p> <p>The Clerk's salary for January 2021 was approved as were any expenses.</p> <p>The Bank Balance as of 31st December 2020 was provided to councillors for their perusal, the Bank Statement was signed by the Chairman and scanned back to the Clerk.</p> <p>The Cash Flow Forecast up to 31st December 2020 was sent to Councillors for their review. Clerk to send another copy to Cllr GSt.</p> | |

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| 7 | <p>Parish Council Sub-Groups:</p> <p>Finance and Funding Sub-Committee met on the 8th January 2021. Cllr CA confirmed that the main points to note are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There are several pots of money that have been set aside (for many years and unused), £398.63 (Amenity Space) and £136.55 (Natural Greenspace) to be allocated to the nature reserves, and £130.00 (Allotments) to be allocated to the Lower Walditch Play Area and Orchard Group (land adjacent to the Lower Walditch Play Area / allotments). ● There will be a small increase in the Clerks 'working from home allowance' and other expenses and said the increase is supported by the F&F Committee. <p>Traffic and Transport & Footpaths Sub-Committee met on the 8th January 2021. Cllr MW confirmed that the main points to note are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is a lot of work going on coordinating the work of the VFO and the Lengthsman ● Either Cllr MW or Cllr GSt will check the Lengthsmans work sheets being sent to the parish council by Bridport Town Council to ensure they are accurate. ● Work is continuing on the speed restriction at Walditch and the Clerk will chase at the end of January if no progress. ● Confirmed a success with A35 signage and lighting, the contractor (working for Highways England) has now completed the outstanding work. ● Highlighted the work completed by the VFO and said that he would be happy to liaise with the VFO in the future and councillors should route their requests through Cllr MW. Suggestion of a formal 'thank you' incentive. ● Cycle paths and the issues around the creation and maintaining of cycle paths both within the parish and those that connect with neighbouring parishes. | |
| 8 | <p>Other Parish Matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Update from Chairman on transfer of Nature Reserves from Dorset Council – Cllr JB updated councillors on the progress of the transfer which has slipped further due to Dorset Council finding a lot of the trees within the Bothenhampton Nature Reserve are suffering from 'ash dieback'. BTC are requesting that Dorset Council carry out the work on the trees prior to the transfer and this is yet to be agreed. Therefore, it is expected that the transfer will be further delayed. <p>Cllr JB confirmed that the unsafe steps and broken handrail on the path through the Bothenhampton Nature Reserve have been mended by a volunteer and a letter of thanks has been sent.</p> | |

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| | <p>Cllr JB also advised that a tree has fallen down in Jellyfields Nature Reserve and he will be asking Dorset Council to deal with it.</p> <p>Cllr GSt referred to the gate on the upper entry into the Bothenhampton Nature Reserve is broken. Cllr EB said that it may have something to do with Wessex Water as it is protecting their area. Cllr MW to speak to VFO about this, Cllr JB confirmed that DW would be happy to do it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dorset Council's Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan – see letter dated 15th November to Mr J Potton on council website. <p>Cllr JB thanked councillors who had already sent in their responses to Dorset Council via the website, however he suggested that the parish council could make a corporate response. He asked councillors if they would consider a collective response and asked for comments from other councillors by the end of the week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parish Plan – Cllr JB referred to the next meeting to be held on 29th January 2021. He also referred to other parish council's plans and recommended members look at these to get different perspectives and ideas. There was further discussion about work still to be completed. | <p>Cllr JB</p> <p>Cllr MW</p> <p>All Cllrs</p> |
| 9 | <p>Correspondence:</p> <p>The following correspondence was sent during the period and can be found on the council's website www.bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Letter to Mr R Wheeler, Old School House regarding Telegraph Pole ● Letter to Holy Trinity Church, Bothenhampton ● Letter to British Telecom regarding Telegraph Pole - Old Church Road ● Letter to Cllr Gill Smith ● Letter to Mrs Sargent - Valley Road ● Letter to resident at 19 Valley Road ● Follow up letter to BT regarding Telegraph Pole - Old Church Road ● Letter to Mr D West regarding Bothenhampton Nature Reserve ● Letter to Mr Potton of Dorset Council regarding Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan | |
| 10 | <p>AOB:</p> <p>Cllr EB raised the issue of Milvers Lane (Shipton Gorge). There was discussion around this including the request to Shipton Gorge's parish clerk to keep us informed.</p> <p>Start time of next meeting. It was agreed that a revised start time of 5pm would be appropriate whilst using the Zoom application. Notices on the noticeboards will be amended.</p> | <p>Cllrs JB/AL</p> |
| | <p>The meeting ended at 8.15pm</p> | |

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting: 8th February 2021 @ via Zoom at the earlier time of 5pm
 Previous council agenda and minutes can be found on www.bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com

SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS – 11th January 2021

| Action | Owner | Page |
|--|----------------------|------|
| Regarding Marrowbone Lane –extract the salient points from the commissioned report and make the parish council’s objection via the Dorset Council Portal. | Clerk | 3 |
| Draft a letter, drawing comparison with the Homestead Farm development, and re-iterating the various concerns highlighted both in the report and during the committee meeting. Letter to be sent to the Clerk to be put on headed paper. | Cllr EB and Clerk | 4 |
| Regarding transfer of Nature Reserves to Bridport Town Council/Bothenhampton Nature Reserve – gate on the upper entry into the reserve is broken. Speak to VFO. Speak to DW (another volunteer) | Cllr MW Cllr JB | 6 |
| Regarding Dorset Council’s Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan – send additional text to Cllr JB for him to draft a corporate response to the survey. | Cllr JB | 6 |
| Regarding start time of meeting – amend start time on the various notice boards to read start time 5pm. | Cllrs JB/AL | 6 |

ROLLED OVER ITEMS – 11th January 2021

| Action | Owner | Page |
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| None | | |

ITEMS REFERRED TO OSPA SUB-COMMITTEE – 22nd February 2021

| Item | Page |
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| None | |

ITEMS REFERRED TO TT&F SUB-COMMITTEE – 5th March 2021

| Item | Page |
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| None | |

ITEMS REFERRED TO F&F SUB-COMMITTEE – 5th March 2021

| Item | Page |
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| None | |

External Organisations - Acronyms:

Clerk to Parish Council
Tan Cox

WATAG – West Dorset – Western Area Transport Action Group

BLAP – Bridport Area Local Partnership

BANP JCC – Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan, Joint Councils Committee

DAPTC – Dorset Association of Town and Parish Councils

NALC – National Association of Local Councils

External Organisations - Councillor representatives:

WATAG – Cllr Chris Addis (Deputy - Cllr Martin Warne)

BLAP – Cllr Ann Langridge (Deputy – Cllr Graham Styles)

BANP – Cllr Jim Basker (Deputy Cllr Gill Smith)

Misc

VFO - Volunteer Footpath Officer

DW – Volunteer Danny West