

Drewsteignton Parish Council.

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 21st November 2022 at 7.30pm in Whiddon Down Village Hall.

Present: Peter Brennan (Chair), Anna Imrie (Vice-Chair), Andrew di Battista, Ian Rowe & John Redman.

Also in attendance: Alice Turner (Clerk), County Cllr James McInnes & 4 members of the public.

BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

1.11.22: Welcome.

The Chair opened the meeting, thanking everyone for attending and reminded everyone that the Clerk was taking an audio recording to aid with taking the minutes, the recording will be deleted once the draft minutes are published.

2.11.22 Co-option Vacancies – Whiddon Down & Crockernwell (Chair)

Cllrs to consider any candidates who have been confirmed as eligible to stand prior the Meeting. No candidates received at this time.

3.11.22 Apologies for absence:

Resolution to approve apologies (with reasons) made to the Clerk prior to the meeting. Cllr Julie Macey (Prior Commitment) & Cllr Paul Ridgers (Personal Reason) had sent their apologies. **Cllr Rowe proposed that apologies from Cllr Julie Macey (Prior Commitment) & Cllr Paul Ridgers (Personal reasons) be approved, seconded Cllr di Battista. All in Favour – Motion Carried. (RR2022/045)**

4.11.22: Declarations of Interest - None declared at this time.

5.11.22: Public Speaking Time (max. 3minutes/person. Session time: 10 minutes).

Members of the public raised a variety of concerns regarding activities at the Black Aller Quarry, Drewsteignton. Parishioners reported several concerns regarding site clearance, habitat disturbance and its impact on rare butterflies, toads and Schedule 1 protected birds, advertisement of previous and planned motorcycle events and the potential development of an Adventure Park. It was noted that the sale of aggregates and stone was being advertised, which Cllrs noted which is not allowed under DNPA's licence. The approved demolition of the old quarry buildings (planning application 0707/21) has commenced however, Cllrs noted the absence of the ecological survey recommended by DNPA. Devon County Cllr James McInnes, a member of the DNPA, was appalled to hear of the developments and committed to write to the Authority to share his and parishioners' concerns. Concerns were raised of reports of threatening behaviour by individuals at the site and Cllrs advised that these incidents should be reported to the police. The PC agreed to provide a report to DNPA of their concerns and encouraged parishioners with specialist knowledge of the fauna, flora and wildlife, including surveys of the site, to write to DNPA. The Chair thanked the public for their input and asked that Clerk to report the concerns to DNPA, with a Courtesy Copy going to County Cllr James McInnes & Borough Cllr Ridgers.

6.11.22: To receive reports from County Cllr. McInnes & Borough Cllr Ridgers.

No report from Borough Cllr Ridgers.

County Cllr McInnes reported that there is still a black hole for this year's budget but they are still working to balance the books, County Cllr McInnes welcomed the commitments made in the Chancellors statement but felt that it was not enough. He supported the increase in the minimum wage. The way services are delivered will have to be reassessed to make the way services are delivered more cost effective.

Recruiting for a new Chief Executive to start in the new financial year is currently underway at DCC.

County Cllr McInnes as the Chair of the New Integrated Care system which came into force in the summer reported on the new system which promotes working together with the NHS, Social Care services and local Authorities. County Cllr McInnes felt that the pandemic will have a fundamental impact on way the county works.

7.11.22: Planning - No new applications received at time of publication. (Chair)

a) Planning decisions Pending – DNPA unless otherwise stated.

Number	Location	Proposal
0378/22	Slate House, 2 Baytree Close, Crockernwell	Single storey rear extension

The Clerk reported that 0378/22 has been Conditionally Granted since the publication of the Agenda.

b) Other Planning matters, for information only unless listed on agenda: None.

9.11.22: Current & New Business.

a) Initial discussion on the Coronation of HM the King on the 6th of May 2023.

(Chair/Clerk)

Cllrs discussed the item and the Chair agreed to include in a future Parish Post report asking for ideas. The Clerk was asked to add to the January agenda for further discussion.

b) Cllrs to consider DPC 023 Reserves Policy V3.0 as circulated.

Cllrs discussed the revised policy DPC 023 Reserves Policy V3.0 and [Cllr Brennan proposed that the Council approve and ratify with immediate effect DPC 023 Reserves Policy V3.0, seconded Cllr Imrie. All in Favour – Motion Carried. \(RR2022/046\)](#)

c) Finger post Survey – Cllrs to report on findings. (Chair)

Cllrs to inspect finger posts and report to the Clerk. Cllrs asked the Clerk to contact the DNP Ranger for update on which signs he is replacing.

d) [Devon Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy \(Chair\).](#)

Cllrs to read and respond as private individuals.

10.11.22: Finance (Clerk) Documents available at the meeting.

a) To approve financial schedule of payments as presented at the meeting. No Schedule presented.

b) [To receive and discuss the 1st Draft 2023-2024 Budget.](#)

Final budget to be agreed in January with precept request

Cllrs review the 1st draft Budget and recommend some changes which the Clerk agreed to incorporate prior to re-presenting at the January meeting.

11.11.22 Clerk & Cllr Reports & items for future agendas:

Councillors are reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.

a) Clerk: Update on acts of Vandalism in the Parish – if any – No update at this time.

b) Clerk: Notification of Annual Leave: 16/12/2022 to 04/01/2023 inclusive – Noted.

c) Cllr Redman: Update on Snow Warden role.

- Cllr Redman reported that he is still looking for volunteers.
- Cllr Rowe asked that all Cllrs be copied into correspondence received by the Council (with personal details redacted unless consent has been obtained)
- Cllr d Battista reported on works at Netherton Barton – new access is to allow access to the Property, DNPA has been made aware. This is a new access onto the highway.

12.11.22: Confirmation of the next Council meeting:

Monday 12th December 2022 at 7.30pm at Whiddon Down Village Hall.

Please note that any changes to meeting dates or venue will be posted on the Website.

13.11.22: Confidential matters (PART II) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1 (2)

a) Resolution required to move the Council into Part II.

Cllr Brennan proposed that the Council move to Part II due to the confidential and sensitive information to be discussed, seconded Cllr Rowe. All in Favour – Motion Carried.

(RR2022/047)

Cllr Brennan thanked the public for attending. The Clerk reported that the Audio recording had been stopped.

- b) Bus Shelters, Whiddon Down – to discuss remedial works and quotes. (Chair)**
Contains commercially sensitive information
- c) Drewsteignton Toilet Block– to discuss health and safety concerns. (Chair/Clerk)**
Contains commercially sensitive information
- d) Chair returned the meeting to public session to hear resolutions.**

Cllr Brennan proposed that the Council accept the quote of up to £730 for all necessary remedial works to both Bus Shelters at Whiddon Down, seconded Cllr Rowe. All in Favour – Motion Carried. (RR2022/048)

There being no further business the Chair Closed the Meeting at 9pm.

Signed: Peter Brennan Date: 12th December 2022