

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 5th January 2017

The Parish Council met in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. There was an attendance of 7 Parish Councillors, 3 Parishioners, County Councillor Mr R. Gilbert and 2 guest speakers.

Apologies for absence: None, all Parish Councillors present.

County Councillors Report: The B3196 Loddiswell to Wrangaton Road over the next 10 years will have the 3 main pinch points widened. Phase 2 of the new broadband is imminent, it is not going to be provided by BT but another provider with a really good record. 1 in 5 of the population in Devon is in excess of 65 years of age, this is going to put a strain on the care in the community in the coming years with more people of retiring age choosing to move to Devon and with a rise in the age that people are living to. Devon County are setting their precept for the coming year, the Government is still deciding how much to raise it's precept. Some information about the Road Warden Scheme will be sent soon for the Parish Councils information.

District Councillors Report: The Council has implimented a no drone flying policy on any council property with out permission. The Council Tax Reduction Scheme remains the same for the current year. The Government is to award money to the districts most affected by second homes. £1.8 million being awarded in the first year. This is one of the highest amount awarded to any district in the UK. Exactly how this can be spent is to be decided but it must be community led. Rural Business Rate Relief is now a 100%. for small rural businesses such as post offices. In St. Ives the council have decided to support development plans for local homes not second homes on new developments. Second homes produce a shortage in the need for local homes but create a lot of revenue for the areas they are built in.

Police Report: Three crimes were reported but none for the West Alvington Parish. There was a burglary in Salcombe and 2 assaults.

Presentation by West Alvington Primary School regarding Academy consultation:

Declarations of Interest: Mrs L. Gritton declared a personal interest in the West Alvington School Academy Consultaion Lease and Licence considerations, item 10 on the agenda.

Approve the Minutes of the last meeting: The Minutes of the last meeting were signed and confirmed. Copies thereof having been given to the Councillors prior to the meeting.

Matters Arising:

Tap Fund: The Chairman suggested we apply for the cost of 25 hours labour for jobs that need doing around the Parish.

Work Party: A work party has been carried out once again by the prisoners at Channings Wood Jail and an excellent job they have done.

West Alvington Primary School – Lease and Licence Considerations: It was suggested that we consult our solicitor about the rules regarding the lease and perhaps we should reduce it to say a 25 year lease rather than the 100 years suggested. This was proposed by Mr G.Johns and seconded by Mrs M. Kitt.

The Licence currently stands at £300 per annum on a 5 year contract. All in favour to continue with the same agreement.

Planning Applications and Updates:

The Planning Committee is due to meet on the 18th January 2017. Mr R. Ladkin to speak on the Parish Councils behalf if he is here at the time.

Parish Representatives verbal updates: Mr R. Ladkin is undertaking the annual footpath survey and will report again in March. Mrs M. Kitt reported that the Coffee Mornings have changed to Thursday.

Financial Report: The Clerk was unable to give a report this evening. The Chairman reported that he had made a web payment and had also purchased a wheelbarrow for Clive for when he undertakes work for the Parish Council.

Parish Precept: A dispensation sheet had been completed on behalf of the Parish Councillors and will be sent to the monitoring officer as is required. It was agreed to increase the annual precept by 3%, this was proposed by Mr R.Ladkin and seconded by Mrs M. Kitt with all in favour. This will be submitted to SHDC.

A.O.B: There have been cases of dog fouling in the childrens play area once again, this time children have been stepping in it and taking it into the school and onto the carpets. It seems that we may know who the culprit is and they should be reported to the dog warden.

Mrs M. Kitt asked about the Homefield housing allocation process, she seemed to think that when the talks were first held at the public meetings and subsequent meetings that the Parish Council would be able to have some input regarding allocation? The Chairman felt that it would be best for the Parish Council to remain impartial on that particular matter.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm with the date of the next meeting being confirmed as Thursday 2nd February 2017 at 7.00pm.

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