

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 17th July 2018 at the Moorland Hall

Present: Councillors John Anson (*Chairman*), Vivian White, Linda Atkins, Roger Webber, Eric Clarbull, John Davis, Parish Clerk Marlene Allinson, West Somerset Councillor Steven Pugsley, prospective new Parish Clerk Nic Kemp and one parishioner.

252.1 Public Question Time: items raised: (i) Discussion re Long Lane at the last Exmoor Panel
(ii) Councillor John Woodman, Somerset County Council Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport will be happy to attend a meeting in the Parish to discuss local issues (iii) suggested Press Release re the appointment of a new Parish Clerk

252.2 Apologies for Absence: were accepted from Cllr Eric Norman and Co Cllr Frances Nicholson and West Somerset Cllr Steven Pugsley who will attend later in the meeting.

252.3 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Eric Clarbull	6.1	Personal: Spouse employed by the Applicant Personal: Chairman of the Moorland Hall	Minuted
	9.3		Minuted
Cllr Roger Webber	6.2	Personal: Home overlooks the application site	Minuted
Cllr John Anson	9.3	Personal: Trustee of the Moorland Hall	Minuted

252.4 The minutes of the meeting held on 19th June 2018 were approved as a true record, with two amendments under Highways: potholes at Popery Lane and inadequate Highways' budgets.

There were no matters arising.

252.5 Reports from West Somerset and Somerset County Councillors: No report from County due to the absence of Cllr Nicholson. This item was taken later in the Agenda after the arrival of WS Cllr Steven Pugsley at 9.15pm. Cllr Pugsley reported on the proposed Boundary changes to approximate 2,000 electors per area and any objections put forward by WSC/Taunton Deane and current negotiations regarding the extra seat which will be created. The Exmoor Ward will stay more or less the same.

252.6 252.6.1 Planning Applications: 6/8/18/106 The Rest & Be Thankful Inn: proposed porch and nine electric vehicle charging stations along the south west and north west elevations. Cllr Webber took part in the debate but not the vote as public perception might perceive that his personal interest might unduly influence his decision. Council's comments are at the end of these minutes as a separate document minute page number 552. **252.6.2 Other Planning Matters:** None.

252.7 Highways: Cllr Anson reported on a meeting of the Exmoor Panel where the following were chased with Highways; the signage/road marking work at Heathpoult Cross is substantially completed; he is still chasing dates for surface dressing work related to the Crossroads Scheme and Wessex Water re replacing the pipe at Bouverie Close; work on the road to Dulverton has now started. Long Lane: Cllr Anson awaiting a reply from David Peake of Highways for an update on drain and ditches clearance. Cllr Webber suggested that a procedure needs to be put in place for progress-chasing Highways matters. It was agreed that the Clerk contact Somerset Co Cllr Woodman and invite him to a meeting at Cutcombe. The SIDS Working Party: no report. The Clerk is still trying to find out who is responsible for the new inter-Parish SIDS programme at County Hall.

252.8 Boundary Commission Consultation: The Clerk showed the brief Powerpoint Presentation for Parish Councils prepared by WS Council/Taunton Deane. It was agreed to submit a comment to the Consultation: "The per capita rule means a democratic deficit in rural areas".

252.9 Finance: It was agreed to pay: **252.9.1** Travelling Expense of £13.10 to Cllr White **252.9.2** SALC Affiliation Fees 2018/19 £111.36 **252.9.3** The Moorland Hall £33.75 and £0.25 outstanding from the previous month for room hire **252.9.4** To reimburse Cllr Anson for small items for the toilets and postage, totaling £38.98 **252.9.5** Contract for the new Parish Clerk: The Chairman and Nic Kemp signed the contract: the new Clerk will be in post from 1st August but it was agreed that Marlene will continue until the end of August as a training and handover period. The Clerk reported that the VAT return had been approved and the money received as had the ENPA grant re the toilets.

252.10 252.10.1 Correspondence and Meetings: **252.10.1** No report other than items previously circulated by email. **252.10.2** Cllr Anson gave a brief update on

items relating to the toilets.

Cllr Webber had attended a Church of England meeting and felt that the issue of Safeguarding is one which the Parish Council should also consider and perhaps attend some training in this regard. Cllr White reported that the West Somerset Community Land Trust are to make a second approach to Exmoor farmers with regard to developing the undeveloped Meadow Close site, and it would be appreciated if anyone was in a position to encourage this approach. Cllr White read out a report from Helen Davies re setting up a Facebook page for village events and offering to help with the village website. Cllrs Anson and Davis had attended a meeting of the Exmoor Panel: Cllr Davis is happy to prepare teas and coffees when he is available.

252.11 Items for the Next Agenda: Clerk's salary and expenses.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.50 pm. The next meeting of Cutcombe Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 18th September 2018** at 7.30pm in the Moorland Hall, unless a meeting needs to be called earlier to deal with any urgent business, for example a planning application.

All are welcome to all meetings

552

**Copy of the email submitted to The Exmoor National Park Authority Planning Department 20/07/2018:
Planning Application 6/8/18/106 The Rest & Be Thankful Inn, Wheddon Cross: Proposed porch and nine electric vehicle charging stations along the south west and north west elevations**

This planning application was discussed at a meeting of Cutcombe Parish Council on the 17th July and I have been asked to submit the following comments:

Council is not, in principle, against the installation of electric charging points for vehicles in the parish nor the erection of a smoking shelter.

1. The Site Location Plan is inaccurate: it shows part of the bus shelter (belonging to the Moorland Hall) and the Wheddon Cross toilets (belonging to Cutcombe Parish Council) as part

of the car park (belonging to the applicant and leased to West Somerset Council). This implies ownership of these buildings by the owner of the car park (the applicant) which is not the case.

1. The Planning Statement states:

“The electric vehicle (EV) charging stations will be for use by guests and patrons who wish to charge their electric vehicle during their visit to the Inn.”

The car park lease states: “. . . the landlord and his licensees and the patrons of The Rest & Be Thankful Hotel shall have the use of ten parking spaces as and when required . . .”.

The Planning Statement paragraph 3.7 states: “The parking spaces that are positioned along the South West elevation of the Inn would have to be assigned to vehicles requiring the charging stations but the car park is of a decent size to allow for this. “ Council is concerned that, if, as is implied, the 9 electric vehicle charging stations are to be dedicated for charging electric vehicles by guests and patrons of the Inn, and are *in addition to* the 10 parking spaces allocated to the landlord and his licensees and patrons, then this will amount to a substantial loss of parking spaces in what is a busy and already congested car park. Clarification on this point would have been helpful.

1. With regard to the porch, Council is concerned that this might not comply with the current Anti-Smoking Legislation: it is very near to a doorway through which some users of the pub enter the building having to walk through the smoke. In addition Council is concerned that members of the public will be sitting further out into the car park which is busy and is also used by buses and vehicles to turn around at Wheddon Cross, and also concern was expressed at the loss of an outside seating area currently at the location where it is proposed to erect the porch.

1. Council is concerned that if the smoking shelter is erected the visibility splay when leaving the car park to turn left in the Minehead direction will be impaired by the porch.

Marlene P Allinson, Clerk to Cutcombe Parish Council

End of 17th July 2018 minutes