

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
OF
DREWSTEIGNTON PARISH COUNCIL
Drewsteignton Village Hall
On
Monday 19 October 2015 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Imrie (Chair), Savage (Vice Chairman) Brooks, Hunt, Hardie, Ridgers, Brown and the Clerk.
Apologies None
In attendance Simon Hill (local member on DNPA committee), Pete Rich (DNPA ranger) 1 member of the public

The Chair introduced Simon Hill, the newly elected local member on DNPA committee, to the meeting. Mr Hill said he was born and married in Drewsteignton, and now lives in Chagford and serves on their Parish Council.

113/15 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING;

Unanimous approval of the minutes for Ordinary meetings held on 17 August 2015 and 21 September 2015

114/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST; The Chairman reminded the Cllrs present of the need to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in respect of any items included on the Agenda. Cllr Brown has had print work carried out by Sam Peirce who has bid for the website contract.

115/15 MATTERS ARISING;

Car park misuse, Cllr Brown has made a new 'No Camping' sign and will install it, all free of charge.

Whiddon Down illegal travellers site follow up; There has been no reply to the letter sent to WDBC Chief Executive complaining about the service received by residents. Clerk to chase and cc Cllr Ridgers.

Public WC's; The Clerk sought 4 quotes for the work to remove the greenery on the WC building. 2 contractors responded, with widely varying prices. Cllrs agreed to Ben Pell's quote. Clerk to activate the works.

Council owned **benches** - Volunteers have confirmed their willingness to clean and repaint the metal benches. They will get their materials and equipment and claim expenses afterwards.

Churchyard lamp post; Clerk spent over 2 hours at the Devon Record Office in Exeter checking the relevant PC minutes 1996- 2000. This shows that this Council bought the lamp and paid for its installation, and the Parochial Church Council minutes show that the church agreed to pay for the electricity. The Clerk cannot find any comment on future ownership or responsibility. Cllrs agreed that the light needs to be repaired or replaced, and agreed to pay on this occasion. Tim Cox has agreed to quote for the work but is busy. Other contractors will be sought. Cllrs agreed to appoint a committee consisting of Cllrs Imrie, Savage and Hunt to progress this matter promptly.

Whiddon Down; **Barn Close open space.** West Devon Borough Council have written saying they can offer a short, rolling licence with administration costs of about £100. The PC insurance will need to be upgraded, at minimal cost. Cllrs agreed this action. A meeting with Dee Douglas, other interested residents, local Cllrs and Alison Chapman who chairs the Drewsteignton Playing Field committee might help clarify the input needed to make this project successful. Clerk to arrange.

116/15 HIGHWAYS:

Chapel Hill, Whiddon Down; traffic calming measures. Mike Jones (Devon County Council Highways) has attended a site visit, and agreed that speed humps would be possible, though expensive. He suggested another traffic calming option at the junction of Chapel Hill and Turnpike Road. A similar solution had been suggested some time ago by Steve Dawe, (Neighbourhood Highways Officer) Steve Dawe will attend a site visit on Friday 30 October as he would like to move this project on.

Mike Jones will also looked at the possibility of a **footpath to Hole Farm**, (Whiddon Down) to improve pedestrian safety, it was agreed that there isn't enough space for a footpath. A representative from RES was present and offered some landscaping to the verge, to create a level grass strip. This suggestion has been incorporated into RES's site plans. Hole Farm residents have written thanking Cllrs Imrie & Hardie for their efforts in getting this matter resolved.

RES held an **open day** at Whiddon Down Village Hall on Wednesday 23 September which was well attended by residents and Cllrs.

During an inspection of the **Whiddon Down link road** site on 6 October, Cllrs Imrie & Hardie, in the presence of Devon County Cllr James McInnes, were told by Phillip Townsend, Senior Highways Development Management Officer, that the plans for the road layout at the village centre have been changed from No Entry to Access Only, without consultation. Further, Mr Townsend stated that Saunders Agricultural Machinery business have paid for this change. Whiddon Down already has problems with Access Only road status at Chapel Hill. This Council supported the original application because it would enhance road safety. Cllrs noted that when they looked at a Traffic Order for Chapel Hill we were told that even 1 objector would necessitate a public enquiry costing at least £20,000. The same process should be applied here. Clerk to enquire with RES about this, and write to Devon

Phil Norrey (County Council Chief Executive) and David Whitton (DCC Head of Highways) to discover the truth about this matter, and what authority was used to make this change.

