

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014 in the Village Hall at 8.00pm**

**Present:** - Cllrs H Jeffery – (Chairman), Cole (Vice Chairman), Cook, Clarke, D Jeffery, Pearce, Phillips, Ranger, Slattery and Tillotson.

**Apologies:** - Cllrs Channon (CC) – Not well. Salter.

**In attendance:** - D G Atkins (Clerk & RFO), Cllr Potter (DC), 12 Members of the public.

**Open Session**

**Traffic matters.** Cllr Potter had received a complaint in respect of egress of a vehicle into the A3052 at King Alfred Way. The complainant was not present to present his case, where he had considered there was no signage to alert that of the main road approach. Cllr Cole considered that he must have entered the estate from the A3052, it was obvious where the two joined. It was pointed out that there are many other accesses with the same regime.

**Finance.** Ms Cameron Webb raised a query in that the budget figures on the web indicated that the budget for 14/15 had decreased from £2000 to £600. The June 2014 finances also showed that the maintenance budget for Venn Ottery was initially only £200 yet within only 3 months this had already been over spent by more than 100%. Despite the spend being £436 in June 2014, the probable year end is shown as £200. Three months later, in September, the budget has been increased to £500. Monies paid out in respect of Venn Ottery Green were paid to a company run by Cllr Cole.

Cllr Cole responded pointing out that funds had been received from the Parish Paths Partnership and interest accrued from a capital sum related to Venn Ottery Green for works to the Green Lane where water was being diverted from flowing onto the Green, Aggregate Industries provided gravel at no cost, and labour was provided free. The invoice from Enviromec was to recharge the costs of pipes – at cost. The Finance Committee will oversee the finances before they go to Parish Council meetings in future.

Mr Coppell questioned why £2,000 had been budgeted for expenditure on Webber's Meadow and not been spent. The Clerk (RFO) responded that the previous years allocation had not been spent in total due to volunteers doing the jobs required (grass cutting and removal, path clearing, balsam removal).

The meeting was reminded that at the previous meeting it was resolved that Cllr Salter would inspect the works and report back. Lorna Dalton considered the work that had been done was not of a satisfactory nature but others considered it was (Mr Swan). More effort was needed in understanding expectations for Webber's Meadow.

The open session closed after 25 minutes.  
The Parish Council meeting commences at 8.27pm.

- 10/13/100**     **Apologies** – Noted above.  
**10/13/101**     **Declarations of interest** – None at this time.

Cllr Cook considered that in respect of the surgery provision a letter should be sent to the NHS pointing out the problems of getting to Ottery St Mary and the ease of getting to Sidmouth by public transport. Therefore being a much better provision of Health Service.

- 10/13/102**     **Minutes of the Meeting** - held on Monday 29 September 2014 circulated as draft. The clerk reported that due to a problem with Tiscali some corrections to the Minutes had not been completed and therefore the Minutes would need to be represented at the next meeting.

**10/13/103**     **Reports**

**A)     Chairmans**

1.     The Chairman at this point raised the matter of the action list which it was noted had not been tabled due to the problem with the Tiscali connection. She advised this was a set of decisions and actions that would form part of the Minutes and be used to track progress of actions.
  
2.     **Police** – The clerk referred to an emailed report received in respect of August and September. It was noted that compared to last year’s figures there were two reported crimes in August 2014, compared to four for August last year. There was one incident of assault and one of sending threatening text messages. There have been thirty reported crimes for the year to date, compared to forty-one for the same period last year. There were three reported crimes in September 2014, compared to three in September last year. There was one incident of assault and two of criminal damage. There have been thirty-three reported crimes for the year to date, compared to forty-four for the same period last year.
  
3.     **Emails – Personal Account up-date** - The Chairman thanked Shan Merritt and Cllr Slattery for the updated thoughts on a way forward of having Parish Council email addresses. Members agreed that to personalize their addresses would be advantageous. Cllr Ranger had a concern over security when a Member left the Council, as she felt that they may not remove personal information. It was resolved that individual councilors would set up their own Parish Council email address if they wish, and that a common format would be agreed offline. This would be at no cost to the Council.

Proposed Chairman  
Seconded Cllr D Jeffery Vote 8-0-2

**Red Bridge** - In reply to a question in respect of the Red Bridge at Harpford, the clerk responded he had sent a letter to the EA but had not yet received a reply. Cllr Ranger requested that the letter be forwarded to all members. Agreed.

**Playing Field** - In respect of the works in the playing field, further works were required when funds were available (awaiting 106 funding up-date from EDDC).

