

## VALE OF ALLEN PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES

of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, held by video conferencing means on Tuesday  
12 January 2021 at 7:30pm

#### **Present:**

Cllr J Campbell - Chairman

Cllr S Hanstead, Cllr S Tong, Cllr T Read, Cllr T Collie, Cllr Van Etten, Cllr K Mitchell, Cllr D Burford-May, Cllr C Bailey, Cllr D White.

I Hanstead, Parish Clerk and one member of the public.

#### **19.181 RECORDING, PHOTOGRAPHY, SOCIAL MEDIA**

No applications.

#### **19.182 APOLOGIES**

Received from Cllrs S Warnock, S Bushell.

#### **19.183 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

S Hanstead declared an interest in the Part 2 of the Agenda.

#### **19.184 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING**

There were no Requests for Dispensations to report.

#### **19.185 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No comments made.

#### **19.186 MINUTES**

Members approved the minutes of Tuesday 8 December 2020 Parish Council Meeting (pages 1421 – 1422).

#### **19.187 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a) Budget 2021/22 – following the committee meeting held on 8 December, the draft budget was placed on the council's website for public consultation. No comments had been received. Members unanimously approved the budget, and the Clerk was authorised to apply for the annual Precept to Dorset Council.
- b) Reconciliation – Members noted that the bank statement of 7 December reconciled with the cash book.
- c) Fingerposts – after some discussion, Members agreed:
- d) Data Protection Fee – Members noted that the annual subscription would be taken direct under a bank standing order on 20 January.

#### **19.188 HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY**

Members discussed the issue of the most appropriate timing to participate in a housing needs survey, which Dorset Council had offered and would analyse responses. There were two main considerations:

- a) The pandemic which meant that members were unable to chat to residents when delivering the questionnaire, nor could they hold any public meeting.

- b) The draft Dorset Council Local Plan – how would a housing needs survey feed into the Plan? Whilst it is recognised that some housing would be a useful bonus to the local area, especially low-cost modern rental homes, it may be inappropriate to undertake the survey before the Plan, potentially making villages a key development zone.

Members agreed that the draft Plan was expected in late January, and further discussion needed to be held on the council's response. In practical terms, it was unlikely that there would be a chance to undertake the survey before the summer. This matter would be considered regularly at future meetings.

#### **19.189 MATTERS OF INFORMATION**

- i) Cllr White requested another member of the committee takes over the lead in attending future DAPTC three monthly meetings.
- ii) Cllr Read advised that fibre broadband was being considered for Newtown/Witchampton Mill. At least 20 households were needed to generate the appropriate funding.
- iii) Cllr Read suggested that both the District Councillors ought to be included in future video conferencing committee meetings.

### **PART 2 CONFIDENTIAL**

#### **19.190 STAFFING ISSUE**

Members expressed thanks to the Parish Clerk in gaining the CiLCA Clerk's professional qualification which would be beneficial to the parish council in its activities. An amount of overtime was agreed to be paid.

**Meeting closed 8:34pm**

Signed *J Campbell*

Date 13 January 2021

Chairman