

Minutes of a Meeting of Exbourne with Jacobstowe Parish Council held on Wednesday 28th January 2015 at 19.30 in the The Village Hall, Exbourne.

85. Those present

Cllr M. Luxton (Chairman)
Cllr D. Weeks
Cllr S. Blakeman
Cllr F. Glanville
Cllr B. Cobb

There were no members of the public present.
Cllr Trevor Hill, Borough Councillor for the Exbourne Ward, was present.

86. Apologies for absence – Cllr Lawson, who is away, and Cllr Williams, who is unwell. The apologies were accepted.

87. Declarations of interest – Cllr Blakeman declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 5.2 as he is a member of the village hall committee

88. Minutes of the last meeting – Cllr Weeks proposed that the minutes be signed as a correct record. This was seconded by Cllr Cobb. The chairman then signed the minutes.

89. Matters arising from the last meeting

89.1 Report by Borough Councillor Trevor Hill – 2 new Chief Executives have been appointed. Sophie Hoskins has taken up her post. Steve Jordan, who will be Head of Paid Services, will take up his post in February. WDBC has produced 'Our Plan', which will be in draft form from February. Councils will then have 6 weeks to submit comments.

89.2 Cllr Hill to report on Enforcement Cases – Cllr Hill understood that the parish council wished to know what happens to those cases that disappear from the list. He has still not obtained any information. Rebecca Prideaux, who had taken on the role of Enforcement Officer, is leaving. A new person has been found to fill the vacancy. Marion Playle is also leaving.

Those staff in the planning department will be requested to reapply for their jobs in February.

89.3 The chairman and vice-chairman are attending a meeting ‘Future Development in West Devon. Where will it go?’ on December 5th. There was mention of proposed development in Exbourne. A public meeting is being held on February 18th at 7.30 p.m. in the village hall. Debbie Bird from WDBC is attending.

Exbourne was described as a major village in this document and does feature in this future plan. Cllrs were requested to attend and promote the meeting. The clerk requested to attend. A notice has gone into The Parish Pump. The clerk to do 12 posters for the Chairman to put around the area. Borough Cllr Trevor Hill is also attending as the Borough representative. Cllr Blakeman stated a minimum of 20 homes were proposed.

89.4 TAP Fund application for further funding for Highways Lengthsman.

The clerk explained that if this parish council leads the application and receives the money it will push their income over into the £10,000 + band and incur an audit fee of £100. Cllr Hill had been contacted to ascertain whether another council would lead or if EJPC submitted the application whether the other councils would contribute towards the audit fee.

Cllr Hill informed the council that Iddesleigh Parish Council is to lead and Stephanie will fill in the application form.

89.5 Letter received from Royal British Legion thanking the council for their Donation – the chairman read out the letter.

89.5a At the last meeting (P.211/212 84.1) the council had considered an email from WDBC. A planning applicant had been warned by the parish planning department that the departments reputation is well deserved. The invitation to attend a meeting was not taken and it turned out the comment was made by a neighbouring parish. Anna Henderson Smith had sent an apology.

90. New Items

90.1 Set Precept for 2015/16 – Cllr Weeks explained that the Government has not yet capped increases, but the threat remains for future years.

The Finance Working Group had met and suggests the council requests a precept of £5355 (which includes the £216 Government Council Tax Support Grant). It will be a precept of £5139 and then the Government Council Tax Support Grant of £216). After 5 years in which the precept remained the same this is an increase of £210, which after allowing for the Government Council Tax Support Grant means a 0.51% increase on a Band “D” property.

Cllr Blakeman proposed the council accepts this budget. This was seconded by Cllr Glanville.

The chairman and the clerk signed the Precept Request Form.

90.2 A request from Exbourne Village Hall for a grant towards new heating and lighting. Cllr Blakeman had declared an interest in this item, but as the council's representative on the village hall committee explained what is proposed. He did not participate in any vote. The village hall committee want more efficient lighting and to be able to have more control over the heating. The quote they have been given is for £3003.83 (incl VAT)

The council agreed that they should support this project.

Cllr Weeks proposed giving £500 towards the project. This was seconded by the Chairman. Cllr Glanville then proposed giving £400 towards it. No-one seconded.

A vote was taken. There were 3 votes in favour of the £500 offer so £500 will be given to the Village Hall on production of an invoice when the work is done.

90.3 Temporary Prohibition of through traffic and parking from Monday 2nd February to Tuesday 31st March involving various roads including B3215 at Jacobstowe Keepers Cottage to Somerlands. It is to allow joint sealing and associated works.

90.4 Temporary Prohibition of through traffic and parking from 13th April to 13th May on Duck Lane and lane past Swallows Rest, Exbourne to allow WPD to carry out work on the overhead lines.

