

THROWLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, 10TH JANUARY, 2011 AT 7.30 P.M.

PRESENT: Cllrs Jackie Crawford (Chair), Peter Bennett (Vice Chair), David Hatton, David Jordan
Duncan Vincent, WDBC Cllr. Paul Ridgers
Clerk in attendance: Julie Macey

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs. Roger Paul and Julian Edwards

MATTERS RAISED BY PARISHIONERS: None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: These have been previously circulated and were signed by the Chair as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING: None, other than those items included under the various headings below.

PLANNING: Application for Listed Building Consent re. Replacement roof at Providence Cottage. Granted. Retrospective application for change of use and works to part of existing barn at Foxhole, Murchington. Supported and granted. Application for extension at 1 Gidleigh Park, Chagford. Supported. Various correspondence with DNP re. Wonson Manor. Clerk to contact planning officer to ascertain up to date position.

FINANCE: Balance of current account £1,661.01. Reserve account £649 (plus interest of 0.08p) Emergency account £280.55 (plus interest of 0.04p) To pay Clerk's salary (2 months) £333.11p plus expenses £8.70. Subscription to Society of Local Council's Clerks Membership £77. The chair signed letter authorising Bank to send future bank statements to new clerk.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- (a) DNP: It was noted that there had been a change of ranger to Ian Brooker
- (b) WDBC: It was noted that an updated Register of Electors had been received
- (c) WDBC: Various correspondence in respect of Precept for 2011/12. It was agreed to keep the Precept the same for the current year. Cllr. Bennett to check if there were any ramifications in doing so before notifying WDBC of Parish's intentions.
- (d) DCC: Changes to the Mobile Library Service as from 4th January received from DCC have been posted on all notice boards notifying change of day and longer stopping times. Cllr. Bennett urged parishioners to make good use of this excellent service.
- (e) The various emails with Carmel Coaches were discussed regarding notification of disruption/cancellation to service in bad weather conditions. The Parish had confirmed to Carmel that they were not responsible for relaying information on weather conditions along the bus route and that Carmel should make their own enquiries from DCC Highways. It was confirmed that the Whiddon Down Bus had failed to stop at bus stops recently. Cllr. Crawford confirmed that she would be reporting this and copy correspondence on this matter to Cllrs. Paul Ridgers and James McInnes
- (f) DCC: Emergency Management – Snow Code had been circulated to all Cllrs and also posted on the Parish web site. This was discussed in greater length under Section Roads.
- (g) WDBC: The Big Tree Plant – promotion of a nationwide tree planting campaign and opportunity to apply for funding was discussed. As funds are directed towards deprived areas, it was agreed that this was not appropriate for the Parish.
- (h) WDBC – Sandbag request. The question of whether the Parish required sandbags to store for each household (10 per household) and bag of sand to cover the eventuality of flooding was discussed. It was agreed that these were not required at the present time.
- (i) DCC: Planning application guidance for Gypsies and Travellers' sites had been received and was noted. It was confirmed that there had been no applications for such sites.
- (j) WDBC: Various emails regarding refuse collection in bad weather and over holiday period were discussed. It was agreed that these were not consistent but that overall WDBC had been acceptable bearing in mind the difficult conditions.

- (k) It was agreed that the invitation from WDBC for the Chair and Clerk to attend an informal meeting in early February to discuss how South Hams and West Devon develop over the next four years was unnecessary and that this could best be dealt with by commenting on the Minutes of the Meeting which were to be requested.
- (l) The brochure and letter from North East Dartmoor Community Land Trust was circulated. The purpose of the brochure and letter was to advise Parishes of the Trust's existence and to find sites for affordable housing and provision of same. It was confirmed that the Cllrs. knew of no suitable sites at the present time.
- (m) A notification from CPRE Devon regarding a competition for Best Devon Village had been received with judging to take place between May and August. It was agreed that unless someone came forward to 'Champion' this, the Council would not be pursuing this matter.
- (n) An invitation had been received from Devon rcc for the Clerk to attend a pre-election Briefing on 17th January. The clerk confirmed that she would be attending.
- (o) A further invitation had been received from the University of Plymouth for Cllrs. to attend a Planning and Localism seminar on 26th January. In view of the short time frame i.e. confirmation by 10th January, it was agreed that there would be no attendees but background papers would be requested.
- (m) Various DCC and Devon and Cornwall Police newsletters had been circulated upon which there was no comment.

REPORTS:

- (1) DNPA/DEFRA briefing note for Dartmoor Forum and Parish Council Forum had been circulated. These were discussed and it was noted that a reply was required by the beginning of February. It was felt that these forums should be chaired by a Parish rep and that the agenda should be set by a Parish based chair with input from the DNP more along the lines of the Eastern Parishes Link Committee. A suitable response would be sent to the DNPA by the Clerk as outlined by Cllr. Bennett
- (2) The changes outlined in the DNPA Planning document which had been circulated were noted.
- (3) It was agreed that the Parish Planning Survey received from DNPA would be completed and returned by the extended deadline of end of January.
- (4) It was agreed that the Notice of Further Consultation on Recommended Changes to West Devon Submission Core Strategy received which dealt with district wide strategic planning principally in Okehampton and Tavistock were not a matter for the Parish to comment upon.
- (5) The Minutes of the last meeting of the Eastern Parish Link Committee meeting on 18th November had been circulated and read. Cllr. Bennett had replied to note 7 regarding the signage at Whiddon Down and had agreed to additional signage delineating travel in an East/West direction. Cllr. Bennett asked all to note that the next meeting of the Eastern Parish Link Committee would be held in Throwleigh on Thursday, 3rd March. Unfortunately he was unable to attend this meeting.
- (6) The Policy and Parliamentary Briefing – The Localism Bill – received from DAPC which can be Found on the internet under <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2010-11/localism/documents.html> was noted.

PARISH MATTERS: None

ROADS: The matter of snow clearance was discussed at some length. It was felt that the Highways snow clearance strategy for the Parish had not worked. The driver and digger that had come from Torrington several days after the major snowfall, had in most instances made the problem worse by leaving a thin icy surface and applying no grit or salt. It was felt that a better way may be to contract out the work to a local farmer/s who already had the tools for the job or could adapt existing ones. Grit could be supplied to the farmer/s concerned direct. Cllr. Ridgers confirmed that he would take this proposal to his local parish meeting in Drewsteignton and come back with their response. It was agreed that a letter would then be written to Highways and Cllr. James McInnes. The question of potholes was also discussed and the Cllrs. agreed to report these individually to Highways direct. To be considered a pothole for remedial action or Category 1 defect, the pothole must be 300mm or over in size and 40mm or over deep. The flooding near Ash Bridge on the Wonson side and complaints by several parishioners was discussed. The Clerk confirmed that a Highways cleaning gang had been deployed for the purpose of remedial action. As this had not alleviated the problem, Steve Dawe of Highways was to visit again on 11th January and report back accordingly.

OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION: None

Next meeting Monday 7th March, 2011

