

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL AND ORDINARY MEETING
Of DREWSTEIGTON PARISH COUNCIL
 Whiddon Down Village Hall
 On Monday 18 May 2015 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Savage, Hardie, Imrie, Hunt, Brooks and the Clerk.
 Apologies Cllr Ridgers will arrive late
 In attendance 1 member of the public

051/15 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON. Cllr Savage stepped down as Chairman. All Cllrs said they were too busy to accept the role of Chairperson. After some discussion Cllr Imrie was persuaded to stand for one year only. She was nominated by Cllr Brooks, seconded by Cllr Hunt and elected as Chair. Cllr Savage was elected as Vice Chair.

052/15 Declarations of Acceptance of Office were signed by all Cllrs. Registration of Interest forms were distributed to all Cllrs for completion, to be sent on to WDBC by the Clerk by the beginning of June.

053/15 ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS,

Cllr Hardie – snow warden, Whiddon Down Village Hall	Cllr TBA – Drewsteignton Village Hall
Cllr Imrie –	Cllr Hunt – playing field
Cllr Savage – Eastern Links, Providence School Trust	Cllr Brooks – car park
Cllr TBA – DNPA	Cllr Ridgers – Eastern Links

The final allocation of representation will be completed at the next meeting.

054/15 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Unanimous approval of the minutes of the Ordinary meeting 20 April 2015, and the Annual Parish Meeting 7 May 2014

055/15 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. None stated.

056/15 MATTERS ARISING

Car-park, a letter has been left for the owner of the blue van, which appeared to be used as living accommodation. This activity appears to have ceased. The sign specifying no overnight sleeping is faded but legible. Clerk to arrange replacement.

The illegal travellers encampment at Whiddon Down continues to be a problem with noise complaints being referred to WDBC Environmental Health department. They have asked for residents to keep a record of disturbance. The clerk can collate this record. Devon County Council want to hand their part of the land to the Robinsons to simplify the legal works.

The idea of a **new bus stop** at Whiddon Down on the far side of the A30 has been raised with Stagecoach Southwest and Devon County Council. Stagecoach tell us that they are only responsible for the timetable notice-board, and DCC handle the infrastructure.

WDBC say they do not have a formatted poster that we can use to remind **dog owners of their responsibility** in picking up after their dog's waste. The dog warden role is changing and the staff will be covering a broader range of responsibility. Clerk to follow up late in May.

BT have sent details of the **phone boxes available for adoption**, which are in Drewsteignton, Whiddon Down, Crockernwell and Sandy Park. Cllrs agreed that Sandy Park should be retained as a phone box due to lack of mobile signal in the area. Clerk to request usage information on each facility.

8.17 pm Cllr Ridgers arrived.

057/15 PLANNING

Decisions received; DNPA 0132/15 Partial rebuilding and extension to outbuilding at Rose Cottage, Crockernwell - **granted**

APPLICATIONS

DNPA 0204/15 to extend storage barn at Tordown Storage, Venton. A site visit helped Cllrs understand the proposal. A message supporting the application has been sent by neighbours. Cllrs discussed the scale of the works and agreed to a **NEUTRAL VIEW** response.

DNPA 0139/15 replacement weir at Ford House – application has been withdrawn for new detailing to satisfy the Environment Agency's specification for fish passes.

Further planning matters

Two LATE applications for Listed Building Consent at **Drewe Arms, Drewsteignton (DNPA 0236/15 & 0241/15)** will involve a site visit and Additional Meeting, planned for Monday 1 June 2015. Clerk to arrange.

Stephen Belli (Head of Planning Dartmoor National Park Authority) has responded to the letter sent regarding the change of opinion of the Listed Buildings Officer at DNPA on **signage at the Drewe Arms**, stating that the two applications are different. Cllrs are disappointed with the reply but feel it is a waste of time continuing the correspondence.

