

## KENTISBEARE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council  
held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015 in Kentisbeare Village Hall at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Cllrs. Mrs Q Broom, Mrs S Woofenden, Mrs W Reed, Miss D Jackson, M Disney, Mrs T Dominy and The Clerk. The following councillors were present for part of the meeting: Cllrs. A Southall and County Cllr. Mr J Berry.

**168/12/15.** To accept apologies for absence. It was resolved to accept the apologies of Cllrs. J Wadsworth, R Shore-Quinain and Mrs E Ellicott.

*In the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman, Mrs Q Broom took the meeting.*

**169/12/15.** Declaration of interest in items on the agenda. Cllr. Mrs Reed (personal) re: planning application 15/01771/FULL. Cllr. Disney (DPI due to the following two items which relate to personal business) 147/12/15 (e) and cheque no 0002.

**170/12/15.** To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015. With one amendment, being the deletion of the word "the" to minute reference 159/15/11 C (iii) to read "Cllr. Mrs Berry gave details of Eden Westwood at Junction 27" it was resolved to adopt the minutes as a true record of the meeting and they were duly signed by the Vice-Chairman.

**171/12/15.** Matters arising from the minutes not already covered by the agenda. None

*Cllr. Miss Jackson joined the meeting.*

**172/12/15.** Highways.

- a) To report on work carried out by the Highways Department and to receive reports on repairs that are needed. Notification received of road closures for early 2016. It was resolved to write to some local businesses to request that they inform hauliers of a suitable route when delivering goods, due to an ongoing problem with articulated vehicles passing through the village on occasion. The Clerk will liaise with the Neighbourhood Highways Officer regarding the problem. It was discussed that if parishioners have issues with parking and traffic at school start and finish times, they should contact the school direct.
- b) Cllr. Mrs Broom gave details of the Annual Highways Conference which was held in Ashill Village Hall recently, and was attended by Parish and Town Councils within Mid-Devon. DCC are looking more towards self help and community support and basic training costs will be funded within this financial year. Various schemes were discussed such as both Road and Snow Warden Schemes and the P3 Partnership which Kentisbeare are currently part of. As previously advised, cuts are unavoidable and some picnic areas will be closing and aspects of grass cutting will cease with the exception of areas where visibility is a problem. Cllr. Mrs Woofenden gave a brief report on training she had attended a few years ago in respect of the Snow Warden scheme. Cllr. Mrs Woofenden reported that the salt is stored locally and remains in good condition.
- c) Any other Highway matters. Dog fouling has become a problem in a couple of areas, and this will be reported to the Enforcement Officer. The Clerk will liaise with the Neighbourhood Highways Officer regarding the possibility of the Parish Council funding some of the missing fingers posts within the Parish as DCC are no longer funding this.

**173/12/15.** Planning.

- a) Applications to be considered by the Parish Council. Planning applications received before the Parish Council meeting will be put before the Parish Council to consider. The Parish Council to agree whether a decision can be made at the meeting.

15/01771/FULL Land at NGR 308760 109750 (Blackborough Stables). Conversion of stables to a dwelling and construction of a vehicular access (Revised Scheme). See declarations. No objections.

**For information- Appeals made to the Secretary of State.**

14/01949/MFUL Change of use of land from agriculture to the installation and operation of a solar PV park to generate up to 5MW of power (site area 12.26 hectares) to include associated infrastructure (Revised Scheme). Land at NGR 302663 109953 (Stoneshill Farm) Willand Road Cullompton (Appeal Ref No. APP/Y1138/W/15/3135271).

15/00033/FULL Ravensdale, Blackborough. Change of use of residential garage/workshop to dwelling (Appeal Ref No. APP/Y1138/W/15/3134744).

15/00284/FULL Old Golden Lion, Kentisbeare. Removal of Condition 6 (occupancy condition) of Planning Permission 4/32/95/0274 to allow flexible use of the main house and annexe (Appeal Ref No. APP/Y1138/W/15/3137109).

b) Results of applications from Mid Devon District Council.

-15/01521/CAT Notification of intention to fell 7 conifer trees within a Conservation Area. The Wyndham Arms. Approved.

c) Any other planning matters. The Clerk has just received details of planning application 15/01883/FULL which will be on the next agenda.

**174/12/15. Finance.**

a) To resolve to make payments in accordance with the agreed budget. Total outgoings £2429.29.

-Mrs M Shore-Quinain, Clerk's salary. Chq 1377.

-Mrs M Shore-Quinain, expenses. Chq 1378.

- Chq 1379 – spoilt cheque.

-Post Office, quarterly PAYE. Chq 1380.

-Kentisbeare Players, grant. Chq 001.

-M D Fabrication. For supply of two park benches. Chq 002.

-SLCC. Membership fee 2016. Chq 003.

-DALC. Training. Chq 004.

