

BROADMAYNE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2018

1. Welcome

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Steve Diamond, opened the Annual Parish Meeting held in Broadmayne Village Hall on Monday 21 May 2018, by welcoming local residents, members of the Parish Council, District Councillors Nigel Bundy and Alan Thacker, County Councillor Nick Ireland, Mrs Melanie Austin, head teacher of Broadmayne First School, and Darren Orchard from the Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP). The Parish Council Clerk was in attendance. Approximately 38 people were present.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from the Police Community Support Officer, Sarah Hart.

3. Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Monday 15 May 2017

The minutes of the last meeting had been made available, and were signed as a correct record.

4. Presentation by Mr Darren Orchard, Recycling Officer, Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP)

Mr Orchard introduced himself by explaining that an important part of his job was engaging with communities across Dorset, not only parish councils but also schools, where the response from primary school children was particularly good. He went on to explain that DWP is funded by council tax, has a £33.1m budget and collects waste from over 200,000 households once a week. This is a major task but DWP is ranked as the best collection and disposal authority in the UK. It has other income e.g. from taking garden waste for which there is a charge, and from trade waste charges. These bring another £1m into the system.

“Recycle for Dorset” began in 2012 and there is a 59.4% recycling rate in Dorset (compared to the all England figure of 44.9%), and they are working hard to retain that high level. Whilst decreasing amounts of rubbish are going to landfill (i.e. the contents of the ‘ordinary’ (black) bins), it remains the case that 35% of that material could be recycled. 54% of the material put into the landfill bin is food waste. This has led to development of the “Right Stuff, Right Bin” campaign. If everyone was sorting their waste correctly then in the region of £1m could be saved.

The mixed waste from the green-lid bins is sorted at a materials recycling facility at Shotton. This is largely an automatic process, using near-infrared optical sorting equipment. There were many questions about what could be recycled which Darren was able to explain. The paper and cardboard can be recycled into new paper and cardboard; cans can be melted down and re-processed into more cans or aluminium ingots. Single-use cups (from coffee shops) cannot be recycled so it’s best to avoid them by taking your own cup. Tetra-packs and aluminium foil can only presently be recycled by deposit in special bins e.g. at the Market Car Park in Dorchester. Low energy light bulbs have an electrical component and so should be taken to household recycling points. Envelopes with ‘plastic’ windows can be recycled with the rest of the paper waste.

Food waste is the biggest win in recycling terms. This waste is sent for anaerobic digestion which generates electricity which goes straight into the national grid. The digestate can be applied to the land as fertilizer.

Darren finished by saying the DWP tried to make recycling as simple as possible. Although there were complications at present, product design would eventually solve most of these.

Darren was thanked for his interesting and helpful presentation.

5. Parish Council Chairman’s introduction to the Annual Report

The Chairman introduced the Annual Report which was a summary of the Parish Council’s activity over the past year. He thanked the delivery team for once again making sure that every household

received a copy. He also thanked the Clerk and the District and County Councillors for their support throughout the year, and his fellow Parish Councillors for their hard work. He was particularly pleased to be able to report that the two vacant seats on the Parish Council had been filled by the co-optation of Cllr Richard Macer-Wright and Cllr Phil Marriott. He introduced all of the Councillors to the meeting.

Highlights of the year included the completion of the village hall extension, with the new toilets and kitchen, and the re-launch of the website.

Finally, he reminded all parishioners to contact parish councillors with any concerns about village matters, or to come along to Parish Council meetings at which there was always a public participation session.

6. **Reports**

(a) **Broadmayne First School: Mrs Melanie Austin, Head Teacher**

Mrs Austin began her report by saying that after 10 years as head teacher she would be leaving in July. However she would be remaining in contact with the school in a part-time advisory capacity. The new head teacher has already been appointed: Helen Collings who was presently the deputy-head teacher.

Broadmayne First School was in a good place, with a strong staff base and widespread skill-set. The staff were engaged in a life-long learning with training in specialist areas such as dealing with dyslexia and autism.

Children at the school were making good progress in the face of rising age-related expectations but the main challenge was funding. The idea of joining an academy trust was not being actively pursued for the time-being but in the future it was possible that the school would join the Thomas Hardy Academy Trust. In the mean time, they continued to work with other schools in the Dorchester area.

Since children were reading less at home, the school remained keen to recruit volunteers who could listen to children reading. There was clear evidence that children who read voluntarily outside school do better academically at all levels so efforts were needed to encourage reading.

Children from the school now move on to three different middle schools, and preparing for that transition added to the workload.

A number of new initiatives were in-hand. These included teaching "Singapore Maths", an effective method of teaching that subject; "Learn alongside your child", where parents and carers come to classes so that they are able to give more support at home; and "Outdoor Learning" with Broadmayne First School having grounds which enable children to get outdoors as much as possible. The school's "green flag" eco-status had been renewed. The school was also introducing the "Daily Mile", because of the evidence of the benefits of exercise on health and attitudes to learning. The school's singing club had been on BBC Radio Solent, singing about the royal wedding, and the entire school had been to see Dippy the dinosaur at the Dorchester County museum. Finally, Mrs Austin reported that the recent circus visit to the school had been a highly successful event, raising more than £3,000 for school funds.

At the end of Mrs Austin's presentation, the chairman presented her with a bouquet of flowers to thank her for her years of service to the school and the village.

(b) **West Dorset District Council (WDDC): Cllr Alan Thacker**

Cllr Thacker began his presentation by saying that the village was very lucky to have such an excellent school.

