

Thelbridge Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

15th September 2021

Present: Cllrs Boundy, Clements, Gillbard, Grant, Hayes, Squires (DC & MDDC), Lloyd (MDDC)

I. Apologies

There were none

II. Approval of minutes

The minutes for the annual meeting on 4th May were approved and signed.

III. Public forum

Three members of the public attended regarding the wind turbine, Nomansland grass cutting and hazardous parking.

IV. Proposed Wind Turbine

A representative from the Heart of Devon Community Energy Group (HOFDCE) attended. An update on the effects of climate change was given. Two farmers would be prepared to have the turbine on their land. Western Power Division have agreed they could take the output. A grant of £40k will be applied for by HOFDCE to fund a feasibility study. There was a discussion regarding the survey, proposed sites and the financial case. It was resolved that any decision regarding whether this proposal should be supported will be deferred until the feasibility study is available and a public meeting has been held to gauge residents' opinion.

V. Grass Cutting in Nomansland

A Nomansland resident wrote to Andrew Jarrett on August 22nd, no reply so far. The resident has been paying £15 per cut during this summer for the area in front of Eastwick Barton. Cllr Squires will clarify whether the land is DCC's responsibility. Cllr Grant offered to discuss a solution with the resident.

VI. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Lloyd has been involved in supporting the Heart of Devon Community Energy Group.

VII. Highways

a) Hedge in Nomansland

Cllr Squires understands the residents have been asked to remove the beech hedge.

- b) Fatal accident
No information as yet regarding whether the tree was implicated in the accident.
- c) Hazardous parking at Mount Pleasant crossroads
Parking on the west side of the Rackenford Road up to the junction has been a frequent occurrence over the last couple of months. Approaching from the Witheridge direction and turning left is hazardous. It was **resolved** that the issue be raised with the police. Cllr Squires will also raise it with the neighbourhood highways officer.

VIII. Clerk's Report

ROAD WARDEN SCHEME

An application was made for funding to the Community Enhancement Fund (23/5/21); awaiting agreement.

SOUTH WEST ORGANISED CRIME UNIT (SWROCU)

An Email was received 27/4/21 from Ashley Jones the **Regional Fraud Protect Advisor** employed by the (**SWROCU**), that being a Home Office funded, Law Enforcement body serving all the police force areas of the South West of England. More information on the SWROCU is available on the website. The role is to undertake activity that reduces economic crime (fraud), through improving awareness and promoting preventative measures with individuals and organisations, to enable them to better protect themselves from economic crime.

Fraud makes up approximately a third of all reported crime in 2020 around 4.4 million frauds were reported in the UK, with a loss to individuals of around £7 billion in total. Frauds against individuals are frequently targeted at elderly and vulnerable citizens, for whom the consequences of victimisation can be devastating, both psychologically, as well as financially. However, as much as **80% of fraud is preventable** with relatively simple safety measures that can be employed to protect us from the scammers that we may encounter on a daily basis.

Free fraud sessions can be tailored in length, but typically take 35-45 minutes with additional time for questions and answers – the presentations can be delivered in-person, or via Zoom/MS Teams/Skype/etc. A narrated version of the presentation can be viewed on YouTube <https://youtu.be/Oyc3IT0xvsY>.

It was **resolved** to arrange a presentation at the annual meeting next May and publish some information on the website.

W. R. Brandy

IX. Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Some background history. In January 1953, for the coronation, the parish council decided to buy commemorative mugs for children under 15, a free tea for all adult residents, sports, a bonfire and a church service. There was a door-to-door collection which raised £62 9/10d. A similar format applied to the silver jubilee in 1977, with a fancy dress for children of school age before the buffet tea and a barbeque in the evening.

Buckingham Palace have unveiled plans to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The anniversary of The Queen's record-breaking 70-year reign is officially in February 2022 and celebrations are planned throughout the year. A four-day bank holiday weekend will run from Thursday 2 June to Sunday 5 June 2022 and national events will include Trooping the Colour, a service of thanksgiving and a live concert. During this central weekend, Platinum Jubilee beacons will be lit across the UK and communities will take part in the Big Jubilee Lunch with street parties being held throughout the country. The official guide on how to take part is now available and local councils are encouraged to register their involvement by 1 June 2022.

A public event will require a licence from the local authority.

Caterers must have food hygiene certificates.

Need to verify insurance cover.

It was **resolved** to consider plans at the next meeting.

X. Finance

- a) Budget report and bank statements were reviewed and approved.
- b) Retrospective approvals for the newsletter printing £39, insurance £156.62 (three-year agreement approved 27th May 2020), cemetery maintenance grant £100 (agreed by phone with the chairman), HMRC £29.60. Approval for printing and postage costs April to June £107.79 (higher than usual due to newsletter postage) and another payment to HMRC for £29.60.
- c) Draft budget for 2022/23 was considered. Final approval will be at the November meeting.

XI. Risk Policy

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

XII. Planning

21/01758/FULL | Erection of domestic garage and store | Land at NGR 280974 113442 (North Beacon Cottage, Stretchdown) Witheridge Devon

It was **resolved** to support the application.

XIII. Items for Future Agenda

- Communications strategy
- Expenses policy
- Budget setting
- Platinum Jubilee
- Defibrillator

XIV. Future Meeting Dates

The following dates were agreed: 24th November, 2nd February 2022,
20th April, 18th May (annual meeting)

The meeting closed at 22:00

Signed W. R. Boundy.....(Chairman) Date: 17th November 2021