Cllrs reported to Pete Rich (DNPA ranger) on the state of the Parish **footpaths**, which is generally good.

Road repairs needed; Veet Mill drainage, Whiddon Down roundabout, potholes across the parish, details to be emailed from Cllrs to the Clerk.

Stuart MacDonald has complained to this Council about **on-road car-parking in Crockernwell**. The Clerk has given Mr MacDonald some Highway contacts at Devon County Council, but they were unable to help. The problem is at the narrow part of the road. Road safety is not part of the Parish Council's remit. Cllr Savage suggested a community project to utilise some potential parking space at the Methodist Chapel.

Cllr Hunt said the sign at Ford Lane has not been replaced, and she will continue to monitor the soil fly-tipping on Harepath Straight.

117/15 PLANNING

Decisions received; DNPA 0435/15 re-build of weir at **Ford House**, Drewsteignton - **granted**

Applications; None

Further planning matters. None

118/15 FINANCE;

a) Payments to be made in October 2015

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

Ms B Snook – Salary - £379.16

Ms B Snook - general expenses - 2 months - £52.40

Mr M Rowe – WC cleaning - £73.50

Whiddon Down Village Hall - Hall hire - £10.00

Parish Mag Printers – magazine print - £74.00

Playing field committee - grant for bonfire night event - £250.00

Royal British legion - poppy wreath - £17.00

EDF - WC electricity - £51.85

Cllr Savage - travel expenses - £14.40

b) **Income from honesty boxes** - (car park £37.18) (WCs £5.34)

c) **Precept payment from WDBC** - £6841.00

119/15 Website overhaul - Cllr Ridgers has created a matrix format which has been forwarded to all Cllrs. Bids were received from Sam Peirce of Drewsteignton, Andy Parrott of Chagford, and Mike Laye of Bristol. Using the matrix scoring to help fairly evaluate the proposals, which varied greatly in content and format. The winner was Andy Parrott who works on Chagford PC website. Clerk to contact all bidders to thank them for their proposals, and to set the hand-over in motion.

120/15 General correspondence

Agenda letters;

The **playing field** team have completed the firework safety form for the insurance cover. They would also like to have some permanent signage for the field, type and location to be researched further. Advertisement consent requirements need to be checked.

Broadband update - the Clerk will attend a meeting at Dartmoor National Park HQ, Parke, on Wed 28 October to get an update. There is also a public meeting at Whiddon Down Village Hall on Tues 1 December 7.00pm - 9.00pm.

Cllr Ridgers left the meeting.

The nomination of **Assets of Community Value** involves a lot of administration before each proposal can go to West Devon Borough Council for consideration. It was agreed that these will be dealt with as required.

Car-park railings may need some maintenance. The previous works have not withstood the weather well, and it may be more sensible to replace with more resilient materials. Cllr Brown to check current condition.

The tree preservation matter raised turns out to be not in the conservation area.

Police non response to 101 phone call; Cllr Imrie waited 15 minutes to alert police to some suspicious activity, to no response. An email message only got a response weeks later, saying sorry, but offering no advice.

At the recent **Superlinks meeting** Tony Hogg (Police and Crime Commissioner) said the next rounds of financial cuts will result in only reactive policing and no neighbourhood patrolling at all. Also Cllr John Hart said Devon County Council will have to implement another £30 million of cuts across all spending areas next year. If communities get together to take on some works there may be grant funding available.

LATE LETTERS; None

121/15 Delegates Reports –The next Eastern Links meeting will be held at Whiddon Down Village Hall on Thursday 19 November at 7.30pm.

122/15 Comments on information circulated – None

123/15 Future agenda items – Chagford expansion, DALC Local council Awards, signage for the public garden regarding dogs.

DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 16 November 2015 at Whiddon Down.

The December meeting will be held on **Monday 14 December 2015** at Drewsteignton

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.40 pm.