

WIDECOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council

held on Thursday 6 October 2016

in Church House, Widecombe

Present: Councillor Newbolt-Young (Chairman), Fenton, Morley, Routley, Southcombe & Tempest

Also present: County Cllr Gribble

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

Clerk: Suzanna Hughes

4041 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

☒ Cllr R Whale

☒ Cllr M Welby

☒ Cllr S Booty

☒ District Cllr Jeffery

4042 OPEN FORUM

A representative from the East Shallowford Trust spoke about the planning application to be discussed at item 4051 (a) (i). Members were advised that concerns about the first application, which included scale, have now been addressed and the proposal has now been modified. The accommodation has been reduced, the development will be within the existing footprint and the building and materials will be sensitive to and will complement its surrounds.

A neighbour of East Shallowford expressed his objection to the application anticipating that too many people will be visiting it. Whilst the numbers have reduced since the first application, in his view, they have not reduced enough. He objects to it being an educational centre and considers that it is not appropriate for this area. There was also concern about traffic. Finally, he did not consider it appropriate that the farm is used by children not connected to Providence House. Another neighbour commented that the accommodation has reduced but the overall development is much the same as the first application. She believed that the planning officer's reasons for objections have still not been addressed. Concerns included: overdevelopment, commercial use rather than farm diversification, intensity of use which will have a knock-on effect on the infrastructure and land around and black holes in accommodation levels – these could be increased significantly without the need for further planning applications.

4043 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Councillors were reminded of their responsibility to continually update their Notice of Registerable Interests and to declare any disclosable interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they have in any items to be considered at this meeting. Unforeseen requests for a Dispensation to be considered at this point only if there was no way a Councillor would have been aware of such before the meeting.

Cllr Fenton declared an interest in item 4051 (a) (i) as a Trustee of East Shallowford Farm.

Cllr Southcombe declared an interest in item 4051 (a)(i).

4044 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1 September 2016 were approved and signed by the

Chairman as a true and correct record.

4045 POLICE REPORT

No report.

4047 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Gribble reported that his grant of £500 towards the defibrillator is being processed and will be paid into the Parish Council's accounts shortly.

He commented on the proposed boundary changes and advised that the Boundary Commission is recommending increasing the number of District Councillors from 46 to 47. The 'Moorland' ward (District Cllr Jeffery's ward) will become Tedburn and Mortonhampstead with one additional councillor and Widecombe will fall into the ward of Ashburton and Buckfastleigh.

Finally, Cllr Gribble commented that he was pleased to see that CCTV will be installed at Newbridge.

4048 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Jeffery was not present at the meeting but sent a written report regarding the Electoral Review of

Teignbridge and the Boundary Commission's recommendations (discussed by members at 4050 (d).

4049 DELEGATE REPORTS

No reports.

4050 MATTERS ARISING

(a) Defibrillator

The clerk advised that TDC are in the process of drawing up a licence to formalise the use of the bus shelter for mounting the defibrillator in. There is an outstanding query about the electricity supply. The defibrillator will be ordered once the licence terms have been agreed. In the meantime,

a representative from Teign Heartbeat would be available to speak to Councillors should they wish

and it was agreed to invite Mike Brokenshaw to the next meeting.

(b) Widecombe Fair

Members received some information about how other local shows operate in terms of their trade

stalls. The clerk also advised that Raymond Amusements have indicated that they would like to attend Widecombe Fair again next year.

Cllr Fenton thought that the Widecombe Fair Committee was still interested in running the village

green. It was therefore agreed to write to the Secretary of Widecombe Fair and ask what their intention is. Due to timescales, it would be preferable that a decision is made in November's meeting.

(c) Sheep in Widecombe Village

Members received and noted a letter from Dartmoor Commoners' Council regarding straying sheep.

(d) Electoral Review of Teignbridge: Draft Recommendations

Members received details of the Boundary Commission's draft recommendations on the future electoral arrangements for Teignbridge District Council. They also noted the report sent by District

Cllr Jeffery. There were no objections to the proposals.

(e) Council Tax Referendum

Members received details of the government's 2017/18 Finance Settlement. Further, Councils are

being consulted on whether referendum principles should extend to town and parish councils with

regard to precept capping. There were no formal comments.

4051 PLANNING

(a) New applications:

(i) 0499/16 & 0500/16 – Change of use to form residential educational centre, including the conversion of existing buildings and erection of new for residential educational purposes and demolition of existing and erection of new farm buildings at East Shallowford Farm, Widecombe-in-the-Moor

Having declared an interest, Cllrs Fenton and Southcombe left the meeting for this item. After discussion members had no objections to this application. However, whilst to some extent the Parish Council's previous concerns had been addressed, they were keen that DNPA ensures all matters have been fully considered prior to giving its recommendation. These matters include environmental impact, traffic and noise and light pollution.

(b) Decisions:

(i) 0386/16 – To install a CCTV unit and associated utility services to allow number plate recognition of offending large vehicles crossing Newbridge at Newbridge Holne car park, Holne

Members noted that conditional planning permission has been granted for this application.

(ii) 0288/16 – Certificate of Lawfulness application for the change of use to residential dwelling at Coach House, Pitt Park, Widecombe

Members noted that DNPA has issued a Certificate of Lawful Use in respect of the building described in Schedule 1 but has refused to issue a Certificate of Lawful use in respect of lawful use of the building described in Schedule 3.

(iii) 0436/16 – First floor extension over single storey section of property and single storey rear extension at Bridge View, Ponsworthy, Ashburton

Members noted that conditional planning permission has been granted for this application.

(c) Members received an invitation from Mr Godfrey to visit Blackdown Piper Farm to understand the

planning issues first hand and in particular to see the proposed solution to the residential provision.

Whilst there had been some initial interest, after discussion and on reflection, members agreed that

as the planning application for the dwelling is currently with the Planning Inspectorate a visit would

serve no purpose at this time.

4052 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

(a) Payments for approval:

The following payments were approved:

£ Cheque no 000930 – Clerk's salary and disbursements (October) – £238.65

£ Cheque no 000931 – HMRC (PAYE) – £149.40

£ Cheque no 000932 – Matthew Way – £559

4053 HIGHWAYS

There were no new issues reported.

4054 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Members received and noted a letter of thanks from the Secretary of the PCC, Ronnie Constant,

thanking the Parish Council for their recent grant towards the upkeep of the churchyard.

4055 MATTERS OF INFORMATION AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Fenton reminded members that a consultation meeting about the hospital closures is being held in

Widcombe on 12 October. He commented that no costed plan has been put forward detailing how much it will cost to move care from hospitals to the home. It also states in the consultation that major changes in provision will be put into place before any closures are made. Currently, there is no evidence of any major changes in provision being put into place.

Cllr Routley informed members that she had received complaints from parishioners about the damage caused by some cyclists taking part in a cycle race at the beginning of September.

Cllr Morley handed the clerk £50 which had been donated to the Parish Council from Devon Classic Bike

Race,

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

Signed Dated

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 3 November 2016 at 7.30pm