Nick Savin (Enforcement Officer DNPA) has replied regarding the update requested on **West Ford Farm**, saying that he will keep a close eye on the site, and requesting any local knowledge be passed back to him at DNPA. As Cllrs have previously not been allowed on the site this will not be easy. Clerk to contact DNPA. An unauthorised **large advertising sign** has been noted on the A30, about 2 miles east of Whiddon Down. Clerk to inform DNPA.

058/15 HIGHWAYS:

Repairs - Some potholes have been filled. The road surface on A382 near France Hill is in poor condition. Also Whiddon Down roundabout is getting worse and dangerous for motorbikes. Couples Corner to Preston is in a terrible state now. Various road closure notices have been sent to the Clerk for repairs to be carried out. These will be put on the notice-boards as they approach.

Mick Jones of Highways at Devon County council has replied about **Chapel Hill**, Whiddon Down, saying that closure would be likely to cost about £20,000 because it would require a public enquiry if anyone objected. Speed humps would cost this Council about £8,000. 100 mm high humps are not recommended as they damage cars and are noisy. 75mm high humps are suggested. Clerk to request a breakdown of the provisional costs provided. Clerk to arrange a site visit for Cllrs, DCCllr James McInnes and DCC's Mick Jones, at a time of day to highlight the problem.

059/15 FINANCE;

a) Payments to be made in May 2015

Cllr Hardie proposed and Cllr Savage seconded the following payments to be made;

Ms B Snook – Salary - £379.16

Ms B Snook – general expenses deferred to next meeting

Ms B Snook - Annual Parish Meeting expenses - £37.12 (Section 137 payment)

Mr M Rowe – WC cleaning - £73.50

Parish Mag Printers – magazine print - £74.00

Drewsteignton Village Hall – hall hire x 2 - £20.00

EDF – WC electricity - £70.19

b) **Income from honesty boxes** (car park £35.25) (WCs £6.60).

c) **VAT reclaim update** - £963.59 will be repaid by HMRC. £486.00 of this is due back to the playing field committee. Clerk to arrange when incoming payment has been confirmed.

d) **The precept** amount paid from WDBC is slightly higher than it should have been. This will be corrected with the September instalment.

060/15 Co-option of new Councillors, Drewsteignton resident Ben Commelard-Brown has expressed an interest in the Council's work and attended recent meetings. He can bring a new viewpoint to the Council with an internet business and a young family. His co-option was proposed by Cllr Ridgers, seconded by Cllr Savage and carried unanimously. Cllr Brown completed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Clerk to update contact list.

061/15 General correspondence

Agenda letters;

The clerk has been contacted regarding the **leaning lamp post** in the Church yard at Holy Trinity, Drewsteignton. It has been suggested this council are responsible for it. No date has been provided to find any record of this, so a search is impossible. As the Council are not responsible for Churchyards or footpaths this is unlikely to be the case. The Parochial Church Council do have the matter in hand.

Late letters;

RES have written regarding the **road improvements at Whiddon Down** (to facilitate the building of Denbrook wind farm). They would like to meet the Council to discuss communication links with the community as the project progresses. Clerk to arrange.

Okehampton District Community Transport Group are celebrating 25 years with a tea party. No Cllr available to attend. Clerk to reply.

The wooden part of the **commemorative tree plaque** to Paul Greener had got very weather damaged after only 13 months. The supplier has sent a replacement free of charge. Cllr Brown agreed to carry out the repair work.

062/15 Delegates Reports – None

Cllrs Hunt and Brown provisionally agreed to be playing field liaisons.

063/15 Comments on information circulated – None

064/15 Future agenda items – RES Whiddon Down link road, Parish Post delivery schedules, speed enforcement,

065/15 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETINGS –

Monday 1 June 2015 at 11.30 am outside Drewe Arms, Drewsteignton EX6 6QN

Monday 15 June 2015 at 7.30pm at Drewsteignton Village Hall

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.20 pm