-Blackborough Village Hall. Grant towards defibrillator. Chq 005.

-Fantastic Illuminations, additional Christmas lights due to damage to existing. Chq 006.

b) An annual charge of £60 was agreed for Kentisbeare Village Hall for use of office equipment by The Clerk as Booking Secretary for the hall.

d) Precept 2016/17. The date set by MDDC for return of the parish precept payment form is 29/01/16. The amount will be ratified by the parish council at the next meeting on 19/01/16.

*Cllr. Southall joined the meeting.*

e) A quotation for £237.38 plus vat was agreed from M D Fabrication for manufacture of a post for the village sign. Products previously supplied by M D Fabrication are of a very high standard and remain in excellent condition. See declarations.

f) A quotation for £35 plus VAT from Cosmic was agreed for minor works to the home page of the Parish website.

g) The Clerk gave details of a recent Transparency Code Briefing provided by DALC. This is applicable to those councils with a turnover under £25,000. Due to an S106 grant Kentisbeare exceeds £25,000 this financial year, however this will probably not always be the case. A grant is available for small councils to help with compliance, and Kentisbeare can still apply within this financial year due to the aforementioned. The grant includes funds for training, extra hours for staff and office equipment. It was agreed that an application be submitted for a new laptop (now 6 years old), and that a combined copier/scanner be purchased, as currently the one that is used belongs to The Clerk. A quotation has been received from Computerlink Ltd. The Clerk requested some time to consider equipment prior to submitting an application. It was agreed that as the existing laptop was of a high standard, a similar model be purchased at a similar price (£432). The quotation received in respect of the scanner/copier was in the region of £150. Government funding is available at £350 for a laptop, and £100 for a scanner. Councils will be expected to make up the difference as required. An amount is held in reserve towards the replacement of office equipment.

- h) The Clerk will instruct the contractor to cut the hedge at the playing field. *Cllr. Berry joined the meeting.*
- i) It was resolved not to grant the Citizens Advice Bureau as per a letter recently received.
- j) Any other financial matters to be noted. The bank balance was given as at 19/11/15. Credits received at the bank since the last statement total £542.50 and consist of £535 in respect of businesses advertising on the website, plus £7.50 in respect of one allotment rental fee.

**175/12/15.** Reports.

- a) County Cllr. J. Berry. £40 million has been made in savings this year and £37 million will be made next year. DCC are making cuts and are looking to Parish and Town Councils regarding self help. The Tap Fund could be used in some cases.
- b) District Cllr. Mrs R Berry (via email). A report had been received which The Clerk will circulate. The report included details of the Manor House problems, the MDDC budget, broadband, the garden waste collection which 6000 people have signed up for and free car parking in the run up to Christmas.
- c) The Parish Paths (P3). The annual survey and finance forms have been received for completion.
- d) Playing Field. The two new benches are now in situ at the park. Thanks were given to those involved.
- e) Police Report. Notification of theft of £3000 worth of tack and saddles at The Stables at Sunnybank between 17/11 & 18/11/16.
- f) The Clerk. Details were given of the requirements in respect of the Transparency Code which consist mainly of small councils having a website and uploading certain information. More details have been received of the proposed National Vintage Tractor Run which should run through the Parish on Easter Sunday 2016. Cllr. R Shore-Quinain represented the Parish Council recently at the Devon Remembers Heritage Project event at Tiverton Museum.
- f) BHPN Meeting of 26/11/15 and request for feedback from Parishes. The Clerk gave a report on a recent meeting where due to a number of delegates that had not previously attended a meeting, the purpose and origin of the network was explained. The main aim is to develop a cohesive voice for rural parishes whether wholly or partly within the AONB. The Clerk will email around a report prior to the next meeting and a subscription will be considered. There is also a feedback questionnaire which will be circulated before the next meeting. A talk was given at the start of the meeting by James Maben on behalf of the Blackdown Hills Natural Futures Project. This is a 3 year project that may interest parishes within the network, and could benefit all schools. The Clerk will ensure that contact is made with Kentisbeare Primary School.
- g) Any other reports. (i) Cllr. Southall gave a brief report regarding the DCC Tough Choices meeting which he and Cllr. Berry had just attended at The Hayridge Centre. Within the last 6 years £175 million has been lost from the budget. Many services are under strain such as bus services, libraries, day care and elderly care. Areas considered for "self help" could be grass cutting, drainage and ditching. There will be a review of business rates in 2017. (ii) Cllr. Mrs Reed recently attended MDDC training.

**176/12/15.** Correspondence. Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership information pack.

**177/12/15.** Items for information and future agenda items. Precept 2016/17.

**178/12/15.** Dates of future meetings of the Parish Council. Tuesday 19/01/16 at 7pm to set the precept, followed by the monthly Parish Council meeting.

*The meeting finished at 9.35pm.*