

MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING  
OF  
DREWSTEIGNTON PARISH COUNCIL  
Drewsteignton Village Hall  
On  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2011

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

Apologies: PSCO Rebecca Tolley

In attendance: Bella Snook, Cllr J McInnes, Marion Playle and 4 members of the public

**139.11 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

ACTION

Cllr Gosnay proposed and Cllr Power seconded the minutes of the meeting of the 18 July 2011.

**140.11 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 Ridgers declared a personal interest in the Planning application at Wisdom Cottage Drewsteignton as this application was from family.

**141.11 MATTERS ARISING**

A letter has been received from DNPA stating that Stephen Beli Director of Planning DNPA will be meeting the shoot Managers in late August to review the shoot plans for the forthcoming season and a report will be received following that meeting. A letter has been received from a resident about difficulties using the bridleway which was a permitted path. After discussion it was agreed to send a copy of the correspondence to Barry Jones of Lansdale and Stephen Beli of DNPA asking for clarification of which paths can be used and asking why there is a gate erected across the footpath on the boundary between the National Trust and Lonsdale on the lower side of the Mill. DNPA should also be asked to replace the green stickers notifying users of the footpaths. Clerk to copy Mortenhampstead Parish Council into the correspondence.

Clerk

Clerk has still not heard from Royal mail re missing Post Box. Ian Maynard agreed to enquire who would be the best person to chase for a response at Royal Mail.

Clerk

A letter has been received from DNPA stating that the landowner of the land at Crockernwell using the land for Caravan storage is intending to apply for retrospective change of use of land with engineering works. The Chairman agreed to report back to the resident who lodged the original complaint.

Clerk

Clerk has received acknowledgement of letter in connection with the Trees at Whiddon Down Methodist Chapel, but a full reply is still awaited.

Clerk

A report has been received from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service in respect of the Fire on land near Preston which was thought to have been deliberate- others property. Cllrs requested the Clerk write to the Inspector at Okehampton Police Station drawing his attention to the report and asking what action has or is intended to be taken.

**142.11 CHURCH TREES DREWSTEIGNTON**

Cllr Mudge reported that Hi Line Services have kindly agreed to assist with the paperwork involved in trimming the Yew Trees on the Church Wall. Cllr Mudge will keep Cllrs informed of the task involved.

Clerk

**143.11 FOOTPATH INSPECTIONS**

It was agreed the Cllrs would walk the following footpaths;

Cllr Walker 1 and 6  
Cllr Mudge 13 and 14  
Cllr Hardie 16 and 17  
Cllr Dyke 10,11 and 12  
Cllr Savage 5,21 and 25  
Cllr Power 20 and 19  
Cllr Gosnay 58 and 59  
Cllr Hester 2,3 and 4  
Cllr Ridgers 8 and 9

Clerk

Cllrs to report back at the October meeting of any problems when Peter Rich DNPA ranger will be asked to attend.

**144.11 HIGHWAYS**

Reports have been received of cars parked along the road by Smiths Building going up into the Village. It was agreed the Clerk would write to PCSO Rebecca Tolley asking here to monitor the

position.

ACTION

Reports have also been received of irresponsible parking during the Dartmoor Arts week with large vehicles unable to pass through the Village during some of the evenings. This is an excellent event for the Village which it was felt should be encouraged and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Peter Randle Page asking if Dartmoor Arts could let the Parish Post know of what parking arrangements have been made for future years events so that the parking can be advertised in advance of next years event to ensure the problem does not occur again.

A resident has complained of stones falling off the wall and into the lane at Froggy Lane making it difficult for vehicles to pass. Cllrs to arrange a visit to investigate.

Potholes reported on the junction of the Drewsteignton road at Crockernwell. Veet Mill towards Higher Fingle the edge of the road is eroding which has caused damage to at least 2 vehicles, edge of the road between Burrow and Preston Farm, from Drogo Castle towards Wisdom Cottage on left, by Higher Ford Blackaller Road and on road from Drewsteignton towards Trennaway Cross on right. Clerk to report.

Cllr McInnes agreed to chase James Anstee about the final drawings and cost for the parking restrictions outside the Post Office Drewsteignton.

WDBC have forward details of a request for Dog Bins at Fingle Bridge, it was agreed to reply to WDBC stating that this was not our responsibility and ask that they contact the National Trust.

#### **145.11 PLANNING**

DNPA 00375/11 Wisdom Cottage Drewsteignton. This application was in respect of a certificate of lawfulness in respect of the garden. The Cllrs agreed to make no comment in this case.

Clerk to notify relevant authorities

Decisions received;

DNPA 0273/11 Shilstone Chagford granted.

Clerk

WDBC 0273/11 Land adjacent to Martins Farm Whiddon Down – refused.

