

KENTISBEARE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 10th March 2020 in Kentisbeare Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs. Mrs Q Broom (Chair), N Allan, N Woofenden, Mrs S Woofenden, Mrs F Ryan, Mrs E Ellicott, N Sanders, M Disney, E Southerden & the Clerk.

Public Question Time: Cllr. Bob Nelson (Chairman of Broadhembury Parish Council) was present, as one of the two of the representatives from the Blackdown Hills Parishes Network who sit on the BHAONB Partnership Group. Cllr. Nelson explained how they represent all of the parishes within the AONB.

25/03/20. Apologies: Cllr. R Shore-Quinain, DCC Cllr. J Berry and MDDC Cllr. D Pugsley.

26/03/20. Declarations of Interest: Cllr. Disney (DPI due to personal payment ref family business) cheque number 1732.

27/03/20. The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 11/02/2020 were approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

28/03/20. Matters Arising: None.

29/03/20. Planning & Planning Correspondence.

a) Applications to be considered by the Parish Council:

Revised and additional drawings in respect of 17/01904/MFUL & 17/01905/LBC Change of use and refurbishment of house to hotel and spa and Listed Building consent – 24 letting rooms, Piazza garden, 36 letting rooms in Pavilion (60 letting rooms in total) with Botanical Gardens, restoration of walled garden with new orchard and amphitheatre, erection of 7 detached dwellings, all associated car parking and erection of bat house. Blackborough House, Blackborough. It was noted that the changes to the proposal are minimal in its effect, and therefore the Parish Council stand by the original comments submitted when the plans were first submitted. There are concerns over the suggested passing places, which do not appear to address the pinch points and the built up area of the main street in Blackborough. The Parish Council is disappointed that the business plan being submitted by the applicant is not available.

b) Results of applications from Mid Devon District Council and information: None.

c) Culm Garden Village Proposal: (i) Cllr. Mrs Broom gave a brief report on Member Forum held recently. (ii) Any other matters – Cllr. Allan will attend the Delivery Board meeting on 20/03/20.

d) Councillors that are available, will attend the Connecting the Culm Project event in Kentisbeare Village Hall shortly.

e) CPRE Planning Workshop for Town and Parish Councils – due to take place on 30/04/20 in Kentisbeare Village Hall.

f) Public Consultations: (i) Cullompton Town Centre and Master Plan (deadline 15/04/20) – deferred. Cllr. Allan will review and suggest any comments if necessary. (ii) Tiverton's Eastern Urban Extension – noted.

g) Any other planning matters: None.

30/03/20. Highways.

a) To report on work carried out and any upcoming road closures, and to note any repairs that are needed: The Clerk reported two faulty street lights which have now been repaired. The Clerk reported on works added to the next financial year – roads at Nibby's Cross and Allercombe, cobbles at Goodiford.

b) Any other matters: Following information received on Vehicle Activated Signs, the possibility of a sign in Blackborough will be discussed at a future meeting.

31/03/20. Reports.

a) The Clerk: Details of the number of users of the Parish website, e-newsletter and Facebook were given. Following information received about Dog Waste stations, MDDC will be contacted and asked to carry out survey with reference to the possible installation of a bin. The timescale for the replacement bin at Parsons Close will be queried.

b) MDDC Cllr. D Pugsley: None.

c) DCC Cllr. J Berry: A report was circulated to all. **Budget:** 72% real terms reduction in Government funding between 2010–19, during that period DCC reduced spending by almost £300 million and staff numbers by nearly 3,000. The County Council's spending will rise by £43.1 million from £498 million in 2020/21 to £541.1 million in response to demographic, climate change and other demands. Devon has the oldest population in the Country and increasingly complex needs; (East Devon being the fourth highest district in England). Devon Struggles with funding and to recruit enough care workers. The DCC Leader has briefed Ministers on the inequitable funding for Devon compared with other authorities. He has made a case for Devon getting a fair share of the forthcoming. **Devon Climate Emergency Update:** submissions have been received, and work is progressing on sorting the evidence and looking to set up a Citizen's Assembly.

(DCC Cllr. J Berry report continued):

By May 2020 the initial review of the implications for flood and coastal risk, public health, wider environmental risks will be assessed and the terms of reference updated. In May three new funds will replace Town & Parish funds; DCC Doing What Matters (DWM) Community Grants Fund, Crowdfund Devon (extra funding for Devon) and Making the Connection grant. The Agriculture Bill is being looked at by the Economy Group as it has profound implications for Devon, especially this area which has so many farms and land based businesses. **Reference MDDC:** Budget: £53,000 for the Weed Team has been taken out, not allowing time for parishes to include it in precepts. A new Climate Change Portfolio holder has been appointed. The Land Charges Team has been shortlisted for a National Award for the fourth year. Clean Devon Task Force – a new multi-agency initiative to clamp down on fly tipping and litter, comprising local authorities, business, community, voluntary and environment. Langford Solar site to be visited by the Planning Committee

d) The Chairman: Kentisbeare Village Hall is exploring options for CCTV to be installed following the recent vandalism. Details were given of the costs relating to the damage.

e) The Parish Paths and Silver Wood: The Woodland Trust has been informed of the rotten gate post at Silver Wood. The Rest-a-while bench needs some attention.

f) Parish Playing Field: The pothole in the entrance has been repaired. Due to the wet weather, the hedges have not been cut as planned.

g) Blackdown Hills Parishes Network general meeting Feb 27th 2020: Cllr. N Woofenden attended the recent meeting of the BHPN, which took place in Broadhembury Village Hall.

h) Any other reports: Information and posters have been circulated and displayed, with reference to advice regarding the Coronavirus outbreak.

32/03/20. Finance.

a) The bank balance was noted as at the last statement. Credits include £180 in respect of advertising on the Parish website and £15 in respect of allotment rental. Direct debits: £30, EDF - 10/02/20, £41.05, Utility Warehouse - 28/02/20 £41.05. The payment to Nest was taken on 11/02/20.

b) Payments were resolved totalling £1137.13.

-Chq 1732 MD Fabrication. Padlock for playing field. See declarations.

-Chq 1733 SMA Services Ltd. Payroll provider.

-Chq 1734 Clerk's salary & expenses.

-Chq 1735 Monthly payment reference website and e-newsletter.

-Chq 1736 Blackdown Hills Parishes Network. Annual subscription.

-Chq 1737 Computerlink. Printer cartridges.

c) Following a request for financial support from Activ8 Theatre group, it was agreed not to offer a grant on this occasion.

d) The Fixed Asset Register was reviewed.

e) Any other Financial Matters: The payment to Nest for February was reported.

33/03/20. CONSULTATIONS

a) ELECTORAL REVIEW: Local Government Boundary Commission for England. Currently Kentisbeare and Blackborough are combined as Cullompton Outer. A response will indicate that the Blackborough area should not be placed in to the Upper Culm Ward, but remain with Kentisbeare which is to be in the Lower Culm Ward.

34/03/20. Correspondence: Clerks and Councils Direct. CPRE Annual Report and Spring Newsletter. Creative Play brochure. Update from Devon Climate Emergency Team.

35/03/20. Items for information and future agenda items: Grant giving policy. Parish walks/Annual Clifford Pike Memorial Walk. Housing survey. Dog bins.

36/03/20. Dates of future meetings: 14/04/20, 12/05/20.