

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6th June 2017.

The Parish Council met in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. There was an attendance of 4 Parish Councillors, Mrs Judy Pearce District Councillor, Mr Rufus Gilbert Devon County Councillor and 2 Parishioners.

Apologies for absence: Mr S. Wright, Mrs L. Gritton, Mr R. Ladkin, Mrs G. Green

Open Forum: Nothing raised.

County Councillors Report: Councillor Gilbert reported that he had attended the first meeting last week and the council was all formed and ready for business. He was now on the newly formed Inland Fisheries Committee which aims at protecting birds and wildlife, fishing, illegal baiting and foreshore protection. He reiterated that he was always available for the Parish Council should we require any information etc. The potholes outside Barnfield and Thornfield are still there, Councillor Gilbert suggested that the Clerk should report them again and let him know when it was done and he would also report it and hopefully it will be resolved shortly. From this Friday night the road at Halwell will be closed for the long awaited and well overdue road works. It was asked if West Alvington could have 30mph signs painted on the road at each end of the Village? We should ask Adam Keay and ask to be put on a TRO. The yellow lines are to be painted again in Lower Street this time legally.

District Councillors Report: Cllr. Pearce reported that at present there has been a huge period with nothing happening due to the election. There was an issue with the leisure centre at Totnes and it did look at one stage as if it would be closed. However, all is now resolved.

Police Report: PC Jo Pengilly and PCSO Paul O'Dwyer attended tonight's meeting. There had been the following crimes reported in the last 3 months. 3 reports of criminal damage, 1 driving offence, 1 possession of a firearm with intent to violence, 1 possession of class A drugs.

Mrs Rossetti brought up the speed of the traffic through the Village, she asked if we could have some monitoring equipment to assess the situation again. PC Pengilly suggested that we contact Devon Highways and say that the problem has increased and ask them to put in the speed monitoring equipment again. There is a possibility that we may be able to borrow the police speed gun if we have someone who would be willing to have a bit of training to use it. There are some issues with cars parking opposite the school junction on the raised kerb, it was suggested that we politely request that they do not park there.

PCSO Paul O'Dwyer introduced himself, he said that he had been at Start Point for the last 10 years although he has been in the job for 15 years. He enjoys working with young people and is a school liaison officer. He provided the Parish Council with his contact details and said he looked forward to a good working relationship with the Parish Council.

Declarations of Interests: None were declared at this meeting.

Approve the Minutes of the last meeting. The Minutes were confirmed and signed, copies there of having been given to the councillors prior to this evenings meeting.

Matters Arising:

a. Parish Fun Day - It was agreed that we would not hold the annual Fun Day this year, it is a shame but there just isn't the support or the helpers required to run it. So to give the organisers a break this year we will not be holding the Fun Day in September.

b. Village Hall Update - The Village Hall Committee have been accepted for their grant to do some refurbishments to the hall. They are just awaiting a start time for the work to commence.

c. Bench for the Burial Ground - The Clerk had obtained some brochures from a local recycled material supplier who make benches etc. The Councillors present chose a bench and this will be ordered for the burial ground.

Planning Applications and Updates: There were 3 applications that had been before the Parish Councillors all were in favour of approval.

Receive and consider the business plan for the adoption of the phone box and then reconsider adoption: Sadly, none of the social media protesters or Mr Ben Carr who wished to see the phone box remain in the Village and who would be prepared to get a working party together to maintain it and see it used in alternative ways did not attend the meeting. Therefore the Councillors present felt that they had no choice but to stick with their original plan of allowing BT to carry on and remove it. Unfortunately, the Parish Council does not have the man power or the financial resources to remove, re-site, insure and maintain the phone box and it would seem that the lack of attendance at this and the previous meeting would mean that the responsibility would always lie with the Parish Council. All Councillors present in favour of the removal of the phone box in the main street.

Parish Representatives Verbal Reports: The Coffee Mornings continue to run smoothly and the lending library has increased. More people are always welcome though.

Chairmans Report: Nothing to report.

Financial report and Year End Accounts: The Clerk gave each Councillor present a copy of the accounts for the last financial year. All were happy with the accounts and the go ahead was given to submit to the internal auditor and then onto the external auditors for completion.

Agree the date for the Carol Singing Evening with Auction of Promises: It was decided to defer this until the next meeting.

A.O.B - There were no items for discussion.

Confirm the date of the next meeting: There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.12pm and the date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 4th July 2017 at 7.00pm.

Signed..... Confirmed