

## UPPER MARSHWOOD VALE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: John Vanderwolfe FILCM Chartered MCIPD

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### **Minutes of a Virtual Council Meeting held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020 commencing at 6pm**

**Present:** Cllrs M Bowditch (Chairman), A Cameron, J Sewell, A Edwards, J Gillingham, F Bailey, C Rabbetts and E Rowe

**In attendance:** The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe) and Cllr S Christopher (Dorset Council) and about six members of the public.

<b>156</b>	<b>Apologies</b>  Apologies were received from Cllr Wyatt (Family)
<b>157</b>	<b>Declarations of interest</b>  There were no Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct made at this stage of the meeting.
<b>158</b>	<b>Minutes</b>  The minutes of the meeting held on the 17 <sup>th</sup> September 2020 having been previously circulated, were agreed as a true record.
<b>159</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b>  There were no matters arising
<b>160</b>	<b>Democratic Period</b>  A parishioner spoke about a planning application that he was about to submit in respect of Lower Park Farm. The main property had been refurbished in 2009 and then let out, however he informed the meeting that he was going to make the farm his home from next year. The original application had been approved, however whilst the conversion work was being undertaken a substantial part of the building collapsed and a decision was taken to rebuild. This event was reported to Dorset Council, and resulted in a visit by the enforcement officer, who duly advised that a fresh planning application would need to be made. He made the point that

	<p>original materials from the old barn are being used for the new construction. The original south wall of the barn remains with the new construction. He stated that he felt that the planning authorities had been extremely helpful and had pointed him in the direction of the required policies within the local plan that would be required to obtain planning permission. The proposed building will have a slightly larger footprint than the original structure. He stated that the proposed new structure would compliment the farmhouse as far as materials are concerned. It was confirmed that the accommodation would be for holiday let. Cllr Sewell asked if sustainability would be included in the proposal as this was always something considered by planning. Cllr Rowe said that he thought that the application had already been approved, however he was informed that the approval had been for a barn conversion and not a new building. Cllr Gillingham asked for clarification as to the use of the proposed new development as she had thought it was for business and holiday use. It was confirmed that it was for holiday accommodation use only.</p> <p>A gentleman from Turner Associates spoke about the development of the Colmer site. This proposal had been mentioned in the Upper Marshwood Vale Neighbourhood Plan. He stated that the design would follow a similar one to the Old Chapel Yard site, which he had been involved with. He made the point that the developer was keen to involve the parish council, school, and the church in the design. There had already been discussions with Dorset Highways about this site. The site would also encompass a car parking area and a community shop. There was a need to ensure there was a safe crossing area for users of this facility. There would be several residential units within the site, and he confirmed that sustainability would be an important feature of the development of this proposed site. He made the point that more people are now working from home, and therefore not making as many car journeys. Cllr Sewell made the point that traffic calming and resurfacing had been agreed, and should have been put in place by now. A traffic survey had also recently been undertaken, which should provide useful data.</p>
161	<p><b>Accounts for Payment :</b> Accounts for payment had been circulated prior to the meeting, and were therefore noted for payment: RBL Poppy Appeal £25 and Websafe Solutions £184.98</p>
162	<p><b>Financial Update</b></p> <p>The financial update showing budget against actual spend and receipt was noted. The bank reconciliation of the 12<sup>th</sup> November stood at £18,771.16.</p>

<p><b>163</b></p>	<p><b>Dorset Council Report</b></p> <p>Cllr Christopher informed the meeting that he had met with some residents of Stoke Abbott prior to lockdown and visited and held discussions with Norway Lane residents to discuss the road closure and safety issues. I have invested a considerable amount of time in discussions and correspondence with officers and the portfolio holder for highways.</p> <p>He had stressed to Councillor Flower the importance of keeping services available to local residents, our transport network functioning and looking forward to the future where we can for example keep our local leisure centres open. Leisure centres are used often by the young, who have suffered so much by restrictions since March 2020 and by the young at heart and they contribute so much for physical and mental wellbeing. He had subsequently made all the other 81 Dorset Councillors aware of his views.</p> <p>Cllr Sewell was concerned about bus services and pointed out the issues with service X53 which had been retimed, and now missed the connection at Bridport. She also felt that buses used for schools that sit idle for much of the day could be better utilised. Cllr Christopher stated that this was an important point and that it was being investigated.</p>
<p><b>164</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Applications</b></p> <p><b>WD/D/20/002026 Deer Park Farm:</b> Conversion of existing storage area with residential accommodation into three self-contained homes. <b>The meeting decided to support this application as it felt it would be an improvement to the site.</b></p> <p><b>WD/D/20/002114 &amp; 5 Stoke Knapp Farm, Norway Lane, Stoke Abbott:</b> Convert existing outbuildings to holiday accommodation. <b>The meeting decided to support these applications as it felt it would be an improvement to the site.</b></p>
<p><b>165</b></p>	<p><b>Determinations</b></p> <p>It was noted that Dorset Council had approved the following applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilsdon Farm. Access Track</li> <li>• Marshwood Manor: Courtyard Buildings</li> </ul> <p>The following application had been refused</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bridge Farm convert milk parlour to dwelling: the principle reasons given by the planning officer were that the proposed design was of a poor standard and that the proposed development was too close</li> </ul>

	to the working farm.
<b>166</b>	<p><b>BAVLAP and DAPTC Reports</b></p> <p>A number of reports from DAPTC had been circulated to councillors since our last council meeting. The BAVLAP group were due to have an emergency meeting tomorrow to discuss funding in the next financial year</p>
<b>167</b>	<p><b>Highways</b></p> <p>Cllr Edwards informed the meeting that she had only received the report today regarding the recent highway traffic survey, and therefore had not had to opportunity yet to fully analyse the data, however, it was evident that there is a significant speeding problem through Marshwood. With that in mind it has been suggested that Marshwood purchases a Speed Indicator System (SID), the cost of which is estimated to be in the region of £3,500. Agreed that this item would be placed on the agenda of the next meeting, which would deal with financial matters.</p> <p>The parish lengthsman had cleared the War Memorial are prior to the Remembrance Day laying of the wreath ceremony and had been requested to clear gullies and drains in the area before the frosty weather hits us.</p>
<b>168</b>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>There had been some correspondence regarding flooding from fields onto the highway. Cllrs Edwards and Rabbetts had met with the landowner to discuss the problems. It was understood that there was a sewer pipe connected to the problem and that it was being investigated by the Environment Agency</p> <p>The clerk informed the meeting that he had attended a virtual meeting earlier that week with a Rachel Baker regarding the Gigabit Broadband Voucher scheme. They had identified an area on the borders of the Thorncombe parish (Chard Junction area) as having a poor reception area. They will be contacted properties in that area about the scheme. They had stated that the reception areas in the Upper Marshwood Vale area was, in the main, reasonably good, however they would be sending a copy of the correspondence sent to those people, which I will copy to you. Cllr Christopher added that if anyone had any questions or concerns about this project, they should pass them on to him in an email; and he will endeavour to deal with it.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about the ongoing problems in Norway Lane. Cllr Christopher stated that there was a great deal of expense involved and a</p>

	number of legal issues. Unfortunately, these sorts of things and the implications of health and safety requirements take time to sort out.
<b>169</b>	<b>Items of Urgency</b>  There were no items for this section
<b>170</b>	<b>Closing of Meeting</b>  The meeting closed at 7.10pm
<b>171</b>	<b>Next Meeting:</b> The next meeting will be on the 17 <sup>th</sup> December which will be the budget and precept setting meeting.

**Signature of Chairman** .....