

WIDECOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
held on Thursday 7 January 2016
in Church House, Widcombe

Present: Councillor Newbolt-Young (Chairman), Booty, Fenton, Morley, Routley, Southcombe (from item 3927) Tempest and Welby

Also present: County Cllr Gribble

Members of the Public: There were six members of the public present.

Clerk: Suzanna Hughes

OPEN FORUM

A parishioner addressed the council in respect of the planning application at East Shallowford (item 3936 (a) (i)). The Chairman confirmed, with unanimous support from members, that the Parish Council would be deferring consideration of this application until February's meeting as the plans were in the process of being amended and resubmitted.

3926 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Cllr Whale
- District Cllr Jeffery

3927 CASUAL VACANCY

Members received and considered two applications to fill one of the casual vacancies on the Parish Council until the next ordinary elections (May 2019). It was agreed that a decision on the successful candidate would be made by ballot which resulted in members co-opting Judy Southcombe, the candidate who received the absolute majority. She signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which was witnessed by the Clerk, and immediately joined the meeting.

3928 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Councillors were invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interest, including the nature and extent of such interest. As council tax payers in this parish, all members were granted a dispensation to allow them to discuss and vote on, at this meeting and future meetings of Widcombe Parish Council, the budget and setting of the precept. This dispensation would be valid until the day before the next ordinary elections in May 2019. There were no other declarations of interest.

3929 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council on 1 November 2015 were approved and signed by the

Chairman as a true and correct record.

3930 POLICE REPORT

No report.

3931 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Gribble reported that CCTV is going to be installed to monitor Newbridge so that damage caused can be traced. DCC is considering next year's budget. It is likely to accept the Government's offer to increase the council tax by two per cent to help pay for adult social care. Cllr Fenton asked Cllr Gribble to keep the pressure up in terms of promoting care in the community.

3932 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Jeffery was unable to attend the meeting but confirmed that TDC is supportive of a defibrillator being mounted on the bus shelter.

3933 DELEGATE REPORTS

Cllr Fenton and Cllr Booty reported that they had attended the Ashburton/Buckfastleigh Stakeholder Engagement Meeting.

3934 MATTERS ARISING

(a) Housing Needs Survey

The survey forms were shared out between members for distribution. It was noted that the closing date for the forms to be returned is 8 February 2016. Cllr Fenton also suggested that an electronic copy is uploaded to the website.

(b) Defibrillator

Members received and noted the governance requirements for the British Heart Foundation funding. It was agreed that an application to the British Heart Foundation for a defibrillator and supporting equipment should be submitted.

(c) Widecombe Fair 2016

The clerk advised that Raymond Amusements had reported a successful Fair in 2015 and would very much like to attend the 2016 Fair. Members received a balance sheet for the 2016 Fair and it was noted that costs had increased significantly, in particular traffic management costs. In view of this, members agreed that they had little option but to increase the fee to £3,200 due to the rising costs.

(d) Lease of North Hall field

There was no update.

(e) Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed that this would be held on Wednesday 16th March. The main subject for the meeting would be the development of a new village hall. It was agreed to contact Sarah Reeve and Lloyd Mortimer in order for them to prepare a presentation for the meeting.

3935 FINANCE

(a) Payments for approval:

The following payments were approved:

£229.32 Cheque no 000902 – Clerk's salary and disbursements – £229.32

£147.80 Cheque no 000903 – HMRC (PAYE) – £147.80

£1,558.99 Cheque no 000904 – Widecombe Fair Committee – £1,558.99

£238.08 Cheque no 000905 – TDC (additional toilet opening – Widecombe Fair) – £238.08

(b) Budget and Precept 2016/17

Members received budget proposals and considered the precept requirement for 2016/17. The budget proposals were accepted as presented. It was agreed that the cash required from TDC would be £6,264 including council tax support grant of £210 equating to a 0% year on year increase in the precept.

3936 PLANNING

(a) New applications/appeals

(i) 0591/15 – Change of use, conversion and extension to existing barns to form accommodation for holiday/educational use including staff accommodation and office facilities and the erection of new agricultural barns at East Shallowford Farm, Widecombe-in-the-Moor

It was agreed that consideration of this application be deferred until February's meeting.

(ii) 0663/15 – Two-storey extension kitchen and bedroom extension, first floor bedroom extension and replacement porch at Drywell Farm, Widecombe-in-the-Moor

It was agreed that there were no objections to this application.

(b) Decisions

(i) 0468/15 – Replacement dwelling, Woodcott (formerly Spitchwick Bungalow), Spitchwick, Poundsgate

Members noted that DNPA has granted conditional planning permission.

(ii) 0590/15 – Removal of large rooflight from front roof slope of building, to be replaced with a smaller conservation-style rooflight and retention of small rooflight to the rear roof slope of the

same building at Southway Farm, Widecombe-in-the-Moor
Members note that DNPA has granted conditional listed building consent.

3937 HIGHWAYS

(a) It was reported that the road at the bottom of Widecombe Hill floods when it rains heavily and it is thought that the drains are blocked. A similar issue was reported at the top of Widecombe Hill at the Ashburton junction. It was agreed to report this to DCC Highways. It was also reported that leaves are covering the yellow lines at Spitchwick which means that they can't be enforced. This would also be reported to DCC.

To report a pothole:

Telephone: 0345 155 1004

Email: customer@devon.gov.uk

Online: www.devon.gov.uk/road_maintenance.htm

3938 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence.

Other items for information only were placed in the circulation folder or emailed direct to members.

3939 MATTERS OF INFORMATION AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN

None.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.22pm.

Signed Dated

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON

THURSDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2016 AT 7.30pm

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend any Parish Council Meeting and make comment before the start of the meeting.