

EXBOURNE WITH JACOBSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

A meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday 29th January 2019
at 8:00pm in The Village Hall, Exbourne

Councillors Present: Steve Blakeman (Chair), Adam Hedley (Vice Chair), Kirk England, John Guy, Ulrik Lawson, Brian Cobb and Borough Councillor Lois Samuel

Parish Clerk: Zena Tett

Also in attendance: 5 members of the public

85. Welcome: Steve Blakeman, Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

86. Apologies for Absence: Councillor Rose Williams

87. Minutes of the Last Meeting: the minutes of the meeting held on 28th November 2018 were amended for item 79.1 to read "*and 4 abstained*". These minutes were then agreed and signed as a true record, proposed by Cllr England, seconded by Cllr Hedley, all in favour.

88. Declarations of Interest: Cllr Hedley for item 83.1.2

89. Public Speaking Time

89.1 One of the new P3 Co-ordinators enquired about the folders and equipment needing to be collected from the previous P3 Co-ordinators. Cllr Blakeman offered to collect and forward to the new Co-ordinators. The Clerk was asked to email the previous P3 Co-ordinator to arrange. **Action Clerk**

89.2 A parishioner asked if there had been any development in the discussion the Parish Council had previously about night light pollution. Cllr England confirmed he had been chasing Devon County Council but they haven't responded. He will endeavour to try again. **Action Cllr England**

90. Borough Councillor Report:

Borough Councillor Lois Samuel reported that WDBC had some good news before Christmas following the Local Government financial settlement in that there had been an allocation of Rural a Service Delivery Grant from £372,638 for 19/20 to £464,365 giving us an increase of £91,727 for this next financial year. WDBC had been asking the MPs to lobby the government for an increase for rural areas which paid off this year. WDBC will continue to lobby the government for 20/21 and thereafter.

WDBC also granted the new waste contract before Christmas which will be saving approximately £250,000 each year and the Council will have a surplus of £73,135 which will go into the earmarked reserve to assist with the budget gap of £500,000 for 20/21. They're not out of the woods yet but they will be working hard this year to address the budget gap.

Projects they are looking to develop:

- Trialling 3 weekly refuse collection which B.Cllr Samuel will keep communities updated, but probably won't happen until around September.
- Coming up on the council agenda next month are the closure of some public toilets, for this area they are looking at closing market place toilets in Okehampton.

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The Town Council are going to take on the toilets at Fair Place. Hatherleigh will be taking on the running costs of their toilets over the next 2-3 years.

B.Cllr Samuel explained she sits on the Invest to Earn Group who are looking to increase the commercial investments portfolio to help with increasing the councils income. They will be looking at building a hotel in Tavistock which will be leased to a chain, and also the possibilities of a retail pod in Okehampton. These are only proposals and will be subject to the planning process. Both projects will create a number of jobs and the hotel in Tavistock will bring people into the town which will help the economy.

91. **Matters Arising**

91.1 Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

Cllr Hedley reported that at the last meeting he had raised a question over group membership and was considering making a proposal to the Parish Council to change the NP Group's Terms of Reference. On reflection, Cllr Hedley felt that, if any change were to be made, then it should first be agreed by the NP Group itself. There was nothing further to report as the NP Group had taken a break over Christmas. and further confirmed that no changes would be proposed unless the group agrees.

91.2 Maintenance of Parish Assets

Cllr Blakeman reported no change to this item.

91.3 Devon Air Ambulance Trust

In the absence of Cllr Williams, this item was deferred until the next meeting.

91.4 Post Office Sign

Cllr Blakeman reported no change to this item.

91.5 Parish Paths Partnership (P3)

The Clerk was asked to forward any relevant documentation to the new P3 Coordinators. **Action Clerk**

91.6 Provision of Sandbags and Sand

Cllr Hedley had spoken to the two parishioners who he had thought would most likely be impacted by flooding and they confirmed they would require 20 sand bags in total. The Clerk was asked to find out if there was a cost element before ordering. **Action Clerk**

92. **New Items**

92.1 Planning Consultation

The Parish Council has received notification from WDBC that they will no longer be receiving printed copies of planning applications from April 2019. Cllr Blakeman suggested purchasing a projector and he will discuss this further with Cllr Williams, who has already done some considerable research on behalf of the History Group. Borough Councillor Lois Samuel said she would look into funding for a projector. **Action Cllrs Blakeman and Samuel**

92.2 Super Link Meeting

Cllr Blakeman attended the last meeting in December and said there were a few interesting items to report. Firstly, the amount of money that WDBC gets compared to DCC is relatively small. There was some discussion about recycling of plastics & aluminium and a new waste contract is in the process of negotiation. It is likely that additional items may be included for recycling in future. DCC made the point that Parish and Town Councils tend to act alike, and if Town Councils want to do something they can raise the precept as a method of raising funds. There was discussion about toilets closing, how much do they cost to run, excluding overheads, but WDBC did not seem to know. WDBC advised that they had purchased commercial property outside of the borough as an investment which was performing well at this time. The police gave an update on crime figures.

