

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF STOURPAINE HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MAY 2014 AT 7.00PM**

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr A Norman – Chairman, Councillors, D Williams, K Yarwood, S Atkinson, P Partridge, M Farwell and L Webb
-----------------	---

<b>In attendance:</b>	Cllr S Jespersen – NDDC, P Clark – Parish Clerk and 15 members of the public
-----------------------	--

<b>APM14/05/01</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>  Apologies were received from Councillor D Croney – NDDC/DCC
--------------------	---

<b>APM14/05/02</b>	<b>Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013</b>  These were agreed and signed by the Cllr Norman as Chair
--------------------	--

<b>APM14/05/03</b>	<b>Matter Arising</b>  None recorded
--------------------	--

<b>APM14/05/04</b>	<p><b>Update from Rolly Skeats – Dorset County Council Highways on the temporary closure of the C13</b></p> <p>Cllr Norman introduced Rolly Skeats -Technical Officer, Dorset Highways Routine Maintenance, Dorset County Council who proceeded to give an update to the meeting on the recent temporary closure of the C13 at Melbury Abbas and the likely impact on the A350.</p> <p>Mr Skeats outlined the rationale for the closure of the C13 at Melbury Abbas for reasons of health and safety. There were concerns that due to the presence of steep banks at Dinah’s Hollow and soil erosion there was a fear the any landslides could be dangerous to passing traffic especially small cars.</p> <p>An initial survey had been carried out by consultants on behalf of Dorset County Council had tested the soils and rocks present on the banks and had produced a report that detailed a risk of land slippage worse than anticipated that had resulted in a decision to close the road.</p> <p>Tenders were being sought for the remedial works and a Tree Survey would be completed over the next few days.</p> <p>Mr Skeats acknowledged that the closure of the C13 was likely to have an adverse effect on the A350 with an increase in the volume of traffic albeit on a temporary basis. There was already evidence of traffic using rural back lanes to travel to and from Shaftesbury.</p> <p>A dedicated two man team would be operating along the A350 to deal with highways issues such as pot holes, hedgerows and signage in an effort to alleviate issues.</p>
--------------------	--

	<p>A survey of traffic volumes and speed would be carried out in some villages along the A350, the Police would be carrying out increased patrols and speed checks in the area.</p> <p>An opportunity was then given for questions from members of the public present –</p> <p>Q. Clarification was requested on the likely timescales for the proposed works and the reopening of the C13?</p> <p>A. Mr Skeats responded saying that it was unclear at this stage, it was likely to take 4 months for all the surveys required to be completed. Cllr Norman stated that it was unlikely at this stage that Dorset County Council would want to commit to a timescale, but it had been rumoured that the C13 might not reopen for another twelve months.</p> <p>Q. What has happened to the long discussed proposal for a north/south bypass to take traffic away from rural villages?</p> <p>A. Cllr Norman stated that this proposal had been taken out of the 20 year business plan for Dorset County Council as there would appear to be no funding available. Lobbying central government was thought to be one way of the issue being seen as a priority.</p> <p>Q. Concern was expressed at the likely increase in traffic volume and speed along the A350 and any potential for an increase in accidents</p> <p>A. Mr Skeats restated that the Police had undertaken to increase patrols and speed checks in the area.</p> <p>Q. The condition of the road surface on the A350 was raised and that current speed controls were inadequate and eroded verges would be a hazard to road users</p> <p>A. Mr Skeats repeated the above and added that if specific issues were identified then they should be raised with Dorset County Council and the Police. The two man team appointed to maintain the C13/A350 for the duration of the temporary closure would monitor road surfaces and report back. Although some road surfaces along the A350 did not look “pretty” they were not necessarily unsafe.</p> <p>Cllr Norman thanked Mr Skeats for his time and reminded the members of the public present that there is an opportunity to join the Community Speed Watch Team in the village to help manage the speed of traffic in the village.</p> <p>It was highlighted that this issue would be a key priority for the Parish Council during 2014/15.</p>
<p><b>APM14/05/05</b></p>	<p><b>Presentation by Guy Parker of the Environment Agency on the issues of flooding in Stourpaine</b></p> <p>Cllr Norman welcomed Guy Parker from the Environment Agency.</p> <p>Mr Parker gave a presentation on the likely causes of the flooding in Stourpaine in December 2013/January 2014 along with some of the measures that could be taken to mitigate the risk of flooding in the future.</p> <p>A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes</p> <p>Cllr Norman thanked Mr Parker for his presentation.</p> <p>It was discussed that at present there was an issue in that statutory agencies had not co-ordinated their approach to the issues and that communication was poor.</p>

<b>APM14/05/06</b>	<b>Report on the past year by Scott Norman – Chair of Stourpaine Parish Council</b>  Cllr Norman gave his report on the past year – a transcript of which is attached to the minutes.
<b>APM14/05/07</b>	<b>Report from Councillor Sherry Jespersen – North Dorset District Council</b>  Cllr Jespersen gave a verbal update on the activities of the District Councillors for Hill Forts Ward. A copy is attached to the minutes.
<b>APM14/05/08</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>  None

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8:45pm

Signed:

Councillor A Norman – Chairman Stourpaine Parish Council

Date: