

West Bagborough Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting held at the Popham Hall on 19th November 2015.

Present: Cllrs.: Stuart Parkman. Martin King. Charlie Ritchie. Martin Jones.

In Attendance: Cllr Peter Watson TDBC. Cllr Mike Rigby SCC. Nicky Gibbard Village Agent.

Apologies. Elaine Woollacott. Lorna Hending. Billy Waygood

Parishioners Questions. Mr Redish asked to explain some details about the on-going matter of a new mobile phone mast. He explained that the Village Design Statement was of great benefit for use in his objection to the planning application but perhaps now required an update. A revised application is expected for the mobile mast and hoped that the Council would still object once details are known.

Declarations of Interest. None declared.

Minutes of Last Meeting

Council resolved that the minutes of the last meeting be adopted as a true record.

65. Crime Report.

65.1. The Clerk read out the crime report from Avon & Somerset Police.

66. County and District Councillors Reports.

66.1. Cllr Rigby updated Council re on-going cuts within SCC. There is a freeze on all non-essential spending. The Health & Wellbeing Fund will still be available but applications need to be made no later than 31/01/2016.

66.2. Cllr Watson advised that Council Tax Support is expected to be withdrawn in the next couple of years. The Clerk advised that the amount received is approx £210 p.a. This change will not impact significantly on Parish Funding. Bus subsidies are again under review.

66.3. The consultation document on bus subsidies has been published. The Clerk confirmed that it does not affect any of the bus routes that serve the Parish.

67. Matters Arising.

67.1. Council resolved that moving the lower notice board to the area of the new housing is not justifiable. The original notice boards will be maintained with the draft minutes and agendas. All other documents are on the website or the new notice board at the village hall.

67.2. There has been no progress with the play park sub-committee due to the changed personal circumstances of the original members. Cllr Jones reported that no further progress has been made with Highways and none is expected with the current freeze on expenditure.

67.3. Council heard that the Kings Estates do not want the footway alongside the lane by the Old Rectory to be re-opened and have declined our request.

67.4. Sedgemoor District Council cannot help with the rubbish bin for the lay-by at Greens Hill.

67.5. The clerk reported a quote from ABCCommunity Maintenance for the remedial work required on the playpark. Rates are very competitive. Council resolved to allow the new contractor to complete the works to see how he fared. All subject to proof that relevant insurances and certificates are in place.

67.6. The provision of a fast broadband service has been delayed by BT not completing works on the dates they promised. Council asked Cllr Rigby to follow up with BT to determine why they have failed to turn out for planned works on at least 3 occasions.

67.7. Cllr Jones reported on the Quantock AONB JAC meeting. Funding was covered and suggestions made that perhaps Parishes could contribute more to the funding of the AONB service. This was not at all popular. The election to JAC is due in December. Council resolved to nominate Cllr Parkman to stand again with Cllr Jones as deputy.

67.8. The clerk has applied to the NALC transparency fund for a laptop and printer.

68. Planning.

68.1. 45/15/0012. Extension at Argent House was supported by Council.

68.2. 45/15/0013AGN. Modifications to barn at Tilbury Farm. Council noted this has been approved but commented that they had not been formally consulted on the application.

69. Finances

69.1. The clerk presented the half yearly statement and forecast for 2016-2017. Council resolved to accept the report as a true record and to keep the precept at the same rate as 2015-2016.

69.2. The Clerk reported that a sum of £1770.05 has been received from TDBC from the CIL Levy. This money has to be spent on specific infrastructure projects. Council resolved to consider some projects.

69.3. Change to a new bank still outstanding. Clerk to circulate paperwork.

70. Correspondence for Discussion/Decision

70.1. No attendees for the planned Councillor Training by SALC.

70.2. Council resolved to be a partner for a new project (Taunton Photo History Project). A project that aims to build a digital record of local life.

70.3. No interest in serving on TDBC Standards Committee.

70.4. The Clerk handed out details of a new enterprise that is hoping to start up in the New Year. 'New Steps' aim to provide educational and life experiences for those with special needs.

Correspondence for Information. & Briefing/Library Documents.

Council noted the Horsewatch event being held by Avon & Somerset Police at Norton Fitzwarren. Council made no comment on the latest Community Asset Transfer Policy.

AOB.

Work on the trees along the avenue at Triscombe is still outstanding. Concerns about stability of the identified trees were raised again.

Nicky Gibbard introduced herself as the new Village Agent. Chair welcomed her to speak and she explained her role. Village Agents are one of the changes after the floods 2 years ago. They can help in such times and also provide help in accessing other services. Chair suggested her details should be put onto the website and notice boards.

Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held in the Popham Village Hall 21st January 2016 at 1900.

These draft minutes are produced for general information only. They may be corrected by Council at their next meeting. Copies of previous minutes can be found on the website. <http://www.west-bagborough.org.uk/community/west-bagborough-7827/about-us>