

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 11th October 2016 at the Moorland Hall

Present: Councillors John Anson, Vivian White, Roger Webber, Linda Atkins, John Davis and Eric Noman, Parish Clerk Marlene Allinson, West Somerset Councillor Steven Pugsley and one parishioner.

231.1 Public Question Time: Drain covers opposite Shearwell: one appears not to have been tarmacked around (Cllr Anson to follow up); Wheddon Cross toilets: concern expressed that if the Parish Council were to take these over they could be a long-term liability.

231.2 Apologies for Absence: Cllr Clarbull and Co Cllr Frances Nicholson.

231.3 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Webber, 5.1 6/8/16/114 Lower House Planning application: personal, brother of the applicant, minuted.

231.4 Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting of 20th September were approved and signed as a true record. **Matters** Arising: None.

231.5 231.5.1 Planning Applications: 6/8/16/114 Land at Ashwell Lane, near Lower House Farm: Proposed installation of a telecommunications pole and ancillary equipment (12m high timber telegraph pole above ground, supporting radio equipment and cabinet): fully supported. The Clerk to ask if this will complete mobile phone coverage for Cutcombe parish. **6/8/16/115 Cutcombe First School:** proposed installation of a wall-mounted canopy: fully supported. **213.5.2 Other Planning Matters:** the Clerk reported that Cutcombe's application for a grant for £250 towards a projector from ENPA has been successful (so that plans can be viewed online in the future): Cllr Anson thanked the Clerk and Cllr White for their work. The Clerk to progress the Church Path planning application.

231.6 Highways Matters: Cllr Anson reported on a meeting with Highways 07/10/2017: Long Lane Signage: Highways have agreed to new signage at both ends and will revisit the drainage issue; Water Main Replacement at Wheddon Cross: David Peake and Peter Owen will involve the Parish Council at all planning stages and also local residents and businesses: will be October/November 2017: any road markings from the cross road

scheme that are covered up by this operation of fully resurfacing this stretch, will be fully reinstated immediately; 40mph sign Taunton approach to WX at the crossroads: Highways say this could be considered: they will look into after the new road markings are in place: a formal request to Jo Sharpe would be required for it to be actioned; speeding at Luckwell Bridge: Highway report that 40mph speed limit from the gateway at Blagdon cross through to Luckwell bridge is not viable due to the length of road and could have the adverse effect with motorists speeding up due to frustration. Gritting: the Clerk to chase up Magna re parking problems at The Firs; Timberscombe Road Closure: now in place 09.30am to 3.30pm; Road Closure Beulah Chapel 24/10/2016: will be 09.30am to 3.30pm; overhanging trees at Beulah Chapel: responsibility of the landowners. Popery Lane: Cllrs Anson and White had a meeting with ENPA as another accident has occurred on the slippery stones: it was agreed that more cutting back of the hedges is required; a decision on how to go forward rests with ENPA: either more treatment of the stones or Heritage Path signs as well as warning signs.

231.7 Wheddon Cross Toilets: revised Heads of Terms now received. These were discussed at length. It was agreed to call a public meeting in November to put the facts to the parishioners before a decision is made: the Clerk to organize and prepare a flyer for insertion in the Cutcombe Parish magazines and to invite Martin Dewdney to answer questions, or in his absence Mandy Chilcott. Cllr Pugsley agreed to feedback the main points of the discussion to West Somerset Council.

231.8 Proposed Changes to Parish and Town Council

Cappings: response to Government Consultation: the Clerk had prepared a response to Questions 6 and 7 which are the main ones affecting Cutcombe: it was agreed that she send this in as a response and also endorse NALC's position.

231.9 Finance: 9.1 The external auditor's report was noted. End of Audit Notices were placed on the noticeboard and the website as soon as the report was received back from the auditors. **9.2** It was agreed to pay Grant Thornton £120 for the 2015/16 audit **9.3** It was agreed to pay the Moorland Hall £10 for room hire for December 2015 (invoice 813) and £10 for room

hire for July 2016 (both retrospective) **9.4** It was agreed to pay *The Rest & Be Thankful Inn* £25 as received from Exford Parish Council towards 2016/17 cctv running costs **9.5** A report from the Finance Committee was received: proposed 2017/18 budget: a modest increase of 2% (£1.10 per Band D household). The Clerk asked for funding (£23.75) to attend a half day course in November on risk assessment: this was agreed.

231.10 Correspondence and Meetings: 10.1 The Clerk and Cllr Norman reported on the Snowdrop Valley Steering Group Meeting and presented the 2017 SV budget which was accepted by the Parish Council. BT consultation re removal of the Luckwell Bridge phonebox: the Clerk was asked to respond to ENPA to protest at this proposal outlining the same reasons as in 2008. **10.2:** Cllr White attended the last Exmoor Panel meeting and gave a report including the fact that hard plastic can now be recycled by the Somerset Waste Partnership.

231.11 Items for the Next Agenda: Wheddon Cross Toilets; Parish Lengthsman 2017/18; Grass Cutting Contract 2017/18; Parish Precept: ratification of the 2017/18 budget.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.20 pm.

The next meeting of Cutcombe Parish Council will be held on **Tuesday 15th November 2016** at 7.30pm in the Moorland Hall.

All are welcome to all meetings