

MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING
OF
DREWSTEIGNTON PARISH COUNCIL
Drewsteignton Village Hall
On
Monday 16th July 2007

Present: Cllrs Ridgers (Chair), Savage (Vice), Dyke, Chadney, Gosnay, Power, Mudge, Hardie, Hester and the Clerk

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. McInnes

In attendance: Mr J Packer, Mrs S Hitchcock, Mr T Thomas, Mr S Lee, P C Wilson and 6 members of the public

95.07 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Proposed by Cllr. Power and seconded by Cllr. Mudge, the Minutes of 18th June 2007 were signed by the Chair as a true record.

96.07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Ridgers reminded all Cllrs of the need to declare a declaration of interest if appropriate.

97.07 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

A letter had been received from Nicki Cross re fireworks. Confirmation is awaited of the insurance details before final approval is given.

98.07 TRAVELLER ENCAMPMENT AT WHIDDON DOWN

A letter has been received from G Cox MP dated 6 July 2007, confirming that the ownership of the site is still under question and that no action to evict the Travellers will be taken at this stage. Following the court action of 3 July 2007 all but one vehicle has been removed from the verge. The remaining vehicle is to be scrapped. One of the Travellers reported to the meeting that a rock had been thrown out of a car window at one of the caravans. Cllr Ridgers enquired if this had been previously reported to the Police. The Travellers present, confirmed that they had not done so until this meeting.

99.07 PLANNING.

0497/07 – Cuma Court Drewsteignton

It was unanimously agreed that this application is supported for the preservation of the significant history of the property.

0386/07 – Old Rectory Drewsteignton

Cllr Ridgers declared a prejudicial interest and left the room.

Cllrs objected to this application on the basis of the public view and the roofing materials used

Clerk to advise the appropriate authority of the above decisions.

Cllrs requested that the clerk write to the planning enforcement officer regarding the Horse Box occupied as living accommodation at Venton.

Galliford Try had requested comments re Airwave Solutions Ltd possibility of erecting pole and dishes at Bowden Farm Drewsteignton. It was agreed that no comment be made until the actual planning application is submitted.

Various planning decisions had been received as follows;

0307/07 Sandy Park House refused

0222/06 Minor amendment Budbrooke Farm Crockernwell granted

0403/07 Bowbeer Farm Drewsteignton – granted

0331/07 1 Turnpike Rd Whiddon Down - granted

100.07 MRS SUE HITCHCOCK AND MR JOHN PACKER

Following various Housing needs surveys recently undertaken Mr John Packer gave a report on the results of the surveys. 5 affordable homes are currently being built at Whiddon Down and WDBC were now looking at the Lamb Park site at Drewsteignton. According to the Community Council of Devon 9 affordable homes are required and according to the WDBC survey 11 affordable homes are required. This indicates 7 mainly rented with the balance on shared ownership basis. With the Parish Councils agreement, John Packer proposed that the Housing Association develop 5 units – 2 rented and 3 shared ownership on the Lamb Park site but stressed that these have to be affordable to the local ownership. However the open market value in Drewsteignton is very high. WDBC hope to bid for funding and would know the outcome early 2008. The earliest work would start would be 2008, with the Houses not ready for occupation for 2 years.

The Houses at Whiddon Down are close to completion and an advert has been placed for

prospective tenants.

Cllrs requested that the Clerk notify Parish Post for article to be placed to let residents know they need to be on the WDBC housing list to qualify.

Mr John Packer agreed to attend the August meeting to give Cllrs feedback on progress and to notify Cllrs of the deadline for the 5 year trigger for the Budbrooke money at Crockernwell.

Mrs J Mullins raised concerns that the Parish Plan survey which is likely to be conducted early September was not being taken into consideration for the affordable housing. Mr J Packer confirmed that if the parish plan indicated different needs than the other surveys conducted WDBC would look again at the needs of the local community.

