

Thelbridge Parish Council

Meeting Minutes
17th November 2021

Present: Cllrs Boundy, Cowell, Gibson, Gillbard, Grant, Hayes

I. Apologies

Cllrs Clements, Lloyd (MDDC)

II. Approval of minutes

The minutes for the annual meeting on 15th September were approved and signed.

III. Public forum

Three members of the public attended to speak to agenda items.

IV. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

V. Highways

a) Speed of traffic through Stretchdown

It is believed the volume of traffic has increased in the last couple of years and there are more walkers from Willow Heights with young children and dogs. There have been some recent near misses with livestock on the road and people moving horses across the road. The residents would like a slow-down sign, which residents would be prepared to pay for. It was **resolved** to check with Highways any regulations regarding signs and let the residents know the outcome.

b) Road Warden Scheme

The request for funding has apparently been agreed and the order placed by Highways for the tools. We await notification of delivery. Only after the tools are provided will the pothole filling material be supplied, since this has a fixed shelf life.

VI. Clerk's Report

Zoom

The annual subscription expired on 24th October and has not been renewed (£119.90)

W. K. B.

Annual Meeting

Date changed from 18th to 11th May to accommodate the speaker's availability.

Mid Devon District Council Survey

As many residents as possible are encouraged to fill in Mid Devon's survey which closes at the end of November -- responses will help shape the budget-setting process which is currently underway. See here for the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BQT3GNR>

Funding

Devon County Council is providing further support to local communities with an additional £100,000 fund, for town and parish councils, available in 2021/22. The fund is for projects/works that will enhance the public realm, including the repair and refurbishment of highway street furniture such as lighting columns, finger posts, seats and bollards. This funding is in addition to the existing Highway Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund which is available to support highway maintenance works and projects. Resolved to review any finger posts that need repair and **apply** for funding; Westway Cross and Doctor's Corner finger post were identified as need repair.

Cemetery

Mid Devon District Council have approved an Order which will result in a sign being erected that refers to dog fouling and keeping dogs on a lead in a number of locations, including the Black Dog cemetery. The purpose of the Order is to:

- prohibit dog fouling in all Public Spaces areas within the District of Mid Devon where the public have access;
- require dogs to be on leads in cemeteries, churchyards and parks which are named identified in the PSPO;
- require any dog to be put on a lead when requested by an authorised council officer or police constable;
- exclude dogs from the enclosed play areas which are named in the PSPO;
- require all persons in charge of a dog to have the means to pick up dog faeces in Public Spaces; and
- limit the number of dogs walked at a time by one person to six.

The Parish Council has been asked for their preference on where the sign is located – wall, fence, gate etc. The Order came into effect on 7th October and will remain in place for three years. **Cllr Boundy** to check with the Methodist church since they manage the cemetery.

VII. Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Mugs were considered a bit old fashioned and would not be so popular now. The last public event was not a great success. It

was **resolved** not to arrange any event at this stage and re-consider at the next meeting.

VIII. Finance

- a) Budget report and bank statements were reviewed and approved.
- b) A grant request by the Hele Lane Methodist Church for £50 and printing and postage costs of £7.70 were approved.
- c) The budget for 2022/23 was given final approval. The band D charge will be £14.81, a decrease of 1% on last year due to an increase in the collection assumption from 96% to 97.5%.

IX. Communications Policy

The communications policy was considered and it was **resolved** to adopt it.

X. Planning

There were no new planning applications to consider.

Regular emails have been received regarding the backlog of admin work, which is gradually reducing. As of Monday 15th November they have 193 Emails from 1st November 2021 (10 Working Days behind) that are still to be dealt with.

XI. Items for Future Agenda

Expenses policy
Defibrillator
Newsletter
Queen's Platinum Jubilee

XII. Future Meeting Dates

The following dates are scheduled: 2nd February 2022, 20th April, 11th May (annual meeting)

The meeting closed at 20:55

Signed W. K. Bourdy.....(Chairman) Date 2nd February 2022.....