

DAPTC Eastern Area committee meeting held on Wednesday 9th July 2019 at Pamphill
Village Hall starting at 7.30pm

The previous meeting should have been held in April but this was cancelled due to the proximity of elections and the formation of the new Unitaries from 1st April.

No minutes had been circulated following the January (last) meeting.

The Chief Executive's report covered continuing discussions with the new Unitary Authorities, new member Councils (Weymouth Town Council, Highcliffe and Walkford Parish Council and Christchurch Town Council), training and progress on AGM motions. There was discussion about future training courses and each area has been asked to identify potential trainers.

There was no report from Dorset Council. It was stated that DAPTC is not on the Dorset Council's "Outside Bodies" list and so no Councillor has been appointed to attend DAPTC meetings. After further discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Johnson and Cllr Cathy Lugg (who is also a Dorset Councillor) would formulate a question to the Dorset Council to highlight the issue and try to obtain permanent representation at DAPTC meetings.

The AGM to be held in November was discussed briefly. It was agreed that one possible motion which might be submitted is asking DAPTC/NALC campaign for the operation of Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) be controlled by the Police instead of Highway Authorities as at present, apart from the siting of devices.

Feedback from the Executive Committee included information about three presentations which had been made. These were about the CCG consultation about Dementia services, by Cllr Anthony Alford, Cabinet Member for Customer, Community and Regulatory Services on Dorset Council and about the proposal for a new National Park in the area covered by the Dorset AONB plus an additional area. During the presentation about the proposed National Park, DAPTC was asked to support the proposal. It was explained that the Association is unable to take any position on the proposal as some Association members support the proposal and some oppose it. The majority of those present at the Eastern area meeting were against the proposal and there was considerable discussion about the proposal and expressing this opposition.

Member Councils reported issues as follows:-

Holt Parish Council: Some of the Council's meetings have been recorded and the recordings submitted to youtube. The Council was unable to object or take action but as a result now has a policy about recording of meetings. This policy has now been circulated to all Eastern area committee members for information.

Alderholt Parish Council: The main issue is the proposal to build approximately 1000 houses in the parish and the Local Plan.

Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge Parish Council: The Council has adopted a policy concerning the recording of meetings.

Ferndown Town Council: The Council is considering taking over the running of the Barrington Centre. It was being considered confidentially but this was made public by a Councillor. There is concern that it would involve a large rise in the Council's precept.

Vale of Allen Parish Council: The Council now includes Gussage Allt Saints. There is a full complement of Councillors and a new and competent clerk.

Colehill Parish Council: The Council has a new clerk. Following the elections, there were three new Councillors but one resigned shortly after the election and there is now one vacancy. The Village Hall has no Wifi but the Council wishes to install this to enable the using a computer, projector and screen for Plans. The Council is still awaiting transfer of Oliver's Park. The Council is considering installing outdoor adult fitness equipment near the children's play area. There was dismay when it was discovered that weedkiller containing glyphosphate had been used and in the parish by Dorset Council and it has been asked not to repeat this. The roads on the new Leigh Road estate will be named for local casualties of WW1. Special permission has been obtained for this as normally roads are not named after people.

Cranborne and Edmonsham Parish Council: The Council has a new clerk and has held its first parish meeting. Having been advised that no members of the public were likely to attend, the Council was pleased with an attendance of approximately 40 people.

Knowlton Parish Council: The Council feels that the 2014 Core Strategy which covers the parish did not serve the rural areas well and should have been reviewed. The new Unitary Council has however stopped reviews in order to concentrate on a new Plan. This means that policies from 2002 are still in place. There is great concern about this in the light of a recent planning application which will be considered in line with out of date policies.

Verwood Town Council: Aldi has held a consultation concerning a proposal to build a supermarket on the site used for caravan storage in Ringwood Road. No planning application has been submitted to date. There is new Assistant Town Clerk, as the long serving Assistant to the Town Clerk, who will be greatly missed, has retired. There was a hand over period which included the elections and was very beneficial.

West Moors Parish Council: "Westival" will be held on 13th July. This will include 40 stalls and entertainment throughout the day.

Cllr Penny Yeo (West Moors Parish Council) was elected Chairman and Cllr Terry Corderey (Ferndown Town Council) was elected Vice Chairman. The Chairman and Vice Chairman attend the Executive Committee meetings to represent the area. Cllr Susan Cowsill was elected to substitute at the Executive Committee as needed.

Concern was expressed that the 21 day period allowed for comments on planning applications by Town and Parish Councils causes a problem for smaller Parish Councils which do not meet frequently. This is a new rule by Dorset Council. DAPTC has been requested to raise this with Dorset Council.

Tony Gibb has resigned as Area Secretary and all those present were urged to help find a replacement. The Chairman thanked Tony for all that he has done for the Area and DAPTC for very many years.

The next meeting will be held on 3rd October in West Parley (date subject to confirmation)