101.07 MR S LEE - DNPA RANGER

Mr Simon Lee gave his annual report to the Council, mentioning that he was about to undertake his annual strimming of footpaths. Cllr Savage requested that attention be given to a footpath gateway in Drewsteignton, which was being left open on various occasions by walkers, causing the local farmer additional work, as his stock were wandering into neighbouring fields via the open gate.

102.07 ANNUAL FOOTPATH INSPECTIONS

It was agreed that the following footpaths would be walked by the following Cllrs. All footpaths to be walked by the September meeting.

Footpaths 8 and 9 Cllr Chadney

Footpaths 20 and 19 Cllr Mudge

Footpaths 58 and 59 Cllr Hardie

Footpaths 2, 3, and 4 Cllr Dyke

Footpaths 6 and 1 Cllr Savage

Footpaths 13 and 14 Cllr Power

Footpaths 16 and 17 Cllr Gosling

Footpaths 10,11 and 12 Cllr Hester

Footpaths 21, 25 and 5 Cllr Ridgers

103.07 CLERKS

Cllr asked if they would like to visit the Police Headquarters. Cllr Savage to organise for any Cllrs who are interested.

Clerk asked for confirmation that all Cllrs happy with site visits for planning being the Thursday before the monthly Parish meeting where appropriate. All Cllrs agreed.

104.07 FINANCE.

a) Proposed by Cllr. Power and seconded by Cllr. Hester, the following payments were authorised :

Mrs. J Bowden - Salary	£291.66
Mrs. J Bowden - Expenses	£25.18
EDF Energy re clock	£9.99
M.J. Rowe - Toilet Cleaning	£104.03
Mrs S Power – Councillor Travel	£27.70
Whiddon Down Village Hall	£9.00
SWWA – re W C's	£109.81
WDBC- Council Tax re Toilet	£39.00
EDF Energy re W C's	£26.45
SWWA re Trough at Lamb Park (June)	£10.95
Mrs J Bowden re Trough Lamb Park (March) Pd in error personally by Clerk	£4.56

b) Confirmation that a grant had been received from DNPA re cleaning public toilets £213.50. This equates to 25% of the cleaning costs.

c) Cllrs Ridgers and Chadney were reminded to return the Bank signatory forms to the Clerk.

105.07 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Various discussions took place regarding the DNPA Local Framework document received. Cllrs requested that the Clerk respond on behalf of the Cllrs stating that the document was very lengthy and wordy and the consultation period was too short bearing in mind that volunteers were consulted.

106.07 HIGHWAYS

a) Parish Length-man's visit due 2 August 2007. Cllrs advised of various tasks requiring attention. Clerk to liaise with Lengthman.

107.07 DREWSTEIGNTON TOILETS

A report had been received from Mr Tony Thomas that as far as he was aware everything was progressing well and the Parish Rooms committee should be in a position to take over a 35 year

lease from the National Trust. Cllrs instructed Clerk to act on the Parish Councils behalf if required to aid the transfer.

Cllr Mudge reported recent damage to the Toilets and enquired if the Toilets could be closed of an evening. Clerk to research to ensure this does not breach the DNPA cleaning grant.

108.07 DELEGATES REPORTS

Eastern Links committee require the Parish Councils views on Rural Transport, Neighbourhood Policing and Affordable Housing in time for the next meeting in September. All Councillors to consider for the next meeting.

109.07 COMMENTS ON PAPERS CIRCULATED

Cllr Savage advised that there was an article in the Village Green which should be passed to Mrs B Lunt for inclusion in the Parish Post regarding grants available to rural businesses.

Cllrs wished to discuss the use of standing orders at the next meeting.

Cllr Hardie requested that an acknowledgement be sent to Mrs C Yardley for her very detailed notes in respect of the Whiddon Down Junction.

110.07 UPDATE ON PARISH PLAN

Questionnaires are anticipated to be issued early September with the hope of having the plan completed at the end of the year.

111.07 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 20th August 2007 at 7.30pm Drewsteignton Parish Rooms.

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.47 pm