An enquiry letter has been received from Mr E Dines in connection with his planning application, DNPA CO/7697 Land Opposite The Old School Drewsteignton. Cllrs agreed to answer the questions raised by him in connection with the application. Clerk to reply.

#### **146.11 FINANCE**

The Audit of the financial accounts for the year ended 31 March 2011 has been completed and all relevant notices have been published.

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

Mrs J Bowden – Clerk's Salary £368.33

Clerk

Mrs J Bowden – Clerk's Expenses £45.71

Mr M Rowe – WC Cleaning £129.13

Audit Commission– Audit Fee £162

Parish Mag Printers – Parish Post £74

A bill for £458.48 has been received from SWWA in connection with the water at the Playing fields. The meter is read once a year and the water used in the last 12 months amounts to 57,860 gallons as compared to 3,960 gallons in the previous year. Checks have been undertaken to ensure there are no leaks and that the meter reading is correct. Reports have been received that when the affordable houses were erected a standpipe was used by the builders and it is thought that this was inserted into the water pipe after the meter and thus Drewsteignton Parish Council have had a bill for water which they have not used. Cllr Mudge and Cllr Walker to investigate where standpipe was erected. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to West Devon Homes to ask where the water was obtained for the buildings. Clerk to ask SWWA to place a hold on the account until the position has been researched further.

#### **147.11 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**

A thank you letter has been received from Nick Payne.

A 2 bedroom affordable house has become available at Whiddon Down and Cllrs were asked to let residents know of the vacancy. Clerk to respond to Sanctuary Housing e mail stating the Cllrs will inform residents.

Details of WDBC review of Polling Districts and Polling Places has been received. Details placed in circulation pack for Cllrs comments.

DNPA are running a 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Community Quiz. Cllrs were not interested in taking part and it was agreed to place details in the Parish Post to see if any residents are interested.

Details has been received in connection with the Lord Lt of Devon in connection with the Queens Jubilee next June. Details have been replaced in the circulation pack.

#### **148.11 DELEGATES REPORTS**

None

#### **149.11 PARISH POST**

Nothing to report

#### **150.11 TRAVELLERS SITE**

Cllr James McInnes and Marion Playle were welcomed to the meeting. Cllr Savage stated that the Cllrs were concerned that the Travellers should have left the site by the end of March but there were still 4 remaining vans and residents who were also now selling plants on the side of the road. Marion Playle stated that they were residing on Crown land owned by the Highways Agency, and that it would not be expedient for WDBC to enforce action against them as they had no where else to place them. WDBC has a duty to house Gypsy and Travellers. DCC are looking to take responsibility of this land as they would like to use the land for tipping and are currently unable to do so as access is difficult. If DCC take ownership of the land from the Highways Agency they could then take enforcement action. It was agreed the Clerk should write to Stuart Bailey of the Highways Agency to support DCC attempt to take responsibility of the land and to ask why the Highways Agency have not taken any enforcement action and stating that notice was served on the traveller's illegally occupying land at Whiddon Down for them to vacate the site by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011. A group of travellers are still in occupation of a portion of land owned by The Highways Agency. The Cllrs understand that under Town and Country Planning Legislation, the options now open to The Highways Agency are:

1. Seek a court injunction which will allow The Highways Agency to use professional services to clear the site
2. To prosecute occupiers
3. To prosecute owners and anyone with a legal interest
4. To take direct action to remove people from the site

#### **151.11 WHIDDON DOWN PLAY AREA**

It was agreed the Clerk would write to WDBC stating that the Parish Council would be keen to take on a lease of the land at a minimal rent but would need to make enquiries with DNPA in respect of the planning position.

#### **152.11 PARISH PLAN**

Nothing to report.

#### **153.11 TURNPIKE ROAD**

DCC have stated that they are monitoring the position but it is unlikely that work will commence until after Christmas.

#### **154.11 DREWSTEIGNTON CAR PARK**

Nothing to report.

#### **155.11 COMMENTS ON INFORMATION CIRCULATED**

None.

#### **156.11 NEW CLERK POSITION**

Bella Snook has been appointed new Clerk of Drewsteignton Parish Council with effect from 16 August 2011. Cllr Savage welcomed Bella to the post and thanked Jackie for her work over the past 4 years. Cllr Savage also thanked Cllr Gosnay for his work involving the recruitment of Bella and the assistance given with the contract of employment etc. Cllr Savage also thanked Cllr Power for her assistance.

It was agreed that Bella would replace Jackie as cheque signatory and the relevant forms were signed.

#### **157.11 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Rebecca Tolley PCSO

Missing Post Box

Froggy Lane Visit

Post Inn

A3124

#### **158.11 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2011 at 7.30pm at Whiddon Down.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.28pm.