

KNOWSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a regular meeting; 15 November 2016

The meeting opened at 7:30pm

Present:

Cllr Mike P Smith	(CHAIR)	Cllr Reg G Howe	(RGH)
Cllr Ian Brooks	(IB)	Cllr Tim Browse	(TB)
Cllr Tony Moore	(TM)	Cllr Rachel Hayes	(RHH)
Richard G Vos	(Clerk)		

Also in attendance:

Members of the Public x6

1. Apologies

Cllr John R Stanbury (JRS)
Cllr Eric Ley (North Devon Council)

2. New Councillors

Rachel Hayes signed declaration of acceptance

3. Approve minutes of last meeting

Prop : KPC to Adopt the minutes as presented as an accurate account of the last meeting

Proposed IB sec RGH : PASSED

4. Matters arising not on the agenda :

TB repeated the request that the sign to Harpson Lane on the A361 be replaced with one the same size as the turn off to Beaples

RGH requested that a new Rackenford sign be requested for the finger post at Knowstone Cross

RGH also requested that a new Knowstone sign should be requested for the road out of Ash Mill

The clerk to raise the above matters with Devon Highways and to remind Highways about the state of the drain outside the Villa at East Knowstone

5. Correspondence :

A letter from Mrs Wendy Vigus regarding faster broadband in particular to allow the Village hall to offer wi-fi- was circulated.

All other correspondence received has already been circulated electronically

6. Public questions limited to 20 Minutes

The meeting closed for public questions at 7:45

Matters raised by the public included:

- Overgrown hedge at Hittisford Lane and the blocked drain outside the Villa East Knowstone – these points have previously been drawn to the attention of Devon Highways

Draft for approval at the next scheduled meeting

- The deviation from the previously published list of KPC meeting dates,
- Correspondence – could it be circulated and or posted on notice boards (this was felt to be impracticable but consideration will be given to having correspondence available at future meetings for inspection.)
- Mr D Morgans wanted permission from KPC to repair the Parish Notice board at Roachill. KPC are grateful to Mr Morgans and confirmed he should submit receipts for the work to KPC to be reimbursed the costs of the repair.

The meeting re-opened at 8:15pm

7. Finance

7.1 Treasurers account balance £12,951.53

Business Account balance £10,046.71

7.2 Parish Clerk's salary

Prop; KPC to pay the Clerk's salary

Prop TM sec RHH : PASSED

7.3 Prop: KPC agrees that the Clerks Salary need not appear as an agenda item for future meetings and instead will be approved by the Chair and vice Chair subject to half yearly review;

Proposed IB seconded RHH : PASSED

8. Planning

8.1 None

8.2. East Kidland Farm Replacement communications Mast ; no comment

8.3 1. North Devon and Torridge Plan ; comments have been submitted by the CHAIR and acknowledgement received.

8.3.2 East Hill Farm : the Tender period has closed and NPS are reported to be pleased with the outcome.

The CHAIR to look into the possibility of a sewerage capture system being incorporated within and development plans for East Hill

9. Parish Plan

CHAIR has spoken to Jeremy Filmer-Bennett; updating the Parish Plan is likely to be a big time consuming and expensive exercise.

RHH suggested that rather than update the Parish plan a Neighbourhood Plan would have more relevance and be more persuasive in relation to planning matters. RHH will bring some further details of a Neighbourhood Plan to the next meeting.

10. Batsworthy Cross Community Fund

RHH observed that there was a significant amount of money available but that there was a defined process to be followed which was only available to properly constituted groups. RHH suggested that KPC might support local applications by submitting applications on behalf of smaller ad hoc groups of parishioners; this suggestion was well received.

RHH and TM to investigate the process of applying to the community fund with a view to submitting an application for funding to increase broadband speeds and will report back to the next meeting.

Nigel Arnold to be asked to attend a future KPC meeting to explain the workings of the Community Fund.

11. Third party Reports

11.1 Cllr Jeremy Yabsley DDC gave a report on developments with regard to compliance at Batsworthy Cross the wind farm and movements towards local government devolution of power and the move towards the removal of the grant for local authorities from central government due in 2020

The ND Link Road (A361) is to be substantially upgraded along much of its length in part to facilitate the growth of houses in North Devon- an extra 20,000 homes are planned.

There is discussion regarding the possibility of Ultra Acute health services being relocated to Exeter or even Plymouth but Cllr Yabsley felt that transit times by ambulance from North Devon made this proposal unsatisfactory. KPC are urged to write to Angela Pedder Chief Exec Offr at Devon Sustainability to support the proposition that Ultra Acute services and recovery be centralised on North Devon Hospital Barnstaple

12 Future meeting dates 2017

The following meetings are to be scheduled for 2017

24 January	
07 March	
25 April	
23 May	Annual Parish meeting
30 May	KPC AGM
18 July	
12 September	
24 October	
12 December	

13 Members reports

Village Hall :

The meeting was addressed by Ken Dykes; RGH declared a personal interest.

On behalf of the Hall committee Ken Dykes is seeking support both financial and moral support for an application to Devon Community Fund to cover the cost of building work in the Hall and replacement of old / broken equipment such as tables chairs and kitchen appliances. The application to Devon Community Fund is for £11,912 gross. KPC were asked to consider writing a letter in support and further to consider match funding at a level to be determined.

It was agreed that KPC would write to DCF confirming that we support the application made by the hall Committee and that we are considering supporting the application with a degree of match funding

Draft for approval at the next scheduled meeting

Community Bus additional drivers are required as always but more so because John Smith is due to leave the village shortly. Phil Sealy has agreed to take over the community bus administration from John Smith but more drivers are required. It was agreed that a grant of £30 could be made available to buy a present for John Smith as a token of gratitude for his work for the community over past years both as a councillor and in respect of the community bus.

13.3 Highways Potholes are being reported at the Town Close end of the village; they should be reported to DCC using the website link to the Pothole hotline

13.5 Moors Management AGM on 05 December

13.6 Police ; no report was given

13.7 PCC (cllr RGH) Christmas Fayre to be held on 03 December

14 Members Matters of immediate concern

Suggested that the website address should be added to the village signs and that a new marker was require to help visitors find the Marker stone at Beaples Hill

15. Date & Time of next meeting:

15.1 Next meeting Monday 12 December 7:30pm

meeting closed at 22:15hrs

Minutes prepared by Richard Vos (Parish Clerk)

Police contact numbers:

In Emergencies call : 999

Non-Emergency call : 101

Email contact : southmolton@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

DCC pothole reporting helpline :

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>