

Dorchester Area Community Area Land Trust

Minutes of the Board meeting held via Zoom Call on Wednesday 18th November 2020 at 5.30pm

Present: Alistair Chisholm (AC), John Christmas (JC), Ian Gosling (IG), Theo Hawkins (TH), Lynda Kiss (LK), Felicity McLaren (FM), Tricia Mitchell (Chair) (TM), Emma Scott (ES) and Barry Thompson (BT)

Administration: Paula Harding – Minute Clerk

For Action

1) Apologies

Apologies were received from Paul Derrien (PD)

2) Declarations of Interest

JC declared that he is on the board of the Dorchester Municipal Charities which includes the Whetstones Alms house nearest to the proposed development site at the Old Tennis Courts.

3) Minutes of the meetings held on 21st October 2020

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st October 2020 were agreed with no amendments.

4) Matters Arising from the last meeting.

a) Dorset Council housing waiting list figures

BT had managed to get the Dorset Echo to publish the latest housing list figures from the Dorset Council Housing Needs team. These figures showed that there were 699 households in the Dorchester Town area on the waiting list, with 388 of these requiring one and two bedroom properties.

b) Archaeological Excavation interpretation boards

AC has not yet approached the Dorchester Town Council Heritage team regarding the archaeological excavation interpretation, as he needed to know more about what was required and the costs before requesting assistance with funding.

c) Land on Ackerman Road

AC has spoken to the land owner. The owner is currently in a legal dispute regarding the site and so nothing can be done at present.

5) Proposed development at the Old Tennis Court site.

TM has chased Peter Bellamy (PB) for his revised archaeological proposals. PB is understood to be liaising with James Weir (Dorset Council) and the developer Places for People (PfP) about how whether these new proposals are acceptable and how they will be funded. The original investigation work showed that some of the proposed site is 'contaminated land' and this will require specialist removal which will add to the cost.

JC asked whether the depths of the digs had been confirmed yet? TM said that no further details had been given. AC asked for clarification about the extent of the excavation required for the archaeology as several different options had been discussed over the last year. TM stated that she would try to get answers to these questions from PB before the next meeting.

Tricia Mitchell

6) Potential Development sites

No new sites had been identified.

a) Great Western Cross

TM has written to the owners of the land previously occupied by Jewsons/Gibbs and Dandy but has received no reply. ES stated that she believes the site has already been sold, but has not been able to establish the new owners yet.

b) Dorchester Mapping Exercise

TH, TM and IG had gone through the Dorchester mapping system with SW and identified two possible new sites to investigate. The first is near the A35 overpass, the second is along Middle Farm Way near the Red Cross building.

TM to write to the Duchy of Cornwall to see if these sites are available.

c) North Square

Dorchester Town Council is considering moving its offices to the Corn Exchange and there is a possibility that their current property in North Square could be offered as a conversion for affordable housing. AC to continue to follow up with the Town Clerk on this suggestion.

d) Came View Road/A352

TM has written to the Highways Agency assets departments about this parcel of land but there is no reply as yet.

7) Website

The draft website had been circulated to all and suggestions implemented. All missing minutes had been forwarded by the minute clerk and should be added soon.

It was agreed that past agendas would not be put onto the website as these were superseded by the minutes which were already published. Only the agenda for the upcoming meetings would be visible.

Details of upcoming events and board meetings would be put under the news section.

TM is to ask Alacrify to make the website live and let her have the log in details so the web pages can be managed by the CLT directly in the future.

8) Treasurers report

FM reported that there had been little change since the last meeting with just the website and admin costs going out.

There was a query with regard to the fees paid for web hosting and JC is going to try and find the original domain name agreement to check the fees.

The current bank balance is just over £21,000.

Debit cards have been received for Andy Stillman, TM and JC. It was agreed that these were not required, as a single person was not permitted to make transactions on the account, and should be destroyed.

**Tricia
Mitchell**

<p>It was agreed by all that the bank should be notified to remove Andy Stillman from the account as he was no longer a director. FM is to action this.</p>	<p>Felicity McLaren</p>
<p><u>9) New Members</u> No new membership requests had been received.</p>	
<p><u>10) Date of AGM and next meetings</u> IG reported that the Charity Commission had given an extension to the 31st December 2020 for Charitable trusts to hold their AGM's. He has e-mailed Alison Ward to ask for the current advice with regard to deadlines for CLT AGM's.</p>	<p>Ian Gosling</p>
<p>The proposed meeting dates for 2021 are to be sent out by the minute clerk for approval or amendment at the December meeting</p>	<p>Minute Clerk</p>
<p><u>11) Any other business</u> AC is concerned that the CLT has not communicated with its members for a while. AC and BT are to draft a press release / member communication explaining why there has been a delay on the tennis court site and what the DACLT is doing to try and identify potential new sites.</p>	<p>Alistair Chisholm and Barry Thomas</p>
<p>There being no other business the meeting closed at 6.35pm with notice that the next meeting would be held by Zoom call on Wednesday 16th December 2020 at 5.30pm</p>	