

## PARRETT AND AXE PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7.30pm at South Perrott Village Hall.**

Present: Cllrs Kate Organ (Chairman), Chris Birtwhistle, Jane Cooper, Sue Coutanche, Anthony de la Poer. Also in attendance: District Cllrs Tony Alford and Peter Barrowcliff, Clerk Angela Gillingham and 5 residents.

#### **1431. PUBLIC SESSION**

Peter Coles commented on the number of automated nuisance telephone calls he regularly receives. Chris Kennet suggested setting up a Community Fund with contributions from residents to cover any emergency work needed in the parish. She also reported on an oil theft from a property in Pipplepen Lane.

#### **1432. APOLOGIES / DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST / GRANT OF DISPENSATIONS**

Apologies were received from Cllr Liz Fray, County Cllr Rebecca Knox and Dominie de la Poer.

#### **1433. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were approved, with one amendment, and signed as a correct record. (Proposed by Cllr de la Poer, seconded by Cllr Birtwhistle)

#### **1434. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND POLICE OFFICERS**

District Cllr Tony Alford reported on the following issues –

- Local Government re-organisation – the reports and recommendations are currently being considered. The District Council's preferred option is for a Medium Rural and Medium Conurbation, but that option may not be supported by all Councils. By the end of January all Councils will have voted on their preferred option. If all nine Councils support the same option then Parliamentary orders will be laid in Parliament and an interim executive will be set up tasked with implementing the change.
- Planning Policy - Local Plan – a consultation document is to be circulated dealing with land allocation for housing, looking at possible sites around towns, in order to address the perceived shortage of land for housing identified by the inspector. Following feedback on the consultation, the council will work up proposals for a further consultation later in the year.

There were no further reports.

The Chairman thanked the above representative for his report.

#### **1435. MATTERS ARISING**

##### **a) Matters arising from minutes**

The Chairman and Clerk reported on the following matters –

##### Highway issues

The Chairman reported on the progress of a number of Highways issues, logged with the Highways Dept, as follows:

1067451 – Pretty Box Lane – the drains and gullies have now been cleared.

1067985 – Winyards Gap Inn – the drains and gullies have now been cleared.

Coach & Horses Inn – following a complaint of a noise nuisance caused by heavy vehicles travelling over the edge of the raised kerb, Blair Turner of Highways has responded saying that he is not able to do anything because there is no defect in the kerb.

#### Planter in The Pound

Following criticism that the planter is very untidy, the Flower Show Committee has confirmed that it will take over responsibility for stocking and maintaining the planter. Members asked for the Committee to be thanked.

*Action: Cllr de la Poer*

#### Picket Lane Railings

The Chairman reported that the first section of the railings had been repaired and recorded thanks to Highways and to the residents who had contributed to the cost.

The Chairman advised that one quotation had been received with approximate costs for further repairs to some more of the railings, and we are waiting for two further quotations. The subject would be discussed again at the next PC meeting and at the next South Perrott Village Meeting.

*Action: Mrs Gillingham*

#### Fingerposts

Mike Charles in Chedington has agreed to look at the Fingerposts in both South Perrott and Chedington with a view to refurbishing them.

### **b) Removal of Public Payphones**

The Chairman advised that BT is proposing to remove the public payphones in both Chedington and South Perrott.

Chedington payphone – as there is a reasonable mobile reception and no calls have been made from the payphone in the last 12 months, it is difficult to put forward an argument for retaining it. In view of this, residents have been consulted and the majority are in favour of “adopting” the kiosk, although the telephone equipment will be removed. Thanks were recorded to Cllr Liz Fray for conducting the survey. It has been suggested that the telephone line from the payphone could be re-routed into the village hall.

South Perrott payphone - the Clerk has submitted the PC's objections to the removal of this payphone on the basis that there is minimal mobile reception in the village and the kiosk is on a busy main road.

### **c) Millennium Green**

Martyn Gillingham reported that RoSPA had inspected the play equipment on the Millennium Green and had condemned it as unsafe. In view of this, the Trustees, at their recent AGM, had taken the decision that the play equipment should be removed. The Trustees are now proposing to arrange a meeting with Natural England to discuss the future of the Millennium Green and invited a representative of the Parish Council to join the discussion. Cllrs Sue Coutanche and Anthony de la Poer offered to attend as representatives and to report back to the Parish Council in due course.

