

KENTISBEARE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 14th February 2023 at 7pm in Kentisbeare Village Hall

Present: Mrs Q Broom (acting Chairman), N Woofenden, N Sanders, Mrs F Ryan, E Southerden, Mrs E Ellicott, J Penfold, M Disney, R Shore-Quinain & the Clerk. One member of the public was present for public question time. *Due to apologies from the Chairman Mr N Allan, the Vice-Chairman Cllr. Mrs Broom took the meeting.*

16/02/23. Public Question Time: Mr S McFadzean was present to give a presentation on possible sites to put forward in respect of The Power Allotments Project which he has been looking in to. The project is helping communities across Devon to find sites for small scale solar developments. Sites of around 5 to 6 acres are ideal and should yield around £5,000 per annum for the community after all capital and rental costs. Mr McFadzean suggested a number of sites and requested the support of the Parish Council in respect of his submission. The Clerk will confirm after the meeting as this is a matter for discussion on the agenda.

17/02/23. Apologies: Cllr. N Allan and DCC Cllr. J Berry.

18/02/23. Declarations of Interest: Cllr. R Shore-Quinain (DPI as spouse) payment to the Clerk & Cllr. Mrs Ellicott (DPI as personal payment) cheque 2033.

19/02/23. The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10/01/23 were approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

20/02/23. Matters Arising: None.

21/02/23. Planning & Planning Correspondence/Information:

a) Applications considered by the Parish Council:

-23/00017/OUT Outline for the erection of an agricultural workers dwelling with all matters reserved. Land at NGR 306640 109585 (Croyle Farm) Kentisbeare. No objections.

b) Results of applications from Mid Devon District Council.

22/02095/CAT Notice of intention of works to trees in a hedge (remove 2 Sycamore trees, remove 1 group of Sycamore trees and remove 1 vertical branch of a Sycamore tree) in the Conservation Area. Honest Heart Cross, Kentisbeare. Approved.

22/00163/LBC & 22/00162/HOUSE - Listed Building Consent & permission for conversion of stable block into work/relaxation studio, utility room & link to main dwelling. Glimsters Farm, Fore St., Kentisbeare. EX15 2AD. Approved.

c) Culm Garden Village: Cllr. Mrs Broom reported on behalf of Cllr. Allan- it is anticipated that MP Richard Foord will become a member of the Delivery Board shortly.

d) Any other Planning Matters: Cllr. Mrs Broom gave a brief update on the relief road.

22/02/23. Reports.

a) P3 Footpaths and Parish Paths: An invoice for repairs to a footbridge between Stoford Water and Sainthill will be presented at the next meeting.

b) The Clerk. (i) District and Parish Elections – details were given of important dates regarding the upcoming elections. Information regarding how to obtain a nomination pack will be placed in the Parish Magazine and the e-newsletter. (ii) The abandoned car has now been moved from Kentisbeare Village Hall car park.

c) Reports from DCC & MDDC Councillors: Apologies from DCC Cllr. Berry, via the Clerk – note that the meeting regarding the council tax 2023-24 will be held shortly.

d) Report on meeting with Chairman of Blackborough Village Hall: A letter had been received from the Chairman of Blackborough Village Hall which Cllr. Mrs Broom reported on as a result of a recent meeting, where planned improvements to reduce energy costs were looked at, together with other improvements that the hall committee would like to make. An amount of £2000 had been reserved within 2022/23 towards Christmas lights in Blackborough - it was agreed at the precept meeting 2023/24 for £1000 to be awarded to Blackborough Village Hall before the end of the financial year (cheque 2031) to help with improvements opposed to Christmas lights which will be considered again in the future. It was noted (and agreed minute 09/01/23 g) for Blackborough Village Hall to have £2000 grant funding from the Parish Council in 2023/24 due to Kentisbeare Village Hall Committee suggesting that Blackborough Village Hall has the full amount awarded to village halls in 2023/24.

e) Any other reports: Following an invitation from the Neighbourhood Policing Team, Cllr. Southerden gave a report on his time spent on patrol with officers one evening recently. Cllr. Southerden will report at the APM.

23/02/23. Highways: Details of upcoming road closures will be publicised. Items to report: the surface of the road between Ford Farm and Stockland Cross and the fallen signpost at Nibby's Cross.

24/02/23. Finance.

a) The bank balance was reported as at 31/01/23. Direct Debits Taken: EDF, 10/01 - £8 and Utility Warehouse, 31/01 - £41.05. Credits: DCC Locality Budget Grant award, 18/01 - £1935.

b) Payments were approved totalling £4609.59:

-Chq 2024 Clerk – salary and expenses. *See declarations.*

-Chq 2025 Spoilt cheque.

-Chq 2026 SMA Services. Payroll provider.

-Chq 2027 Kentisbeare Parish Church Magazine. Printing costs.

-Chq 2028 Website and Newsletter.

-Chq 2029 Dutch Landscape Architects Ltd. Professional services re: tendering process.

-Chq 2030 Project Cosmic. Hosting re: website.

-Chq 2031 Blackborough Village Hall. Grant.

-Chq 2032 P3 Footpath contractor. Footpath works.

-Chq 2033 P3 footpath co-ordinator. Expenses. *See declarations.*

c) Review of Fixed Asset Register – reviewed and updated.

d) Review of effectiveness of system of internal control: Resolved that arrangements in place are satisfactory.

e) Office – storage and communications: Arrangements will be made for a telephone and separate telephone phone number. A PO Box will be applied for. Cost to be shared with Culmstock Parish Council. Storage arrangements remain the same.

f) Any other financial matters: None.

25/02/23. Kentisbeare Play Area.

a) Replacement bin: Quotation awaited.

b) Update on cycle track following completion of the procurement process – the procurement process is complete. Following a decision on the preferred contractor, a ten day standstill period will take place before a contract is awarded.

c) Review of tenders received together with evaluation report and award of contract: A report and full details have been received from MDDC following receipt of two compliant bids as advertised via MDDC on the Pro Contract electronic portal. Evaluation was conducted by the agent Dutch Landscape Architects Ltd., and the Procurement & Contracts Officer at MDDC; the recommendation is to accept the quotation from Forte Trailscapes Ltd., for £69,937. The Parish Council resolved to accept the recommendation but to opt for wildflower banking opposed to local turf. A contract will be awarded after the standstill period – the contract award will be on the basis that the project is subject to the Parish Council obtaining grant funding.

d) Grant funding: Cllrs. Mrs Broom and E Southerden will look into grant funding along with the Clerk. It was agreed that if deadlines are short, grants will be applied for between meetings.

e) Any other matters: Cllrs. Woofenden and Penfold will assist in liaising as Clerk or Works with reference to the cycle track and will look at where any savings may be made.

26/02/23. New Community Project - Power Allotments, Devon: Following a presentation in Public Question Time there was a majority vote to support the sites discussed being put forward.

27/02/23. Annual Parish Meeting (APM): The Annual Parish Meeting and Reception is scheduled to take place on 15/03/23. Clerk to organise refreshments, speakers etc.

28/02/23. Correspondence & Any Other Consultations. Clerks and Councils Direct.

29/02/23. Items for information, future agenda items, and dates of future meetings: Next meeting scheduled for 14/03/23.