

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7th November 2017

The Parish Council met in the Church as the Village Hall was undergoing some refurbishments. There was an attendance of 7 Parish Councillors, Rev. David Bond and 1 Parishioner.

Apologies for absence: Mrs L. Gritton, Councillor Judy Pearce and County Councillor Rufus Gilbert.

Open Forum: Mr D. Horton referred to the letter from Adam Keay regarding the mud on the road at Auton, the Parish Council were copied into the letter, so were aware of the situation. Mr Horton said that he had walked the lane 10 minutes after the complaint and there was no wash or run off, there was a lot of water on the road coming down from the Langworthys Barn direction. It seemed that the letter had been sent without Mr Keay actually going to look at the situation, he has subsequently apologised. Mr Horton said that there was an ongoing situation with the resident complaining and he expected more complaints to be received about him and he wished the Parish Councillor to be aware of this. He said he took exception to being accused of bad husbandry practices. He said he also thought that when the pot holes were filled they made more mess and he got the blame for that too. His comments were noted.

County Councillors Report: None received.

District Councillors Report: The One Council proposal was rejected and the merger will not take place.

Mr R. Ladkin wished on behalf of the Parish Councillors to express their disappointment that their views had not been considered, and that it was profoundly undemocratic.

The Chairman said that this was incorrect and he disagreed that all opinions were not taken into consideration, they had in fact engaged with as many people as possible to get their opinions on any merger of the two councils.

The Parish Councillors present felt that this was not the case and were extremely dissatisfied with the way the process was handled.

Mr R. Ladkin proposed that as Parish Council we should formally record our disappointment that our wishes were not taken into account. All Parish Councillors agreed to this proposal.

Police Report:

The crime figures for the past month for West Alvington are as follows:

(1 Robbery

1 Kidnap) (please note both linked)

1 criminal damage to vehicle

There was also some graffiti on the back of the Village Hall and to a car in the village. Both have been reported and if anyone has any information as to who may be responsible please let us know.

Declarations of Interest: There were none declared at tonight's meeting.

Approve the Minutes of the last Meeting: The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and signed, copies thereof having been given to the Councillors prior to this evenings meeting.

Village Hall Update: The work is coming along well, the target date may over run by a few days, but this shouldn't pose too much of a problem.

Advertising for a new Clerk: The advert has yet to go in the local paper, this will be done after Christmas. We will also advertise on the notice board and in the Village Hall, and perhaps even on the website.

Parish Representatives Updates: The Coffee Mornings continue to be quite successful.

It was requested that the Clerk get some costings for a couple of new noticeboards, one for Tacket Wood and the other for Town Park.

Chairmans Report: At the last meeting Mr Horton suggested that perhaps the hedge should be taken out opposite the reservoir at Thornfield and a post and rail fence put in it's place in order to widen the road. The Chairman is to meet with County Councillor Rufus Gilbert and Devon Highways, Adam Keay to discuss the possibility of this

Financial Report:

The Clerk reported the following balances:

Lloyds Current Account	4386.41
Lloyds Savings Account	856.73
Parish Plan Account	499.98

A.O.B by direction of the Chairman: It was mentioned that the metal handrail by the Village Hall seems to be leaning, it could be that someone may have driven into it at some stage. Mr G. Johns said he would have a look at it to see whether it needs any attention. Mrs M. Kitt and Mrs A. Smith to make a decision on any costs of repairs to the handrail up to a max. of £500.

It was agreed to have a Christmas tree outside the Village Hall this year, but not too big so that it doesn't get blown over should it be windy.

The Village Hall Committee are to organise the Carols in the hall this year with a finger buffett, mince pies, mulled wine etc. the Parish Council to give them a budget of £150.

At January's meeting we will discuss the purchasing of a defibrillator for the village and where to site it.

There being no further business the meeting was closed. The Chairman thanked Rev. David Bond for opening the Church for us this evening so that we could have our meeting. The next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 2nd January 2018 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

Signed

Dated.....