

KENTISBEARE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 13th February 2024 at 7pm in Kentisbeare Village Hall

Present: Mrs Q Broom (Acting Chairman), N Woofenden, Mrs F Ryan, E Southerden, Mrs L Downing, MDDC Cllr. Cathy Connor and the Clerk. *Due to apologies received from the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman Cllr. Mrs Broom took the meeting.*

17/01/24. Public Question Time: None.

18/01/24. Apologies: Cllrs. N Allan, Mrs E Ellicott, M Disney, O Forster, M Kent & DCC Cllr. J. Berry.

19/01/24. Declarations of Interest: None.

20/01/24. The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 09/01/24 were approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

21/01/24. Matters Arising: None.

22/02/24. Planning & Planning Correspondence/Information:

a) Applications considered by the Parish Council.

23/01933/FULL Erection of an agricultural building to cover existing silage clamp. Land & Buildings at NGR 308080 107322 (Orway Porch) Kentisbeare. No objections.

24/00179/LBC Listed Building Consent for the stabilisation and protection of the dilapidated Grade II listed farmhouse. Sanders Farm, Croyle, Kentisbeare. EX15 2AN. No objections.

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

c) Culm Garden Village: The Clerk reported regarding an invitation just received for Officers of sports clubs and councils to attend an upcoming workshop with reference to the possibility of locating a sports hub in the area between Horn Road and Dead Lane. There will be a separate meeting for councillors following outputs from the initial meeting – agreed for the Clerk to attend.

d) Any other Planning Matters: Cllrs. Mrs Downing and Woofenden will attend a CPRE Planning workshop at Hatherleigh on 08/03/24.

23/02/24. Highways.

a) Feedback following informal meeting with the DCC Neighbourhood Highways Officer (NHO) and The Culm Catchment Officer – Cllr. Mrs Broom and the Clerk reported: (i) The NHO will look into options regarding the visibility at Post Cross. The NHO reported that there will be no further action from DCC regarding HGV vehicles entering the village; it was agreed for Cllr. Kent and Mrs Ryan to monitor the situation over the next 6 months and report back. A request to relocate the 30mph sign to just before the Warren Farm business units will be taken forward by the NHO; the Parish Council agreed to contribute financially – NHO to report back. It was further agreed for a new village name sign to include phrasing which it is hoped will encourage motorists to drive carefully. Cllr. Southerden queried the possibility of new signs for Blackborough which will be discussed at a future meeting. The Clerk will investigate possibilities regarding a lengthsman (ii) It was reported that several parishioners have signed up to the DCC Devon Resilience Innovation Project (DRIP); Cllrs. Woofenden and Mrs Ryan agreed for their contact details to be passed on to DCC for inclusion. Works to the road at Sainthill are due to start shortly.

b) Blackdown Hills Parishes Network – the Clerk will respond to a questionnaire regarding any concerns that Parishes have regarding speeding in their respective areas.

c) Any other matters – including any items to report and upcoming road closures: The Clerk will put a reminder about how reports can easily be made online to DCC in the next issue of the Parish Magazine and electronic newsletter. The Clerk will enquire as to the progress of a couple of items previously reported.

24/02/24. Reports.

a) The Clerk. (i) Notification of the upcoming Blackdown Hills National Landscape Management Plan Review Workshop. MDDC Cllr. Cathy Connor to attend. Cllr. Southerden will attend if available.

b) Reports from DCC & MDDC Councillors: MDDC Cllr. Connor reported that a meeting is being arranged regarding celebrations on Christmas Eve; the Parish Council will cover the hall hire. MDDC State of the District Debate - Cllr. Mrs Downing will endeavour to attend.

c) P3 Footpaths and Parish Paths. (i) A reminder of the Mid Devon Walking Festival – 14th to 29th September which the Parish Council will promote. (ii) Summer Walks 2024 - deferred. (ii) Any other matters: None.

d) The Chairman/Vice-Chairman: None.

Reports Continued:

e) Report on presentation regarding the Early Flood Warning System for Kentisbeare – as 24/02/24 (a) a number of parishioners have signed up. Details regarding Flood Protection for Community Buildings have been sent to various organisations.

f) Any other reports: (i) Cllr. Mrs Ryan reported that the coffee morning recently started by St. Mary's Church is a success, being very well attended. (ii) It was discussed that two more noticeboards would be of benefit for notices unrelated to the Parish Council.

25/02/24. Finance. A report was given and the bank balance was noted as at 31/01/24. Direct Debits taken were noted as EDF £7 on 10/01/24 and Utility Warehouse £41.05 on 31/01/24.

a) Payments were approved:

- Chq 2135 £ 66.00 Kentisbeare Village Hall. Hall hire.
- Chq 2136 Clerk – salary and expenses.
- Chq 2137 £ 266.18 Website and e-newsletter.
- Chq 2138 £ 9.97 SMA Services. Payroll provider.
- Chq 2139 £ 280.80 Countrywide Grounds Maintenance Ltd. Grass maintenance contract.
- Chq 2140 £ 204.00 Cosmic. Website hosting.

Noted cheque number 2140 was listed with a typing error on the agenda; the correct amount is £204 (not £306).

- Chq 2141 £ 12.20 Devon Association of Local Councils. Office expenses.
- Chq 2142 £ 670.00 Countryside Contractor. Footpath work.
- Chq 2143 £ 46.38 Clerk – reimbursement for postage and refreshments for mtgs of 29/01/24.
- Chq 2144 £ 157.35 MDDC. Uncontested election costs 2023.
- Chq 2145 £ 100.00 P3 Co-ordinator. Expenses (P3 funds).

b) Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR), Audit 2023/24 & Review of effectiveness of system of internal control: Agreed that arrangements in place are satisfactory. The Clerk will instruct the Independent Examiner to carry out an internal examination after 31/03/24 prior to the external audit.

c) Any other financial matters: (i) Ref 24/02/24 - The Parish Council will cover the hall hire for the meeting regarding Christmas Eve Celebrations. The Clerk will look into options for noticeboards.

26/02/24. Kentisbeare Play Area.

a) Update on cycle track: The Clerk will attend the upcoming MDDC workshop – Shared Prosperity Programme.

b) Estimate for maintenance works: An estimate is awaited.

c) Any other matters: None.

27/02/24. MDDC Town and Parish Charter Review – circulated to all in advance of the meeting. No suggestions.

28/02/24. Annual Parish Meeting 2024 – it was agreed to hold this on 14/05/24 prior to the Annual Parish Council meeting.

29/02/24. Correspondence & Any Consultations. Citizens Advice – thanks received via email.

-MDDC consultation: Proposed changes to its Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy. Noted.

-MDDC Survey: Share your views on rural services in Mid Devon: Following a discussion, the Clerk will respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

-BHPN newsletter, and the final Work Plan 2023 monitoring sheet.

30/02/24. Items for information, future agenda items, and dates of future meetings. Next meeting – 12/03/24.