

# Drewsteignton Parish Council.

Clerk: Louise Butler, [clerk.drewsteigntonpc@outlook.com](mailto:clerk.drewsteigntonpc@outlook.com)/ 07764683412

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## Minutes for meeting of Drewsteignton Parish Council that took place on Monday the 18th of November at 7.30pm at Whiddon Down Village Hall.

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

**Also present**, Lou Butler(clerk).

### Business Transacted

#### 1.11.24: Welcome

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone that an audio recording would be taken from item 1 on the agenda to aid note taking and would be deleted once the draft minutes had been written.

#### 2.11.24 Current Vacancies.

Chair reminded the council of the current vacancy in the Crockernwell ward.

#### 3.11.24: Apologies for absence:

Cllr Hember forwarded her apologies in advance of the meeting with family commitments in in Switzerland. Cllr Rowe proposed to approve the apology and Cllr Redman seconded. All in favour. Motion carried. RR24/45

#### 4.11.24: Minutes of the Last Meetings. Draft Minutes were made available on the website.

Cllr Bennie proposed they were a true and accurate account of the previous meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2024 and Cllr Macy seconded this. All in favour. Motion carried. RR24/46

#### 5.11.24: 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 property. Therefore, will not be included in the planning discussion.

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

No public attendance at this meeting.

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

No updates where sent at the time of the meeting.

#### 8.11.24: Planning (DNPA unless otherwise stated) (Chair):

a) 0428/24, Full Planning Permission, Hobhouse, Drewsteignton, EX6 6PF, Increase the height of chimney stacks and replace five windows. Ex12/12/24 Cllrs reviewed information. The Cllrs agreed this is a health and safety matter and that the building was being restored with historical England advice. Cllr Redman proposed that the council give a positive response regarding the modernisation of windows and the increased height of the chimney stacks for health and safety and insurance purposes. Cllr Bennie seconded, all in favour and one abstention. RR24/47

b) 0432/24, Listed Building Consent, Castle Drogo, Drewsteignton, EX6 6PB, Passive fire protection improvements to the doors and compartment walls and alterations to the toilet and dumb waiter whistling tubes. Ex 23/12/24. Cllr Redman proposed a positive response to the works on the castle with the agreement that they would be essential works to a historical building. Cllr Macey seconded the proposal, All in favour. Motion carried. RR24/48.

c) 0439/24, Section 73, Woodland Springs Touring Park Ltd, Woodland Springs, Drewsteignton, EX6 6PG. Variation of condition 2 of approved planning ref: 0239/20 for Erection of replacement reception building (incorporating shop). Ex 30/12/24 Cllrs discussed the previous visit to the touring park in which Cllrs agreed to the alterations to the park and agreed that it would be a positive alteration to the existing buildings. Cllr Imrie proposed a positive response to the variation Cllr Redman seconded. All in favour, Motion carried. RR24/48

d) The chair informed the meeting of another withdrawn application, which had been discussed at the last meeting. Solar panels at Brierley, Drewsteignton.

e) Cllrs were informed of a survey Dartmoor planning now have available online. Link available on agenda. This is a survey for consultation on the planning validation checklist. Cllrs were asked to complete the survey by the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December.

f) Clerk made the Cllr's aware of a new planning application that had gone onto the portal for Dartmoor view holiday park, Whiddon Down. A parish council boundaries discussion was had, and it was agreed that the park is within the Drewsteignton parish. Clerk was asked to arrange a site visit.

#### **9.11.24: Highway matters**

a) we currently have 5 grit bins within the parish. All will now be restocked for winter. The chair has ordered scoops to assist in the distribution of grit around the bins and the snow warden for the parish Cllr Redman has agreed to place extra bags of grit in known problem areas. The clerk as been asked to arrange for quotes for costs of a 6<sup>th</sup> bin at the entrance to Knowle lane.

b) Snow plan. Drewsteignton had been asked to produce their "snow plan" for DCC highways after discussion with the snow warden and the rest of the PC a new Good Neighbour plan has been agreed. This was the outcome of change in regulations around insurance and the use of your own vehicles from the county council. It is as follows.

*The Parish Council is responsible for checking the stocks of salt in the Grit Bins, ordering further supplies through the Clerk and on a voluntary basis, placing bags of grit around the Parish. DCC Highways have failed to provide Snow Warden and volunteer training to allow the PC to be insured to organise the clearing of snow and ice. Likewise in the event of snow many of our Cllrs will be busy tending to livestock and clearing their own properties.*

*However, we have a fantastic "Good Neighbour" spirit in the Parish that does not require insurance, training or licenses to clear footpaths and check in with the more vulnerable members of our community. The general advice from DCC is to stay at home and not venture out and in the event of a medical emergency dial 999 however, if access is an issue, please contact the PC as we have the local knowledge to get to parishioners if needed.*

*Devon County Council Highways (My Devon) 0345 155104*

*Snow Warden Cllr John Redman 07931 198243*

*Parish Clerk Lou Butler 07764 683412*

*Chair Peter Brennan 07980 818682*

c) Clerk provided details of the road closures that will be affecting the parish in the next 2 months, they are.

Road between Bowden Cross to Hooperton Cross, Crockernwell – 29th & 30th January 2025 – full 24hr road closure for pothole repair works.

Road between Hare Path to Ford House, Drewsteignton – 08:30 to 15:00, 30th & 31st January 2025 – for renewal of telegraph pole.

d) Crockernwell accessibility works are now completed with access to both bus shelters via dropped kerbs.

#### **10.11.24 Current and new business**

a) Clerk advised the PC of a message received from a resident in Knowle lane Drewsteignton in relation to dog fouling. Cllrs discussed the waste bin provision and with previous enquires having been made and the cost implication being unjustifiably high. The PC agreed to remind residents and visitors of their legal responsibility to dispose of dog waste.

b) PC discussed the budget considerations for next year as the clerk will be planning the budget in December Cllrs were asked to provide budget considerations at the December meeting.

Suggestions at the meeting included repainting of parish benches, reinstating the village water pump in Drewsteignton, and providing a bus stop at the Hittisleigh junction in Whiddon Down.

c) Devon Wildlife trust will be providing a mature oak tree sapling to the parish council as part of their 2024 tree planting scheme. This will be delivered early next year and planted in a position for the parishioners to enjoy.

#### **11.11.24 Annual review of Council Policies & Procedures:**

Cllrs reviewed the DPC013 data protection policy and [Cllr Brennan proposed the clerk could amend the website with the new policy](#) Cllr Rowe agreed. All in favour. Motion carried. RR24/49

#### **12.11.24: Finance and Consideration for approval of purchases.**

Cllr Redman proposed approval of the attached financial statements, and Cllr Brennan seconded with a request for the clerk to provide further reserves information at the next meeting. All in favour, motion carried. RR24/50

#### **13.11.24: Confirmation of the next Council meeting:**

Chair confirmed that the next council meeting would take place at Whiddon down village hall on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December at 7.30 - Any changes will be posted on the website.