*Action: Cllrs Coutanche and de la Poer*

## **1436. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. DAPTC Chief Executive's Circular, November 2016
2. DAPTC Extraordinary Chief Executive's Circular, December 2016
3. Email correspondence with WDDC re. Electronic Consultation with Local Councils
4. Email correspondence with DAPTC re. Level of Precept
5. DCC email re. consultation on Dorset's Concessionary Bus Pass Scheme
6. DCC email re. Community Highways Officers
7. DAPTC email re. Local Government Structures in Dorset
8. DCC email re. Superfast Broadband
9. WDDC email re. Confirmation of Tax Base 2017-18

10. WDDC email re. December Bulletin for the Local Council Online Consultation
11. Email correspondence with WDDC re. Notification to remove Public Payphones
12. NALC publication re. Grants and Funding Bulletin
13. DAPTC email re. No Extension of Referendum Principles
14. Email correspondence with DAPTC re. Level of Precept
15. DAPTC email re. Getting ready for Winter – ‘Call 105’ service
16. WDDC email re. consultation on dog related controls
17. WDDC email re. consultation on anti-social behaviour controls
18. DAPTC email re. Dependant Carers’ Survey
19. DCC publication re. Royal Funeral Protocol

1437. **PLANNING**

a) **Applications handled since last meeting:** None.

b) **Decisions notified by WDDC since last meeting:**

WD/D/15/001181 Cornerways, South Perrott – Internal and external works to stabilise structural elements. Approval of Listed Building Consent. Members expressed their concern that approval had been given, despite the extensive unauthorised work which had been undertaken.

WD/D/16/002231 Chedington Court – Re-site existing entrance gate piers and wall. Approval of Planning Permission.

WD/D/16/002543 Threshers Barn, South Perrott – Discharge of conditions 1,2 & 3 (of appn no. WD/D/16/000588). Condition 3 - Not Complied.

c) **New applications to be considered:**

WD/D/16/002173 Rowan Tree Cottage, South Perrott – Replacement of existing outbuilding to form garage/carport (amended plans). Members discussed this application and noted that the roofline of the proposed building has been reduced slightly from the original plans but that it would still be clearly visible from neighbouring properties.

WD/D/16/002625 Winterhayes, South Perrott – Proposed extension, detached garage, carport and vehicle access (resubmission of previously withdrawn application). Members discussed this application and expressed concern about the height and proximity to the A356 of the proposed new garage/carport, and questioned whether the elevation facing the road should be clad in stone.

d) **Tree Applications:**

WD/CA/16/00429 Church Hill Cottage, South Perrott – Beech Tree, reduce by 30%. PC comments – no concerns.

WD/CA/16/00490, 4 Parrett Mead, South Perrott – Fell one Silver Birch and one other tree (unknown). PC comments – no concerns.

e) **Other planning issues:**

Coach & Horses Inn – The Chairman reported that following complaints from some local residents about the blue neon strip lighting on the building, the Planning Enforcement Officer had visited the site but did not consider that planning approval for the lighting was required.

1438. **FINANCE**

Income received:	None
Payments made since the last meeting:	None
Payments to be made:	
Footprintz (photocopying for newsletter)	£50.00
Clerk’s salary for December 2016 & January 2017	£291.84

Clerk's expenses £40.50

The above payments were proposed by Cllr Organ and seconded by Cllr de la Poer.

Bank account stands at: £6,626.41  
Balance after payment of the above cheques: £6,244.07

**Approval of Budget and Precept for 2017-2018**

Members approved the Budget and approved the Precept for 2017-2018 of £4,500 (proposed by Cllr Organ, seconded by Cllr de la Poer). The increase in the Precept was considered necessary to help fund some of the non-essential highway maintenance works which, due to cut-backs, Highways will no longer be undertaking.

**1439. REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

*Standing Orders –*

The Council's Standing Orders were reviewed and no amendments were made. (Proposed by Cllr Organ, seconded by Cllr de la Poer)

*Financial Regulations –*

The Council's Financial Regulations were reviewed and no amendments were made. (Proposed by Cllr Organ, seconded by Cllr de la Poer)

**1440. MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- a) Chairman – None.
- b) Clerk – reported that the recycling centre at Crewkerne no longer permits vans, pick-ups and cars with trailers registered at Dorset addresses, to enter the Somerset site.
- c) Members –
  - Cllr Coutanche reported that the Environment Agency's rain gauge, by the flood defence at the top of the Engineers Path, had been damaged by an air rifle or similar. She also advised of potholes in Lecher Lane, and requested items for the Pump & Pound by 20<sup>th</sup> January.
- d) Footpaths Officers – None.
- e) River Warden – Martyn Gillingham reported that he had cleared the gullies when the road had flooded in the dip on the A356. He had also attended a Flood Wardens seminar. Mr Gillingham was thanked for his work.

**1441. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017, at 7.30pm in Chedington Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed .....

Date .....