

## **Minutes of the West Alvington Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016:**

The Parish Council met in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. There was an attendance of 6 Parish Councillors, District Councillor Mrs J. Pearce, Devon County Councillor Mr R. Gilbert and 10 Parishioners.

Apologies for absence: Mrs L. Gritton and Mrs J. Stevens.

Open Forum: Mr A. Clarke said that the main street had been cleaned up and weeded by two parishioners, Mr Brian Hickling and Harry Winzer. The Parish Council will thank them for undertaking this job, it was a very nice gesture.

Mr Clarke also asked if there was any updates on the K5 access issues. Mr R. Gilbert said there was nothing to report and that all was very quiet on the K5 front.

Mr Horton made reference to his planning application at the Ridings, he said that after Mr R. Ladkins "outburst" at the last Parish Council meeting they had asked their architect Mr A. Lethbridge to come along to the meeting. The Chairman asked the Councillors when they would like to discuss the matter, whether in the open forum or at item 9 Planning Applications on the agenda. They chose to leave it until item 9.

Mr Nigel Hutchings and Mr Andrew Brown the new owners of Longbrook Copse had come along to the meeting to introduce themselves and explain a bit about their intentions for the copse. They are currently undertaking a woodland management plan, studying the bio diversity and the bat population of the wood. So far there have been 5 recorded species of bat surveyed. They have removed substantial amounts of holly in various quantities from several sections of the copse. As they have only owned the copse for about a year they have only had one full years study through the seasons. Mr Brown mentioned the parish councils concerns over the caravan sited there, this has now been removed but they would like to reinstate it, mainly for shelter, tea making etc. They have no intention of living there, purely for recreational use. He said that he had had a party there earlier in the summer for his birthday, but there were not going to be regular parties going on. He said basically that they are just nice people having a nice time in their woods.

The Chairman said that previously the school had on occasion been to the wood for school projects etc, would they still be able to do so? Mr Brown said that they had no objection to this at all, all they would ask is that they were notified prior to any such trips. They have their own insurance but it would not cover school parties. Mrs A. Smith said she thought that the school would have their own insurance for such events. The Chairman thought that it would be nice for the information regarding the bats etc, to be shared with the school for educational purposes. The Chairman thanked Mr Hutchings and Mr Brown for attending the meeting and said it was very nice to meet them and learn about their proposals for the copse.

County Councillors Report: Mr R. Gilbert reported that Somerset and Devon are working together moving forward with Devolution. There is more information on the DCC website. There is a further meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November regarding Devolution. Phase 2 of superfast broadband tenders will close soon, it is a £40 million pound contract and aims to have 95% of users to be connected. Phase 3 will see up to 99% of users connected. There have been more and more reports of hate crime post the referendum in June. Sadly, there has even been incidents closer to home in Kingsbridge. If anyone hears of any such incidents, please get in touch with Cllr. Gilbert and he will see that it is dealt with immediately. The road at Heddeswell Farm which is in a terrible condition is due to be repaired at a cost of four and half thousand pounds. There are also repairs to be carried out at Upton Cross and Auton Cross. Totnes Cross road to Halwell is still in a bad state of repair but it is hoped that it will be done in the next financial year and also a section at the Mounts. The Beacon Cottages footpath deviation has been carried out and has been a great improvement to the infrastructure of the coastal path.

District Councillors Report: Cllr. Judy Pearce gave a report. She explained that officers are still sifting through the responses for sites in relation to the new Plymouth and South Devon Local Plan. The plan is moving forward quite well but there is still a lot of technical work to be done. It was initially hoped that the plan would be ready at the end of October and submitted in January 2017, that has now been moved to ready at the end of January and submitted in April. There has been problems with the phone lines at the District Council, there is now a new provider and it is hoped that with new fibre optic being put in place that the 200 lines at the offices will eventually increase to 2000 lines.

Police Report: Mrs G. Rossetti had received the report from PCSO Dave Gibson. There were no crimes to report for our area last month. In the wider area there have been some arrests made in connection with marine crimes. The police would like anybody who witnesses anything suspicious to report it, with possible any vehicle registration numbers as this make it more likely that they can be traced.

Declarations of Interest whether personal or pecuniary:

Mrs M. Kitt declared a personal interest on item 9 planning applications.

Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the last meeting held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016 were confirmed and signed. Copies thereof having been given to the Councillors prior to the meeting.

Matters Arising:

- a) Town Park Car Park - The Chairman has spoken to Mr Manisty as requested at the last meeting, Mr Manisty is quite upset by the entrance being made into the car park and he asked the Chairman to write to his agents Michelmores Hughes and ask them to deal with it. He also asked about the possibility of the parish council extending the car park, Mr Manisty was not in favour of this proposal.
- b) Village Hall Car Park - The car that was parking there seems to have stopped doing it.
- c) Longbrook Copse – This subject has been covered by the presence of Mr Hutching and Mr Brown.

Planning Applications and Updates:

Mr R. Ladkin explained that the Parish Council had entered a formal objection to the above proposed planning application to the planning officer. It was said by the applicants and the architects throughout consultations with the work party and the planning officers that they could not build on that southern slope and that the owners intended to maintain the portion of land under consideration within the designated boundary of the site for agricultural purposes.

Mr A. Lethbridge, architect for Mr & Mrs Horton said that at the time that was correct.

The Parish Council upheld their previous reasons for rejection of the proposed planning application. This was proposed by Mr R. Ladkin and seconded by Mrs G. Rossetti. All in favour of the rejection being carried. Mrs M. Kitt and Mr G. Johns abstained from voting.

Parish Representatives Verbal Updates:

Mrs M. Kitt attended the Parish Clerks Training Event in place of the Clerk. She reported back on several items that were raised at the event. The Chairman thanked Mrs Kitt for attending.

Parish Fun Day Report: Mrs Kitt reported that the Fun Day was another success, the weather was great and there were a lot of children there having fun. Although sadly it seemed they were not children from the school, but non the less they had fun. Mrs Smith felt that it was a shame that more of the village residents did not support the event and especially that the school did not take

part, when the fun day first started they were always involved in some way. Mrs Smith felt that perhaps it was time to try something new rather than carry on in the same way. This will be discussed at further meetings. The day did raise in the region of £330.00. Mr R. Ladkin said that he wished to thank everyone involved in arranging and helping on the day.

Work Party Dates: There will be two dates to be decided, one for the painting of the Village Hall, it was decided that volunteers put there names forward to help and then when the time and weather is right we can contact them at short notice. The other date will be when the contractor can come and cut the hedges. Woodlane has become rather overgrown and needs cutting back, we may need to contact someone with a smaller tractor to get into the lane.

Carol Singing Evening: The date for the Carol Singing was confirmed as Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm.

Correspondence: A letter has been received from Mr and Mrs A. Clarke about the closure of the phone box which is sited on a piece of ground belonging to Mr and Mrs Clarke outside their home. Should we consider purchasing the phone box for the sum of £1, if so where shall we re-site it, do we need planning permission and how will we move it? There were concerns regarding the possibility of vandalism. If we were able to site it near the new parish information noticeboard we may be able to lock it at night. It was decided that we look in to how much it would cost to relocate it before making any decisions.

A.O.B by direction of the Chairman: There was nothing raised.

Confirm the date of the next meeting: There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2016 at 7.00pm.

Signed ..... Dated.....