

DAPTC Eastern Area committee meeting held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2019 in the Pavilion at West Moors starting at 7.30pm

Reports were received from the Chief Executive, Dorset County Councillor Steve Butler, EDD Councillor Andy Skeats and Christchurch and East Dorset Community Liaison Officer Judith Plumley.

The DAPTC Chief Executive reported that Cllr Alan Thacker is the new Chairman of the Association, Cllr Hadyn White is Vice Chairman. Cllr John Parker, retiring Chairman is the new President and retiring President David Jenkins has been appointed Vice President. Subscriptions for 2019/20 will increase by 3.3% , current RPI inflation figure.

Three new local Councils will be created in 1<sup>st</sup> April – Christchurch Town Council, Weymouth Town Council and Highcliffe and Walkford Community Council. DAPTC will be assisting and supporting all three Councils during their establishment.

New appointments have now been made to the Management Teams of both new Unitaries.

Training events are being planned, particularly training for new Councillors after early May elections. The annual conference will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> March at Kingston Mauward.

Lisa Cooper, Training Co-ordinator/PA to the Chief Executive, who has been absent on long term sick leave has now returned to work in the DAPTC office

Cllr Butler reported that the council tax will be uniform across Dorset from 1<sup>st</sup> April, the Band D figure has been agreed by the shadow finance committee and will be considered and settled by the Shadow authority on 20<sup>th</sup> February. There will not be a negative Rate Support Grant settlement as previously feared. The Shadow Authority is confident that a balance budget can be achieved without service cuts and expects a net reduction of 120 posts across Dorset. Consultation on a new Council structure will start on 21<sup>st</sup> January. The Planning function will be divided into 3 areas – East Dorset and Purbeck, North Dorset and Dorchester, Weymouth and Bridport, the boundaries being determined by the new wards. Governance arrangements will be reviewed after one year.

Cllr Skeats advised that he will not be standing for the new Authority and reported that the Centre (formerly the Heatherlands Centre) has partially reopened and will be officially opened at the end of January. It is operated by a Community Interest (not for profit) company and it is hoped to be self funding in future. Moors Valley Golf course is being run in house and a range of activities, not all golf related, is planned. There has been a rise in membership numbers and pay as you play.

Land for 4 new SANGS totalling 25 hectares of land will be provided as part of new developments. Verge cutting has been completed and teams are now working on the winter schedule of maintenance including shrub and hedge cutting, wildflower planting and hard edge maintenance of pavements and car parks.

Councillor Skeats and Ms Judith Plumley were thanked for all their help and information.

Members Councils reported items of interest as follows:

**Pamphill and Shapwick:** speed watch now has 10 volunteers and is beginning to have an effect. The Council is considering applying for a speed reduction.

**Verwood:** The Assistant to the Town Clerk is retiring in June and the recruitment process for her replacement has started as it is hoped to have a hand over period including the election period. The Council will have a recruitment event for potential Councillors in Morrison on 8<sup>th</sup> March possibly all day and early evening. The Town Clerk will enquire if local Parish Councils may also take part. Any local Parish Council interested in taking part should contact the Town Clerk.

**Cranborne and Edmondsham:** Interviews will be held for a new Clerk week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> January. There is great concern about the potential increase in traffic through the villages if the houses proposed are built in Alderholt. The Council is hoping to install a SID.

**Holt:** There is interest in the Council among some younger residents. The Council is in dispute with Dorset CC over its SID positioning. There is great concern about the increase in traffic through Broomhill due to the large number of houses being constructed in Wimborne.

**Wimborne Minster:** The Council considered a 25% increase in its budget but has decided to increase the precept by 3.22%. There is great pressure on the budget due to the provision of facilities for tourists who are important to the Town's economy. A piece of land thought to be common land has been re-designated as Highway land.

**Corfe Mullen:** The precept will be increased by 1% following a large increase two years ago to save the Youth Club.

**West Moors:** There is great concern about the possibility of 50-80 lorry movements per day on the B3072 through the village if the site proposed for mineral extraction in Horton is included in the Waste and Minerals plan. There was considerable discussion about this proposal and concerns about a large increase in heavy traffic in the area, particularly on the C road which goes through Horton, Three Legged Cross and St Leonards and St Ives. The C road is already carrying traffic for which it is not suitable and a large increase in heavy goods vehicles would be very dangerous. Everyone present who lives in affected parish was urged to send an objection on a personal basis as well as ensuring that their Parish/Town Council objects. The West Moors Skate park will be updated and consultation will be carried out prior to the updated design being finalised. The BMX track is being refurbished by a group of volunteers at no cost to the Parish Council

**Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge:** The Council is working to provide some affordable housing and it is expected that a planning application will be submitted shortly. There is a campaign to save "the Roebuck"

**Colehill:** The new map has been installed opposite the Co-op. The Clerk has resigned and a replacement will be sought. There are problems regarding the SID and there seems to have been some changes to the rules of use. There is concern both in Colehill and Holt about DCC actions over Parish owned SIDS.

**Sturminster Marshall:** A Neighbourhood Plan is to be prepared.

**Alderholt:** The 97 bus service will continue during 2019. This is jointly funded jointly with Cranborne and Edmondsham and Knowlton parish councils. Funding for continuation in 2020 will be considered. The Neighbourhood Plan is still in progress.

**Knowlton:** As previously discussed, the main concern is the proposal to include a minerals extraction site in Horton in the Waste and Minerals Plan. The main concern is traffic movements but the site would also impact on bridle paths and other activities in the area and will be vigorously opposed by the Council.

**Ferndown:** The precept increase is likely to be 8% which is under £10 pa. The official opening of the Centre, previously known as the Heatherlands Centre will take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> January. The first phase of the KGV project, including the refurbishing of the changing rooms is slightly behind but should be finished by the end of March. The next phase includes work on the play area and MUGA. The skate park will be refurbished.

Land has been allocated at Stapehill Abbey for allotments . There will be a fete on 22<sup>nd</sup> June . The Barrington is to be improved but as yet no planning application has been submitted.

**St Leonards + St Ives:** It is unlikely that the woodland burial site project will proceed although some work towards it is still being carried out. There will be a meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January to discuss the proposed minerals extraction site in Horton and the effect of proposed heavy goods vehicles on the C2 road.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April in West Parley, the exact location to be advised.