

MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING  
OF  
DREWSTEIGNTON PARISH COUNCIL  
Drewsteignton Village Hall  
On  
Tuesday 15th December 2009

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

Apologies: Cllr Chadney and Cllr Hardie.

In attendance: 10 members of the public, Inspector Hammond, WPC Wilson, Mr J Packer (WDBC) and Mr R Luttmann (West Devon Homes)

**171.09 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

ACTION

Cllr Power proposed and Cllr Dyke seconded the minutes of the meeting of the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2009. Cllr Savage pointed out that there were no personal or prejudicial interests declared in the minutes of 28<sup>th</sup> November 2009. The minutes were amended and Cllr Dyke proposed and Cllr Hester seconded the minutes of the meeting of the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

**172.09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Chairman reminded the Cllrs present of the need to declare any personal or prejudicial interests in respect of any items included on the Agenda. Cllr Savage declared a personal interest in the Planning matter in respect of Tellams, Cheriton Bishop as his in laws live along the approach road. Cllr Dyke declared a personal interest in respect of the West Devon Community and Voluntary Services letter as he drives for them on a voluntary basis.

**173.09 MATTERS ARISING**

A reply has been received from Devon County Council in respect of the highways issues within the Parish and in particular the entrance to Drewsteignton from Castle Drogo. They would not recommend further signs or markings to be placed there. The Venton lay-by works have not been carried out due to budgets and priorities. It is hoped these works will be carried out at a later date.

Clerk

West Devon Community and Voluntary Services have agreed to attend the Annual Parish meeting which is anticipated to be held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010 at Drewsteignton Village Hall. Devon County Council have replied in respect of the part night lighting policy stating that at the present time all A and B roads will be left lit with a view to dim them in time.

DNPA have responded in respect of the public participation at meetings stating that as long as they receive notice by 4pm the day before the meeting, participation would be allowed.

DNPA replied stating that there were no village settlement boundaries at Whiddon Down. This is not the Cllrs understanding of the position and it was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting. Inspector Hammond and WPC Wilson addressed the meeting in respect of the recent Police work undertaken at Crockernwell and Whiddon Down. They reported a speeding problem with vehicles through Whiddon Down and had issued speeding tickets to several motorists. Unfortunately resources do not allow them to spend as much time as the Cllrs would wish targeting the problem but promised to keep the situation under review. Cllrs requested that the position be monitored when the weather began to improve and the motor cycles would be on the A382 Venton Straight and the old A30 Harepath Straight.

Clerk

**174.09 LAMB PARK**

DNPA 0572/09 Lamb park Drewsteignton. This application was in respect of 4 Affordable Homes. The original application was for 5 homes on a North to South orientation and has now been reduced to 4 on an East to West orientation. After much discussion and members of the public addressing the council, it was agreed that the Parish Council would support the application but agreed to raise comments on the height of the retaining wall at the back and the high stepping up to the back gardens, asking if it would be possible to terrace the back garden to reduce the number of steps for better access to the back gardens. Clerk to notify DNPA.

Clerk

**175.09 SERVING NOTICES BY E MAIL**

Cllr Gosnay reported that the e mail system used by the Parish Council was on a secure server and the Cllrs agreed that they were happy to manage the risk of notices being sent to Cllrs by e mail.

**176.09 HIGHWAYS**

All points covered elsewhere on the agenda

**177.09 PLANNING**

Decisions received;

DNPA 0457/09 Bowbeer Farm Drewsteignton granted.

DNPA 0101/09 Middle Venton Farm granted.

ACTION

DCC Installation of small scale specialist Waste Incinerator at Old Tellam's Yard, Cheriton Bishop. A member of the public addressed the Council voicing concerns over the application. Following discussions it was unanimously agreed that the Council would object to the proposal as the infrastructure was not able to cope due to the proposed size of vehicles on the proposed access road. Clerk to notify DCC.

Clerk

#### **178.09 FINANCE**

Cllr Ridgers proposed and Cllr Mudge seconded the following payments to be made;

Mrs J Bowden – Clerk's Salary £314.16

Mrs J Bowden – Clerk's Expenses £24.11

Mr M Rowe – WC Cleaning and materials £106.52

Mrs P Rowe – Parish Post £152.64

Drewsteignton Village Hall – Hire of Hall £8

Royal British Legion – Wreath £16.50

Clerk

An updated budget for the precept year 2010/11 was prepared by the Clerk for discussion. It was agreed that the precept would have to increase by over inflation to maintain the status quo as the reserves are reducing each year. Following considerable discussion it was agreed that the Precept would need to be set at £11,600. This includes a provision of £750 for any costs at Turnpike Road, an increase in the Clerk's Salary to the NALC hourly recommended rate and a provision of £500 for general repairs including the work required to the Whiddon Down notice board.

Clerk

#### **179.09 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence has been received from;

WDBC re Local Government review in Devon. Placed in circulation pack.

A thank you letter from Holy Trinity Church Drewsteignton for £250 towards the Church Clock renovation.

Okehampton District Community Transport Group requesting financial assistance towards its running costs. It was agreed that due to the level of precept increase required for the forthcoming year, Drewsteignton Parish Council would be unable to assist financially.

Clerk

Audit Commission in respect of the appointment of an external auditor. Mr Wayne Rickard. Cllrs had no objection to this appointment.

Mrs A Loram requesting the Parish Council to contact Vodafone and invite them to a meeting to discuss the issue of the Vodafone connection in the area since the storms. It appears the problem was resolved the previous day. It was agreed the Clerk would contact Mrs Loram to confirm this is the case and confirm she is happy that no further action is required.

Clerk

#### **180.09 DELEGATES REPORTS**

Cllr Savage gave a report on the Eastern Parish Links committee recently attended and placed the details in the circulation pack.

#### **181.09 PARISH POST**

Clerk to contact Mike Petrie-Ritchie asking him to attend the next meeting to discuss the possibility of charging for adverts in the Parish Post. Clerk to contact.

Clerk

#### **182.09 BOUNDARY COMMITTEE UNITARY AUTHORITY UPDATE**

The Boundary Commission in respect of the structural review of Devon. It was agreed that the Clerk should again write to John Denham MP clearly stating that Drewsteignton Parish Council are happy with the Status Quo and would prefer no change.

Clerk

#### **183.09 PARISH PLAN**

Nothing to report

#### **184.09 TURNPIKE ROAD**

Devon and Cornwall Constabulary had written to confirm that they do not have any funds available towards the costs of closing the road.

£750 has been provided within the Parish Precept for 2010/11 towards costs and it is anticipated that some form of match funding can be obtained from other sources. There is the possibility of obtaining a loan from the Public Loans board, but there are strict lending requirements which can not be established until the agreement from the Secretary of State has been received. Cllr Ridgers obtained information from WDBC on possible grant funding. Cllr Hester to investigate further.

Cllr  
Hester

#### **185.09 DREWSTEIGNTON CAR PARK**

Nothing to report

#### **186.09 COMMENTS ON INFORMATION CIRCULATED**

None.

#### **187.09 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

DNPA Boundary Settlement – January

Parish Post - January

**188.09 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 7.30pm at Whiddon Down

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.37pm.