90.5 Jacobstowe notice board – the clerk has spoken with the new owners of 2 Butterpitts. They have not found a key and do not wish to be key holders. Diane Stamp has offered to hold the key as she puts a number of posters in the notice board. The council felt it would be better to have someone living nearer the notice board. The clerk was asked to email Cllr Lawson and ask if his wife would like to hold the key and she was also asked to contact Rod Lane and see if he has the notice board key. If he hasn't then a new one will need to be cut.

90.6 John Stoneman – no longer send him the minutes. David, John's brother, has written saying that he has settled into the care home and would the council take him off their mailing list. The clerk will no longer send the minutes.

90.7 Check the list of councillors for inclusion on website – the councillors present checked the list for accuracy. The clerk will send it to Hatherleigh.net.

91. Matters arising from circulated correspondence (info only)

There was none.

92. Parish Paths Partnership (P3)

92.1 Does the council wish to consider a donation (for expenses) to the P3 Coordinators? The clerk has contacted them and asked them if they have any claims for petrol etc., but has not heard anything. It was unanimously agreed to give them £25 each.

93. Planning

93.1 Applic no. 01055/2014 Land adjacent to Hayes, Holebrook Lane, Exbourne – erection of 4 bedroom dwelling, garage, new driveway, access and associated landscaping. Granted conditional consent.

93.2 Applic No. 01235/2014 Stone Farm, Fore Street, Exbourne – change of use of barn to 3 bed dwelling including demolition and reconstruction of southern extension and formation of parking area and associated works. Granted conditional consent.

93.3 Applic No. 01312/2014 Hayfield Cottage and 1 Pooks Cottage, Hayfield Road, Exbourne – works to trees in a conservation area. Allowed no TPO made.

93.4 Applic No. 01270/2014 Old Rectory, Exbourne – householder application for demolition of existing garage and meeting room and construction of garage and home office/studio extension and associated works. WITHDRAWN

93.5 Applic no. 01271/2014 Old Rectory, Exbourne – Demolition of existing garage to allow replacement extension for studio/office and garage. WITHDRAWN

The above notices were placed in the circulation file.

94. Finance

94.1 Prior to meeting bench collected and cheque to HMPS Dartmoor signed for £250.00

94.2 Invoice from Mr. R.I. and Mrs. J.F. Phipps for strimming footpath - £36.00

It was unanimously agreed that this should be paid. When the clerk sends the cheque she is to inform him that the P3 Co-ordinators will undertake the strimming this season.

94.3 Review of budget – the council undertook a review of the budget. The clerk had prepared an invoice and a cheque for her wages, but had not included it on the agenda so it will not be paid at this meeting. There are no problems.

94.4 Details of balance at bank – the bank balance as at 14th January 2015 was £11,094.90. There is the hire of the hall for October/November/January £45.00 and the Cheques signed this evening for £36.00. There is also outstanding cheque no. 708 for £250. This brings the balance down to **£10,763.90**

There are still the sums of £400 for the lengthsman and £300 for wi-fi (both from TAP funds) allocated, but not yet spent.

95. Matters at the discretion of the Chairman

95.1 An email has been received from Jim Egan, who has had discussions with Mr. Samuel at Risdon Farm and the proposed wind turbine will not be pursued. Mr Egan sought the councils opinion on highlighting the matter in the press. The council responded by stating they did not wish to comment as the wind turbine did not get to the planning stage.

95.2 Cllr Glanville asked if the work carried out by the highways contractor was good. Cllr Weeks explained that the work carried out was good, but it is an ongoing thing (i.e. leaves get cleared, but then with rain appear again).

95.3 Cllr Glanville asked if the formation of parking had been withdrawn at Stone Farm. He was informed that it had been.

95.4 Cllr Weeks stated there was some fly-tipping (hedge clippings) opposite the school yard. Cllr Glanville stated he would clear it.

95.5 Cllr Weeks referred to an email received and requested 'Public Transport Consultation' be on the agenda for the next meeting. The council has until April 20th to comment.

95.6 The chairman asked the clerk if it was time for her annual assessment. She stated it could be done before the year end. The chairman will speak with Cllr Mrs. Williams and ask if she will undertake it again this year.

95.7 The chairman stated that Rod Lane would like the car park in Little Ellicroft Meadow to be cleared of grass. Also for a piece of the verge to be cut as DCC do not trim it as often as they used to. Ricky Cobb has cleared a part of the car park and Cllr Cobb was asked if he would ask him to give a quote for clearing the car park and cutting the verge 4 times in a year.

The next meeting will be the Public meeting on Wednesday February 18th at 7.30 p.m. in the village hall.

The next council meeting will be held at The Village Hall, Exbourne on Wednesday 25th February 2015. It will commence at 8.00 p.m.

The chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 p.m.