

# 1 – Minutes 2021

## SUTTON WALDRON VIRTUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 held via ZOOM

### MINUTES

**Present:** Chairman: David Smith  
Councillors: John Ellis, Sandy Millard, Iain McNeil & Claire Aartsen  
Clerk: Sam Smith  
Members of the public: Alan Masher, Rod Swift, Jane McNeil, Crystl Pearson

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

1. **Apologies for absence:** Dorset Councillor Jane Somper was unable to attend the meeting.
2. **Annual reports from various groups within the community:**
  - **PCC report:** Sandy Millard gave the following report – 2020/21 was a challenging year due to the Pandemic and the subsequent lockdown restrictions. The Church was closed for approx 8 months. Services were held when Covid restrictions allowed, with a congregation of approx 10/15 people. Currently there is no Church Warden, the position is shared across all members of the PCC. The Church has spent the Pandemic shopping for residents, delivering food parcels & checking on the welfare of the elderly. Cllr Millard issued a thank you to everyone who has stepped in to help. No fundraising has taken place over the past year. Hopefully, the Church will re-open daily after 21<sup>st</sup> June & normal services should resume, fingers crossed.
  - **WI report:** see attached by Sandra Jelbart.
  - **Village Hall report:** Jane McNeil gave the following report – No events have taken place inside the hall for over a year. The 1<sup>st</sup> event in 2021 will be on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May for 1 week. The annual plant sale will be outside the hall, plants for sale with an honesty box. On the 26<sup>th</sup> May a tea and cakes party will be held in the garden. The money raised will go to the Weldmar Hospice. On July 18<sup>th</sup>, a village BBQ will be held in conjunction with the Church. The money raised will go towards the village hall & Church.
  - **Friends of St Bartholomew's Society:** see attached by Martin Jelbart.
  - **Annual report Jane Somper:** see attached.

END

### AGM

1. **Election of Chairman:** All Councillors agreed with the proposal to re-elect Cllr David Smith as SWPC Chairman for another year.
2. **Election of Vice Chairman:** All Councillors agreed not to elect a Vice Chairman, it was felt that this role was unnecessary in a small PC.
3. **Appointment of Councillor responsibilities:** As a small PC it was agreed that all Cllrs will take responsibility for all PC roles.

END

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### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

1. **Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2021 were unanimously approved.
3. **Matters Arising from the previous meeting:**
  - **Napier's Way:** the drains currently seem to be working sufficiently.
  - **Potholes on Sutton Hill:** The various potholes have been filled but the surface seems to be deteriorating again already.
  - **Hedges and Verges:** The hedges through the village have generally been cut back however the verges are creeping out over the tarmac. Highways have confirmed that they can visit and scrape back the vegetation to widen the road. It was agreed that the Clerk would chase Highways for a date for this work to be done.
  - **Overgrown hedge:** this is an ongoing issue with a property in the village, the resident is aware of the problem & has spoken to the PC in the past, promising to trim back the hedge. As no action has been forthcoming, several Cllrs agreed to offer to trim the hedge on behalf of the resident. The PC agreed to contact the resident and offer our help. Cllr McNeil agreed to organise. It was agreed that the resident's permission to touch the hedge should be sought first.
  - **Community Speed Watch** – this will hopefully be up and running in the months ahead.
4. **Correspondence/Other Parish Matters:**

This meeting is the last official Zoom meeting for the PC. Hopefully for the next PC meeting in September we will be back in the Village Hall. A resident had reported an issue with a passing driver urinating in the bus shelter, it was agreed that erecting a sign might be a good idea. The resident who lives near to the bus stop has been tidying the area & planting. Cllrs noted how nice the area was looking.

**4.1 Report from Dorset Councillor:** a report had been received in advance via email.

**4.2 Inspection of The Spinney, Bus Shelter & Telephone Box:** in accordance with the Risk Management Policy the Chairman confirmed The Spinney, the Bus Shelter and the Telephone Box had been inspected.
5. **Planning Applications: P/HOU/2021/00645 The Old Rectory, DT11 8PF – erect single storey annex ancillary to main house** – the property owner attended the meeting. All Cllrs agreed that they had no objections to the application.
6. **Finance:**
  - 6.1 Bank & Cash Balance** – The reconciled bank and cash balance as of 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 was **£3,534.07**
  - 6.2 Cheques to be signed:** It was agreed that the following should be paid:  
S Smith – **£246.60** (April & May salary & expenses) DM Payroll Services **£95.00.**
  - 6.3 Annual Return for year-end April 2021:** The end of year accounts have been audited by Martin Jelbart and he has approved them for signing off. PC Cllrs thanked Martin and the Clerk for their timely preparation of the accounts.

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It was agreed by all Cllrs to approve the **Certificate of Exemption, Annual Governance Statement & the Accounting Statements for 2020/21.**

7. **AOB:** The issue of intrusive security lights in the village has been raised by a resident and was discussed amongst Cllrs. The lights shine into other properties at night and sometimes all night long. The matter at present seems in hand so it was agreed to monitor the issue for now.

8. **Reports:**

**8.1 Church:** see annual report.

**8.2 Village Hall:** see annual report.

**8.3 Footpaths:** Dick Hood stated that he had erected/replaced some footpath markers on the village paths. Everything seems to be drying up nicely. An unofficial footpath which runs from Fontmell Magna to Sutton Waldron was discussed. The path has been used for approx 100 years. Graham Stanley at Dorset Countryside has been contacted with a view of getting it logged as a historical right of way. Written evidence of its historical use will need to be produced. Cllr Millard and Jane McNeil agreed to investigate this matter further.

**Date of next meeting:** The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The aim will be to hold this meeting in the village hall.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm.

Signed by the Chairman .....Date.....