

## **WIDECOMBE PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 7 February 2019 in Church House, Widecombe

Present: Councillor Newbolt-Young (Chairman), Booty, Fenton, Hassell, Lomax, Morley, Routley, Southcombe and

Welby

Also present: County Cllr Gribble

Members of the Public: There was four members of the public present.

Clerk: Suzanna Hughes

### **4377 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- District Cllr Jeffery
- Rob Steemson (DNPA)

### **4378 OPEN FORUM**

There were no comments from members of the public.

### **4379 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.

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.

### **4380 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES**

Members received the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3 January 2019 which were approved

and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

### **4381 POLICE REPORT**

No report.

### **4382 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Gribble commented on the problems caused by the number of visitors to the moor during the period of snow.

He has also been in discussion with Chagford Commoners regarding issues with cattle grids.

### **4383 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

No report.

### **4384 DELEGATES REPORTS**

None.

### **4385 MATTERS ARISING**

(a) Community Housing Project

(i) Drop-in event – 26 January

This was reported as being a successful event which generated some valuable feedback which Teign Housing and TDC will consider as the project moves forward.

(ii) Local Lettings Policy

The Parish Council had discussed the latest draft of the Local Lettings Policy with TDC's Housing

Enabling Officer, Mary Ridgeway, ahead of this meeting. It was noted that this policy was extremely important as it will ensure that local people will have priority over the housing. This

will

now be updated and recirculated for further consideration. Those who are not currently registered on the Devon Home Choice register are encouraged to register as soon as possible.

(b) Widecombe Village Hall

(i) Members discussed the timetable for holding a Parish Poll in June. It was agreed that the Poll will be held on Thursday 20 June. The Parish Meeting at which the Poll will be demanded will be held on Thursday 23 May. (These dates are subject to Church House being available).

Notes: A poll will only be held if it is demanded by at least 10 or one third of the local government electors present, whichever is the less. Once the poll is demanded, someone must propose the question to be asked and the meeting must vote on it. The proposer of the question becomes a key figure in the subsequent poll and their name and address will appear on certain notices. The question itself must be worded in such a way that it can be voted for either 'yes' or 'no'. If the poll is to go ahead, the Chairman of the Parish Meeting has a duty to inform the Returning Officer and give details of the question to be asked, the name and address of the proposer and the date of the Parish Meeting.

It was agreed that details about the precept increase would need to be inserted into the proposed

question agreed in October's meeting.

It was also agreed that the fact sheet wording to be distributed to parishioners in advance of the Poll (as agreed in October's meeting) would need to be drafted and agreed. Cllrs Hassell and Fenton agreed they would do this. The clerk was asked to find out whether this information could

be distributed alongside the polling cards.

(ii) Members received an update on other progress made with regard to the hall. A revised plan has

been submitted to DNPA for pre-application advice. The formation of the Community Interest Organisation (CIO) is ongoing and has made significant progress. A grant has been awarded to help with the cost of setting this up. Further grant funding has also been applied for. Work with the Plunkett Foundation is also ongoing. Ongoing guidance on progressing the project is being sought.

(c) North Hall Field

Members considered the proposed Heads of Terms for the renewal of the lease together with the

answers to questions raised at the last meeting with regards to responsibility of internal boundaries and

the fees for renewing the lease. It was agreed to accept the terms as proposed. It was further agreed

that the lease between the Parish Council and the Sports Group would be considered once the lease

between DNPA and the Parish Council have been drafted.

(d) Parish Field

Members agreed that upon inspection of the Title Register, there appears to be no restrictions on selling

the land. It was therefore agreed that the land should now be valued in order to enable members to

consider further whether the land should be sold. It was agreed that the land, if sold, should be subject to

an overage provision so that the Parish Council benefits from any future uplift in value if the land

is ever  
developed.

(e) Land Registry searches on land in the parish to establish land which is unregistered  
Cllr Fenton advised that he had not yet done this and requested that the Council allow him three  
months  
to work on it after which he would report back.

(f) Annual Parish Meeting

The date of the meeting was confirmed as 21 March. It was agreed that the Community Hall  
Steering

Group is invited to update the parish on the progress they have made. The usual community  
reports  
would also be invited.

#### **4385 PLANNING**

(a) New applications/appeals

(i) 0047/19 – Erection of agricultural building for livestock, machinery and fodder at land  
opposite

Corndon Farm, Poundsgate

Members agreed to support this application.

(b) Decisions

(i) 0673/18 & 0674/18 – Internal and external remodelling and refurbishments, Hannaford  
Manor,

Poundsgate

Members noted that DNPA has granted conditional planning permission and listed building  
consent.

(ii) 0652/18 – Erection of single storey side extension and replacement porch, Middle Cator  
Farm,

Widecombe-in-the-Moor

Members noted that DNPA has granted conditional planning permission.

(iii) 0636/18 – Stable building with 3 loose boxes and access track (retrospective), land adjacent  
to

Old Post Office, Poundsgate

Members noted that DNPA has granted conditional planning permission.

(iv) 18/0080 – Proposed tree works (Conservation Area) – The Old Rectory

Members noted that the proposed tree works have been approved.

#### **4386 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE**

(a) Payments

Members received and approved the following payments:

â<sup>a</sup> Cheque no 0001000 – Clerk's salary and disbursements (February) – £233.27

â<sup>a</sup> Cheque no 0001001 – Church House (hire of hall for PC meetings April 2018 – March 2019) –  
£110

#### **4387 HIGHWAYS**

Members thanked the Snow Warden, Miles Fursdon, and his team for clearing the roads so  
efficiently over the  
weekend.

#### **4388 CORRESPONDENCE**

Cllr Morley commented on the condition of the footpath at the bottom of Century Hill end  
suggesting that the

wooden jetty is lengthened over the muddy section to improve accessibility.

It was also noted that people are driving on the upper part of the green and suggested that rocks are placed on the edge to protect the grass.

**4389 MATTERS OF INFORMATION AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Lomax announced that she was resigning from the Parish Council as she was leaving the parish at the beginning of April. The Chairman thanked Cllr Lomax for all she has done whilst she has been a Councillor, in particular her interest, alongside Cllr Southcombe, in the planning applications. There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm.

Signed ..... Dated .....

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 7 March 2019 at 7.30pm.