**Terms of reference re. The Finance Committee** - to note the addition to the Committee of Cllr Ranger. Noted.

**B) Clerks**

1. Receipts and payments schedule September.  
The schedule had been posted on the web and was noted.
2. Landscape sheet updated for information. It was noted that these would be referred to the meeting of the Finance Committee for clarification before being placed on the web. It was noted that it had not been possible to hold a meeting prior to this Parish Council meeting.
3. King Alfred Way Development - To note that the next meeting of the parish to be held on 24 November 2014, will be an open meeting to consider the detailed design of the King Alfred Way development with Clinton Devon Agents, including the surgery, prior to the detailed application being forwarded to EDDC. The Chairman proposed that an advert be placed in the Sidmouth Herald to give maximum publicity to the date and time.
4. 106 Funding update – Cllr Phillips reported that the total fund stood at £13,800 which included monies from Southerton development which it was noted was under consideration by EDDC and the developer. It was agreed to follow up with EDDC.

Cllr D Jeffery considered that as the users of the playing field had verbally agreed to erect and remove the new netting around the play area, a letter be sent to both cricket clubs confirming the same. A copy of the instruction for installing the safety netting needed to be made. Agreed.

Cllr Phillips was thanked for his endeavors. It was noted that further items were also being considered such as outdoor health and fitness items and it was also requested that some form of shade be investigated (an umbrella for instance). It was resolved to discuss further at the next meeting.

5. Venn Ottery Quarry – Water run off (Cllr Cole). He reported discussing the matter with a Devon County Council Officer and that he had arranged an early morning meeting for those who could attend on the 4 November at 8.30am at the bridleway entrance off Southerton Road, to discuss the slurry discharge to the water course, it being considered remedial work was required. The Chairman added that recently ploughed fields nearby had added to the problem of silt on the road.

**C) County**

1. The Chairman reported that Cllr Channon had communicated with her on two matters, the pre school building and its replacement under the control of the governors on the re-build of the school and the inclusion of 2 year olds to the group.
2. Farthings Lane. The County Councillor was still in discussions with the department concerning upgrading the Farthings Lane pathway, especially over the issue of lighting for the path. The development of KAW may be having a bearing on that decision. Debate ensued noting that a letter had been sent to the County Officer from the clerk pointing out the Parish Council's concerns. It was resolved to follow up with the County Council.

**D) District**

1. District Cllr Potter referred to continued complaints in respect of car sales at the Bowd. It was noted that a response from the County Council was not helpful (they were too busy and there were no funds available). He had hoped to raise the matter with the County Cllr.
2. Cllr Potter confirmed his comment at the last meeting about 'there would be no stand-alone councils in 10 years' and stated that Councils are increasingly joining up to provide services.

- E) Cllr Ranger – Harpford Hall update.** There was no up- date. Noted.

- F) **Pathways - Mr T Swan** referred to FP 28 which had been cleared. FP 14 near old refuse tip, there was a large beech tree that had fallen down. FP 17 steps were rotted, need to be replaced. FP 5 New Bridge now in place, it is a splendid construction. FP 12 Part of East Devon Way, yet another fallen tree in the ownership of CDE. The clerk was instructed to write to CDE on the matter

**10/13/104 Planning Report**

The Chairman reported on the latest planning meeting and observations made on Badger Close, April Cottage re. bat boxes inclusion in garage roof and a certificate of lawfulness in respect of Homefield Farm referred to the clerk from EDDC.

**10/13/105 Communications**

1. EDDC – Re. precept and government grant 2015. Noted and tabled, given to members for information. A slight reduction of £379 per year.
2. Meeting of Parishes at EDDC as previously advised 2 December at 5.30pm. It was noted Cllr Ranger would attend as might the clerk.
3. Policies to be agreed and published re. Freedom of Information and complaints procedure.

It was agreed that the papers put forward by the Committee be approved and be placed on the web and inspected on request. In respect of the FOI scheme the model form was adopted.

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| Proposed | Cllr ?    |       |
| Seconded | Cllr Cole | Unan. |

Complaint procedure dependant on nature of complaint it could be the Chairman or whole Council, list of matters to be further considered.

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| Proposed | Chairman  |       |
| Seconded | Cllr Cole | Unan. |

**10/13/106 Matters Raised by Members**

1. Waste Disposal Contract consideration of matters to move the service forward. It was noted that this item takes up 20% of EDDC costs and that a roll on of the contract could occur. It was thought that recycling could be fortnightly.

2. Cllr Phillips requested to know the exact position in respect of the Venn Ottery Road Cemetery notice board. It was agreed to speak with Mr Sanders to establish a way forward.

**10/13/107** **Closure** – The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.45pm.