

# West Dean Parish Council

An Ordinary Meeting of West Dean Parish Council was held at 7.30pm on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at King George's Hall.

**Present:** Cllr J. Gimpel (Chairman), Cllr. P. Hargrave, Cllr H Urquhart, Cllr J Greene, Cllr. M. Cordingley, Cllr C Warry, Mrs A Ellis (Clerk).

**Apologies:** Cllr W Seabrooke, Cllr Devine

**15/14 Declarations of Interest:** A declaration of interest was made by Cllr Gimpel as member of the Village Hall Committee as grant to be discussed.

**16/14 Minutes:** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 08/01/2014 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**17/14 Crime Update:** Vernon Gook from Hampshire Police gave a summary of concerns in the area. The only incident reported in West Dean since the last meeting concerned youths in Hillside Close – investigation ongoing at this stage. In the wider Hampshire area there have been a number of residential burglaries at large properties, with suspects making off with jewellery and other small items. Also targeted have been vehicles left unattended in car parks while victims have gone walking (Mottisfont an example).

**18/14 West Dean Flooding:** In attendance was John Holland. John and Thelma Holland, were victims of the flooding on Christmas Eve and John Holland has agreed to be West Dean's Flood Warden. John and Thelma attended the drop in event at City Hall and reported to WDPC. Of note was that the Parish Councils are to be offered a bulk supply of sand and hessian sacks. A decision would need to be made by the PC as to where this could be stored if accepted. West Dean is now back on the flooding notification list. Details of grants for Wiltshire victims of flooding will be published by WCC in April 14.

Cllr Gimpel also gave updates on the flooding situation. It has been confirmed that the Clarendon Est. no longer has sluice gates and so the reason for the surge on Christmas Eve is unclear. Wiltshire County Council has offered a drainage engineer to attend West Dean and talk through the problems with a walk around the village. We will accept this offer and keep John Holland updated with information provided to WDPC.

It was noted by Cllr Garrett from West Tytherley that Hampshire CC are much better at providing sandbags, and it was also clear that WD and WT should dovetail their flooding plans. Anthony Mavrogordato from West Tytherley is working with HCC to solve the problems caused by the snagging of debris around the footbridge. It is not possible to have a new bridge altogether but a re-design of the footbridge looks more likely.

Of note for future maintenance: - The owner of red Lion House has given permission for the willow causing obstruction in the river to be taken down. This question of who would pay for this needs to be resolved. One quote of £450 has been received. Other minor obstructions will be cleared once the weather has improved; Cllr Hargrave is arranging this. A weed cut from the Environment Agency is no longer a possibility, but it has been noted that the Village Hall has a mulch mower; permission to use for the river banks will be requested.

Signed: J. Gimpel (Chairman)

Date:

**19/14 Finance:** a) Clerk gave schedule of expenses below

	<u>Cheque No</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Barry Kitcher for Fun Bus outing to Mayflower	487	£80.00
A Ellis Clerk Fee (extra payment for missed 5 week periods)	488	£239.12
P Hargrave for Over 60s money being held by WDPC	489	£100.00
J Gimpel for polythene used during flooding	490	£48.00
A Ellis clerk fee	491	£136.64
A Ellis clerk fee	492	£136.64
Added in meeting		
King George's Village Hall – grant by WDPC for new kitchen	494	£1500.00

See schedule of expenses for May 2014 for postdated cheque 493

Clerk has received Annual Return paperwork. Of note was fee to be incurred this year as large amount of money going through the books. As this was due to the new playground, Cllr Greene on behalf of the Playground Committee said that this £100 could be paid by them.

Cllr Gimpel handed over to Cllr Hargrave for discussion of grant for the village hall. The money given by the Southern Area Board was given on the understanding that the Parish Council would also give money for improvements. Cllr Hargrave proposed that £1500 be given. This was seconded by Cllr Greene and agreed by the other Cllrs.

**20/14 Transport, Roads and Footpaths:**

a). Parking at Dean Station: We are still waiting to hear from Cllr Devine concerning meeting request about the station car park. Cllr Gimpel and clerk to continue to chase this up. Cllr Devine currently away on holiday.

Footpaths

b) Footpath 8 – Cllr Gimpel has sent the owners of Dean House an email to ascertain their thoughts following Cllrs. Gimpel and Warry's meeting in the summer – they have raised the question about whether the other land-owning parties have been consulted. Cllrs Gimpel and Warry to respond to this and again consult with the other landowners.

c) It has been noted that there is a Parish Steward visit due in May. Cllr Warry to follow up with drainage maintenance concerns.