He said that local government re-organisation was exercising all of the councils across the county but that there was still a great deal to be done. It was an uncertain period for the staff, and it would

be difficult for them to deal with both the reorganisation and the need to deliver normal services to residents. West Dorset District Council was continuing to deliver more discretionary services than other councils, and it was trying to work with town councils in particular to hand-over some such as tourist information centres and public toilets. It was also trying to promote house building and was aware that some developers were “sitting” on land which could be used for housing. To this end it had established an “arm’s length” company, owned by the council which it was hoped would ensure that more housing was built.

Cllr Thacker finished by saying that in terms of public safety and crime this was a very safe area, but he urged everyone to keep their eyes and ears open and to report matters of concern, in particular poaching, to the police using the 101 number (or 999 if a crime was being committed at that time).

(c) West Dorset District Council (WDDC): Cllr Nigel Bundy

Cllr Bundy agreed that housing remained a big issue for the district council. The Local Plan was subject to review in respect of land allocated for housing, and there would be a consultation on that later in the summer. At moment, the land under discussion included that around Cokers Farm (north of Dorchester), land at Sherborne and land at Crossways where it was possible that 1800 new homes would be built over a 20-year period. These would necessitate new schools, roads, medical facilities, and shops. All of this meant that some difficult planning decisions would have to be made.

He added that WDDC had succeeded in making a significant improvement in the time taken for land searches. This had been taking 90 days but this had been reduced to six days.

(d) Dorset County Council: Councillor Nick Ireland

Cllr Ireland reported that DCC had planned to re-surface the A352 between the western edge of Broadmayne and the Warmwell roundabout. In the event, between the eastern end of the village and the roundabout there was only partial re-surfacing because of the need to reduce costs. He understood however that a premium surface dressing on that length of road would be undertaken later in the year. The road re-surfacing had allowed for the introduction of some new road safety measures: the removal of the centre white lines on the road within the 30 mph limit, and the painting of a ‘virtual’ footway alongside the Black Dog.

It had appeared that the No.5 bus service would be lost, but Damory had agreed to run a two-hourly service, at least until September 2018. He feared that if Damory decided to drop the service then it would be lost completely.

He further reported that DCC was looking to save a further £18m from its budget in the current financial year, noting that 50% of the £278m budget was spent on adult and child social care.

On the matter of Local Government Reorganisation, he said that once the Structural Change Order had been signed by the Minister (which required parliamentary approval), the new Dorset Council shadow authority would come into existence. All existing councillors (from both the county and district councils) would be members of that shadow authority, and there would be a 20 person shadow executive comprising ten county councillors and two councillors from each of the other councils. They would appoint a Chief Executive, a Chief Finance Officer and a Monitoring Officer. In the mean time, Christchurch Borough Council was continuing to seek Judicial Review of the Minister’s decision to proceed with re-organisation.

The new Dorset Council would comprise 82 councillors; there would be approximately 3,700 residents per ward and most of the wards would be represented by a single councillor. This would necessitate the re-organisation of wards and the Local Government Boundary Commission was recommending that Broadmayne be part of a ward to be named Winterborne and Broadmayne which would encompass all of the Winterborne parishes plus West Knighton, West Stafford and Woodsford. The other key matter to note was that the reorganisation would necessitate council tax harmonisation; there would be a 2.99% increase in council tax for residents of West Dorset.

The Chairman thanked the councillors for their regular attendance at Parish Council meetings, and for the assistance and help which they were able to provide. He wondered if the new Councillor for the enlarged ward would be able to attend so regularly.

7. **Other parish matters**

(i) Cllr Lamb reported that he was leading on the revision of the emergency plan for the parish. Mrs Alison Carroll had agreed to be the new emergency co-ordinator. He asked anyone who felt able to help with the plan or to be an emergency volunteer to contact him.

(ii) Cllr Marriott reported that Ms Kirsty Lardner was steering the village defibrillator project, and that she was able to provide training on its use for anyone interested. Cllr Marriott was the parish council contact on the group seeking long-term funding for the provision of the defibrillator. The group needed to raise £1,800 by 2020. £400 had already been donated by the Broadmayne Players and a further £250 by JDP Pipes.

(iii) Mr Stan Harland reported that the Patient Support Group was still running; much of its work now involved delivering prescriptions. The number of clients had decreased but there were still plenty of volunteers to do the work.

8. **Open Forum**

A number of questions and issues were raised by residents during the open forum session:

(i) Who will pay for the clean-up (removal of petrol tanks, etc.) at the garage site?

The Chairman said that this would be for the developer to deal with and pay for.

(ii) Would the 'slow' signs at Littlemayne be replaced?

Cllr Ireland said that he thought that the signage work had yet to be completed.

(iii) Could anything be done about the vehicles being parked on the footway beside the Olds garage site?

The Chairman said that this had been reported to the PCSO who had replied that outside of London it was not an offence to park on the footway. It was pointed out from the floor that whilst it might not be an offence to park on the footway, it was an offence to drive there. It was also an obstruction for pedestrians and it was understood that someone, forced on to the road to pass a parked vehicle, had fallen over.

(iv) The Speed Indicator Device (SID) on the A352 appeared to be working well. Could something similar be provided on Knighton Lane?

Cllr Eaglestone said that he understood from DCC officers that there were no sites on either Knighton Lane or Chalky Road which met the criteria for the installation of a SID.

(v) The Chairman reminded the meeting that a new on-line service, 'Ask NED', had been established by the police to try and ease the number of calls to the 101 number as many of the matters raised were not police matters. This Non-Emergency Directory explained to whom matters such as dog fouling, and abandoned vehicles should be reported. It was also possible to anyone to sign-up for neighbourhood alerts on local crimes and scams by registering via the Dorset Alert website.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting which closed at approximately 9.30 pm.