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93. Planning

- 93.1 3794/18/FUL Glebe House, Exbourne
Application for new outbuilding made of steel frame with profiled steel roof and timber clad walls for the purpose of storage of machinery, wood and stabling.
Comments: The Parish Council would support this application subject to the Conservation Officer being in agreement that it would not cause harm to the character of the listed building.
Decision: Support
Proposed by Cllr Cobb, seconded by Cllr Lawson, all in favour. **Action Clerk**
- 93.2 4159/18/LBC The Old Mill
Application for listed building consent for addition of two en-suite shower rooms and three roof windows to front elevation and alterations to chimney.
Comments: The Parish Council supports the change as it brings the house up to modern standards which will enhance the accommodation for the occupants.
Decision: Support
Proposed by Cllr Lawson, seconded by Cllr Blakeman, all in favour. **Action Clerk**
- 93.3 3604/18/TCA The Granary Barn, The Barton, Sampford Courtenay
Application for T1 Oak. To minute the decision made by West Devon Borough Council to raise no objection to this application.
- 93.4 0027/19/TCA Land at SX 601 102 West side of North Road Exbourne
Application for tree works.
Comments: Parish Councillors feel the previous work to the trees have made them unattractive and they have concerns that removal of the trees and stumps will effectively remove the stone wall which the Parish Council consider to be a heritage asset. The Parish Council would like to see the wall reinstated if this happens.
Decision: Support
Proposed by Cllr Cobb, seconded by Cllr Guy, all in favour. **Action Clerk**
- 93.5 Other Applications
There were two appeals notified to the Parish Council after the Agenda for this meeting had been published.
- 93.5.1 3874/18/FUL Risdon Mill, Jacobstowe
Application for construction of infill structure to enclose existing industrial equipment.
Comments: No comment
Decision: Support
Proposed by Cllr Guy, seconded by Cllr Cobb, all in favour. **Action Clerk**

94. Clerks Report

- 94.1 Correspondence
The following items of correspondence were discussed/reviewed:
- 94.1.1 Highways: roadworks from Terris Cross to Farthingland Cross
 - 94.1.2 Highways: roadworks on Narratons Road Okehampton
 - 94.1.3 WDBC: Mayoral Awards 2018/19
 - 94.1.4 Okehampton District Community Transport Group: newsletter
 - 94.1.5 Notice about works on the Village Hall
 - 94.1.6 WDBC: press release urging people to be prepared for the possibility of snow this week. Please see full press release on the website
www.hugofox.com/community/Parish%20Clerk%20-%20clerk@exbournewithjacobstowe.org.uk-7959/home

95. Councillors Reports and Items for Future Agenda

- 95.1 Cllr Cobb mentioned the state of the road from Jacobstowe through the woods and the number of pot holes. Cllr Blakeman suggested the Clerk notify DCC via their website. **Action Clerk**

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- 95.2 Cllr Lawson reported receiving a number of complaints about the footpath from Jacobstowe Church to the river and how close the farmer has been ploughing the field to the footpath. The question was asked how close is the farmer allowed to plough to the footpath. Cllr Blakeman thought it might be 6ft but he would seek advice. The P3 Co-ordinators (one of whom was present when this was discussed) have been asked to contact the farmer. **Action Cllr Blakeman & P3 Co-ordinators**
- 95.3 Cllr Cobb also mentioned sewage effluent had been spread in a field at Jacobstowe and this had caused a nuisance. South west water has been contacted and the problem has now been resolved.
- 95.4 The Clerk was asked to write to WDBC planning department explaining the Parish Council had received complaints that a field entrance in Jacobstowe has been widened. The field is located opposite cottages close to the river on the eastern side of Rose Cottage on the main road. Could they please investigate. Borough Councillor Lois Samuel asked to be copied in the letter. **Action Clerk**
- 95.5 Cllr Blakeman asked the Clerk to put Meeting Dates on the next Agenda. **Action Clerk**

96. Finance

- 96.1 The following payments were proposed by Cllr England, seconded by Cllr Blakeman, all in favour. **Action Clerk**
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| 83.1.1 | Clerks Expenses | £43.00 |
| 83.1.2 | Village Hall Room Hire NP Meetings | £15.00 |
- 96.2 Bank Balance Review
The balance in the Parish Council Account as of 15th January 2019 was £15,087.17. Outstanding payments, including the cheques above, amount to £58.00, giving the parish an actual balance of £15,029.17.
- 96.3 Review of Budget
Cllr Hedley gave an overview of the Budget for the 2019/20 financial year which had been proposed by the Finance Working Group, a draft of which had previously been forwarded to all Parish Councillors for their review.
Cllr Hedley explained the proposed funding requirement for the 2019/20 budget would be £5,372 which would be met by a precept of £5,226 and a Council Tax Support Grant allocation of £146. As a result, the band D Council Tax charge for 2019/20 will be £24.13 which, allowing for a reduced tax base and reduced support grant, represents a 3.35% increase compared to 2018/19.
Cllr Blakeman proposed the budget be accepted, this was seconded by Cllr Cobb, all in favour. **Action Cllr Hedley and Clerk**

97. **Date of Next Meeting:** Councillors confirmed the date of the next meeting of the Council would take place on Tuesday 26th February 2019 in the Village Hall, Exbourne at 8pm.

98. **Part II – closed session.**

With no further business, the meeting closed at 9pm

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD: S. Blakeman (Chair)

NAME: S. BLAKEMAN DATE: 26 Feb 2019