**21/14 Planning:** a) It was noted by Cllr Warry that there is a SINC located at the site of 'Timberleigh'. A map was viewed. It was agreed that although mention of this was made on the formal comments for the planning application, a letter drafted by the clerk should be sent to James East with a copy of the SINC map for his own information.

b) Woodside Farm – the planning application has now been refused. Permission for the onsite caravan expired in 2008 and WDPC understand that the TVBC enforcement officer is involved.

**22/14 Village Maintenance:** Village Spring Clean – a date was arranged for 17<sup>th</sup> May. Cllr Warry to enter the village into The Best Kept Village Competition. Cllr Hargrave to produce flyers. Clerk to look into the possibility of arranging for a waste lorry to attend on the Saturday morning to dispose of larger items.

**23/14 Southern Wiltshire Area Board:** Cllr Urquhart gave an update. Leading on from information received at the Area Board, Cllr Urquhart attended a workshop for "Healthwatch Wiltshire" – this has been set up to monitor and inspect health and social care. This is a national initiative, but as a volunteer group it is a present unclear how this will work. The idea is to flag up problems to the professional inspectorate.

Signed: J. Gimpel (Chairman)

Date:

Cllr Greene reported on a meeting she attended for the Joint Strategic Assessment in a “What Matters to You” meeting. This was a policy making meeting and Cllr Greene highlighted the importance of attending such meetings to get our voice heard.

**24/14 Dean Youth Cafe:** Cllr Greene updated on the position of the Youth Cafe and gave a written report to Cllrs. A grant of £3,590 has been received from the Southern Area Board in the start up of this venture but the major issue of where to hold the cafe is paramount. The Social Club in Hillside Close seems the most obvious choice but this has not been agreed. It was thought that the Village Hall would be a less viable and desirable option.

**25/14 – West Tytherley and Frenchmoor Parish Council:** There was a short discussion about the s106 money for West Dean – Cllr Greene is looking into the possibility of play equipment for Hillside Close and is in discussions with the MoD re finding a suitable site in the Hampshire part of the village.

**26/14 Village Website - WESTDEANVILLAGE.co.uk:** Volunteers for a Working Party were established. 5 people will now meet to progress ideas for the website contents and decide how the information will be updated.

**27/14 Emergency Plan:** Cllr Hargrave produced a first draft of the plan. It was agreed that more feedback from the PC was needed, but also that the further writing of ‘flood planning’ should wait until after the meeting with WCC. It was also recognised that further volunteers from WD would be needed to cover services that may be required during an emergency. This to be addressed with further requests, via the Spring Newsletter.

**28/14 Newsletter:** It was agreed that this needs to be completed and distributed by the end of April. The following articles to be written:

Youth Cafe and Playground updates – Cllr Green

Village Website – Cllr Urquhart

Spring Clean / Best Kept Village and Fun Bus – Cllr Warry

Fete and Hog Roast – Cllr Cordingley

Update on flooding and Emergency Plan – Cllr Hargrave

New Village Hall kitchen – Cllr Gimpel

**29/14 Correspondence:** a) Request of use for a small part of the village green for teas – in principle it was agreed that this would be a lovely idea although the clerk expressed concerns about whether or not this would be legal. Clerk to establish what the legal situation is.

b) Cllr Gimpel has again made contact with BT concerning up-to-date Broadband information. They have agreed to present some information at the Annual Parish Meeting. A date of 28<sup>th</sup> May was proposed for this meeting. An informal meeting at Cllr Gimpel’s house has been arranged for 7<sup>th</sup> April to discuss the presentation with the BT contact.

c) Details of a meeting for increasing the numbers of visitors to Borbach Chantry has been arranged. Cllr Warry and Cllr Greene are attending this. Clerk to RSVP.

d) Other promotional literature distributed for notice boards.

**30/14 Hog Roast:** A date of 19<sup>th</sup> July was suggested subject to Andy MacKenzie’s band being able to attend to provide entertainment.

**31/14 Date of Meetings:** The Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2014 and the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> May.

The meeting ended at 9.50 pm

Signed: J. Gimpel (Chairman)

Date:

Signed: J. Gimpel (Chairman)

Date: