

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
OF  
DREWSTEIGNTON PARISH COUNCIL  
Whiddon Down Village Hall  
On  
Monday 18 November 2013 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Savage (Chairman) Power, Imrie, Ridgers, Hardie, Walker, Riches, Dyke, and the Clerk.  
Apologies Phillip Evans (Parochial Church Council)  
In attendance 1 member of the public

#### **143/13 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Unanimous approval of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 21 October. Cllr Imrie proposed and Cllr Power seconded approval of the minutes of the Additional meeting held on 2 November 2013.

#### **144/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Chairman reminded the Cllrs present of the need to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in respect of any items included on the Agenda. None stated.

#### **145/13 MATTERS ARISING**

The promised traffic counter for **Chapel Hill**, Whiddon Down has not yet appeared.

The local British Legion group are interested in the proposed **Commemorative Stone** to mark the Centenary of the start of World War I. The masons at Castle Drogo are happy to supply the stone and labour. The size and wording now need to be agreed. Cllr Imrie to progress.

Andy West (Enforcement Officer DNPA) has sent an update regarding the **Drewe Arms breach of planning**; he has had no response from Enterprise Inns, and is currently chasing this up.

Cllr Riches has agreed to deal with the repair to the **Crockernwell bus shelter**. Tony Thomas has very kindly offered to decorate the **Drewsteignton bus shelter** as part of his home improvement project. The Council appreciate this offer as there is currently no budget for this. Cllr Hardie has monitored the **Whiddon Down bus shelters**. The planned notice board renovation here has been delayed while a suitable contractor is sought.

The estimate from a Whitestone contractor for the **Well Head** at the corner of Knowle Lane is well above the non-existent budget. An alternative option will be sought.

**Cllrs website profiles** should be updated onto the website shortly, thanks to Chris Gosnay for this.

#### **146/13 PLANNING**

##### **Decisions received;**

**DNPA 0491/13** Higher Parford Farm – approved

##### **Applications;**

All 4 applications below are for **listed building consent at Middle Venton Farm, Venton**.

The applicant outlined the history of the property, and the applicants previous work to save the property. Cllr Savage read from the design and access statement. Cllr Savage also referred to the **DNPA's Development Management Document** in particular **paragraph 2.10.13** which refers to sympathetic and sustainable conversion of redundant agricultural buildings being a good way of preserving them.

**DNPA 0570/13** Replacement door & shutter at shippon end of house; the weatherproof door protects the building and the shutter gives a historical exterior appearance.

**DNPA 0571/13** Retention of handrail & balustrade at shippon end of house; these are a common sense safety feature whatever use the building is put to.

**DNPA 0572/13** Retention of glazing to former loading door & timber shutter to rear of house; the glazing protects the wall from wet weather, and the shutter maintains a suitable exterior appearance.

**DNPA 0573/13** Retention of limecrete floor and limewash to walls; these are sensible improvements using appropriate materials.

Cllrs voted to **SUPPORT** all these applications. Clerk to respond to authority.

DNPA's Stephen Belli has written regarding **Housing Policy Update** referring to occupancy conditions such as Agricultural Ties, and holiday lets. Information on restricted properties within the Parish is available to the Parish Council on request. Information on common restrictions is with the Clerk.

Andy West (DNPA Enforcement Officer) has sent details of **current planning breaches** and the progress of each case. He will keep the Council updated for the next meeting.

Concerns have been raised regarding **Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment**. Cllr Ridgers explained that West Devon Borough Council have published a development plan on this issue and most developments will be connected to larger settlements because they have the necessary infrastructure.

A late application has arrived for a proposal at **Narracott Close**, Clerk to arrange site visit and Additional Meeting.

Alan Brooks has thanked the Parish Council for the careful consideration given to his planning applications.

#### **147/13 HIGHWAYS:**

Steve Dawe (Neighbourhood Highways Officer) visited the Parish with Cllr Savage. **Froggy Lane**, (behind Drewsteignton car park) does belong to Highways but they have no budget for any repairs. Under Devon County Council policy only the **worst potholes** are being filled with any smaller ones nearby being deferred, as a money saving exercise. The Parish Lengthsman will be working here on 28 & 29 November. Requests from Parishioners have been forwarded to the relevant department.

There has been **bagged rubbish** on the verge near West Ford Farm all summer. Clerk to contact WDBC to seek an explanation.

There are a few repairs needed in the Parish, but Highways are more likely to **prioritise cases which are reported by more people**. Support poles for **safety signage** at Whiddon Down and Venton are badly rusted. Clerk to request replacement.

**Potholes** at Wallon to Preston to Fingle Bridge are still a problem. Clerk to chase. Damaged surface on A 382 near Pixie's Cottage.

#### **148/13 FINANCE;**

##### **a) Payments to be made in November 2013.**

Cllr Walker proposed and Cllr Hardie seconded the following payments to be made;

Ms B Snook – Salary & general expenses - £395.99

Mr M Rowe – WC cleaning & materials - £73.50

Parish Mag Printers – magazine print - £74.00

Drewsteignton Village Hall – hall hire - £8.00

Royal British Legion – poppy wreath - £17.00

SPC landscaping – car park maintenance - £580.00

Cllr Savage – travel expenses - £14.40

b) Income from honesty boxes - (toilets £5.52) (car park £35.69)

c) The repair to the **collapsed wall** between the Church yard and the car park will cost the Parochial Church Council £4000, £3000 of which is covered by insurance, however the PCC would greatly appreciate any grant from this Council. The PCC representative Phillip Evans had hoped to attend this meeting, but was not available. They have obtained grants to cover all but £200 of the amount needed. Although there is no planned budget for this request, this Council expect to make some savings in other maintenance areas and Cllrs agreed to a one-off ex-gratia grant of £100.

#### **149/13 General correspondence**

##### **Agenda letters;**

The Council have received a request for help from **Victim Support**, however there is no surplus funds for such causes. Clerk to reply.

##### **Late letters;**

A report on **speed monitoring** was received from Neighbourhood Beat Officer Nadine Wilson, with 2 recent visits to the Parish, the second was curtailed by the weather.

The **sign at the public toilets** has become delaminated. Clerk to ask DNPA if they can replace it as it was originally supplied by them.

**150/13 Meeting dates** were agreed for 2014. Clerk to contact both Village Halls.

##### **151/13 Delegates Reports –**

Cllr Savage attended a recent **Superlinks** meeting, and heard **Devon County Council's** John Hart say that all the fat has already been cut, and now front line services will have to be trimmed. For example some mobile library stops have only one customer. **WDBC** have saved money by operating many services jointly with South Hams. Councils are keen to support any **voluntary projects** willing to take over services. It is possible that there will be a cap on Parish Councils **Precept requests**.

**152/13 Comments on information circulated** – None

**153/13 Future agenda items** – None

**154/13 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING** – **Monday 16 December 2013** at Drewsteignton

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.28 pm