

Drewsteignton Parish Council.

Clerk: Louise Butler, clerk.drewsteigntonpc@outlook.com/ 07764683412

www.drewsteigntonparish.co.uk. X @drewsteigntonpc

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Minutes for meeting of Drewsteignton Council that took place on Monday 18th March 2024 at 7.30pm at Drewsteignton Village Hall.

Present, Peter Brennan, Andrew Di Battista, Ian Rowe, Paul Ridges, Laurance Bennie, John Redman, Anna Imrie, and Julie Macey.

Also present, Lou Butler(clerk) plus 7 Members of the public

Business Transacted

1.3.24: Welcome

Chair opened the meeting & reminded everyone that an audio recording maybe taken to aid with taking the minutes, the recording will be deleted once the minutes are drafted.

Cllr Rowe added that a former Cllr Stuart Hardy of Whiddon down, had sadly passed away in February after a short illness. He had served for 10 years on the parish council. He also was the local driving instructor for many years. The parish council would like to remember him and his services to the parish.

2.3.24 Co-option Vacancy – Crockernwell (Chair)

Chair reminded council of the position still available for the Crockernwell ward.

3.3.24 Apologies for absence:

No apologies as all councillors were in attendance.

4.3.24: Minutes of the Last Meetings. [Draft Minutes available on the website.](#)

Cllrs considered the approval of Minutes of the meetings held 19th February 2024 They were agreed to be an accurate record of the previous meeting. [Cllr Macey proposed and Cllr Redman seconded. All in favour. Motion carried RR2024/13](#)

5.3.24: Declarations of Interest.

Cllrs were invited to declare any interests they may have in items on this agenda, including the nature of the interest. Cllrs were reminded of their responsibility to keep their Register of Interests updated. No interests declared.

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

The Chair proposed that we park this section as all public members agreed they were in attendance for item 10.3.24 (a)

7.3.24: To receive reports (if any) from County Cllr. McInnes & Borough Cllr Guthrie.

Clerk read an email received for the borough Cllr Guthrie, it reminded the parish to continue to report potholes. With the link attached to the previous meeting minutes. There was also a call to reduce speed limits in the area. Which was welcomed by the council after they have started a request to put a speed limit in place within Drewsteignton village.

8.3.24: Planning (DNPA unless otherwise stated) (Chair):

- a) 24/0010, Works to Trees in conservation area, Finglemoor, Crockernwell, EX6 6NE, Cypress tree – This was deemed by the council to be a health and safety risk as one tree had already fallen down in high winds. Cllr Brennen proposed a positive view of removal of the tree and Cllr Rowe seconded. With all in favour, Motion carried. RR2024/14
- b) 0056/24, Full Planning Permission, Barn Located To The East Of Ford House, Drewsteignton, EX6 6RD, Change of use of barn to bunk/camping barn. Site visit was conducted by Cllrs on 15th of March. Cllrs raised concerns about access rights to the property, septic tank outflow, parking, and with the outbuildings and shepherds hut being an extension to the agricultural building. This would contravene the national parks guidelines for development in open countryside. Cllr Brennan proposed that the council gave a negative response to the development with relation to the issues stated above. Cllr Redman seconded the proposal, All in favour. Motion carried. RR2024/15

9.3.24: Highway matters

- a) Clerk informed council of a planned road closure and long diversion on Knowle lane, Drewsteignton commencing on 15/04/24 ending 26/04/24
- b) Temporary speed restriction (30mph) and traffic lights affecting A3124 at Whiddon Down on the 26/04/24
- c) Clerk updated the meeting on the continued efforts to secure a 30mph zone in Drewsteignton Village. The county council are in support of the new speed limits. But there are several hoops to get through first. Dartmoor planning is already on board, so now it will be in highways hands to do the necessary speed checks within the area.

10.3.24: Current & New Business

- a) The Drewsteignton Community [Benefit] Society (DCBS) presented their revised plans to develop a vehicle access from the village car park to the rear of the pub, to improve access to the rear pub car park. Additionally, the Board have options to develop 11-25 new car parking spaces on the grassed upper level of the village car park. The entire proposal would be included in a larger grant application to the Gov.UK Community Ownership Fund.

A structured and healthy discussion concluded:

1. The PC understands the business need to develop a vehicle access from the village car park to the rear of the pub and subsequently develop the rear pub car park.
 2. The PC cautioned that additional development of the village car park should be considered against the loss of a popular and loved green space.
 3. The PC recommended that ahead of additional development of the village car park, consideration should be given to the use of alternative sites and the development of a transport plan to support larger events in the Long Room.
 4. The PC cautioned that other stakeholders views should be respected.
 5. The PC is keen that future maintenance costs do not impact the parish precept.
 6. Next steps and timescale are with the DCBS.
- b) Clerk informed the meeting of Dunsford beating of the bounds on May the 6th. It was decided that she would attend on behalf of the council.
 - c) Clerk advised of availability of allotments in Drewsteignton. These have now all been filled at time of print.

- d) The Sandy Park defibrillator will now be located on the edge of the sandy park pub, and not in the phone box like previously envisaged. Due to a change in legal requirements from Ofgem, with relation to acceptable mobile reception in the area.

11.3.24: Finance and Consideration for approval of purchases.

- a) Cllrs viewed and agreed the financial schedule for March. Cllr Imrie proposed the schedule as accurate and Cllr Macey seconded. All in favour. Motion carried RR2024/16

12.3.24: Confirmation of the next Council meeting was made by chair: Monday 15th April 2024 at 7.30pm at Whiddon Down Village Hall - Any changes will be posted on the Website.

Chair closed the meeting.