

To Sign .

KNOWSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Parish hall Knowstone on 17th December 2013 at 7.30pm.

Present:

S. Beeney (Parish Clerk), Cllrs J. Smith (Chairman), J. Stanbury, D. Morgans, A. Vigus, R. Howe, C Howe.

In attendance:

District Cllr E. Ley, County Cllr J. Yabsley and 3 members of the public.

1. Apologies:

Cllr Barfoot.

2. Minutes:

Cllr Morgans was not happy with the final sentence in 4.4. He did not feel that the council had agreed to offer their apologies to Mr. & Mrs Dey. After a discussion it was resolved by 5 votes to 1 that the sentence should not be altered.

The minutes were then signed as a true record of the meeting.

3. Declarations of interest:

There were none declared.

4. Matters arising from the minutes (not on the agenda).

4.4 as recorded above in item 2.

6.1 The clerk reported that Mr Sables had arranged for the give way white line to be positioned at the bottom of the lane from Roachill.

5. Police Report:

No report had been received at this time.

6. Correspondence:

6.1 The enforcement officer had written to say that the siting of a mobile home at Roachill Farm had breached no planning rules.

6.2 The Torridge and North Devon Citizens Advice Bureau had written to ask if the council would consider making a donation towards their work in the area. It was agreed to consider this in March along with other requests when we had a clearer idea of our surplus budget, if any. Clerk to draw up a list of previous donations given.

7. Public Questions (limited to 20 minutes)

There has been a problem with an articulated container lorry coming into the village from Ash Mill. It had problems getting through Knowstone and then was unable to negotiate a sharp bend on a hill between Knowstone and East Knowstone and had to be towed by a local farmer which caused damage to his tractor. Clerk to ask Richard Sables if we can have the same sign at Ash Mill as have been put in place around the area recently.

8. Finance:

8.1 Finance Report: the clerk gave the monthly finance report, which was accepted.

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8.2 Accounts to settle:

Clerk's salary and expenses. -134.60

8.3 Internal Audit contract.

It was agreed by 6 votes to 0 to renew the contract for internal audit with South and West Internal Audit (Mr K. Abrahams).

9. Planning:

9.1 Applications received after preparation of the agenda.

There were none received.

9.2 56682 Rock Cottage East Knowstone.

It was resolved by 6 votes to 0 that the Council had no comment to make.

There was no item 10.

11. TAP funding.:

Cllr Smith has written to Lorna James asking what we need to do next.

12. Report from District Councillor:

12.1 Cllr Ley asked if the council was interested in attending the committee meeting re. Ash Mill/Lower Webbery wind turbine on January 8th 2014. Cllrs ^{Morgans and} Howe would be attending and Cllr ^{Smith} Howe will represent the council.

12.2 Cllr Ley asked if the council knew that they could claim back VAT on behalf of the village hall improvements. Claims can go back for up to 3 years. The East Anstey and Witheridge clerks know about this and he was sure that they would be happy to advise the council on procedure.

13. Report from County Councillor:

The East Hill farm S106 is agreed in principle but not yet drafted. The property should be on the market in early spring 2014.

He is still following up our hopes of purchasing an East Hill farm field from the NDDC. They have to consider the value of the field to the tenant and they will visit him to get his views.

14. Highways and Footpaths.

14.1 Members report (Highways)

Snow Clearing: The snow warden, A. Vigus reported that the salt had been ordered and it was agreed that a map on the notice boards pinpointing where the salt is would be a good idea. Cllrs Stanbury and Vigus have the necessary equipment to help keep the roads clear. This is work they do voluntarily and cannot be expected to keep anything but the main route through the villages clear. Parishioners should not expect them to clear side roads as a matter of right. They are working farmers and their stock has to be attended to before they are free to help with the roads.

14.2 Members report (Footpaths)

Ros Davies, on behalf of Sam Jeffcoat has acknowledged our offer of £300.00 to help with footpath improvements.

15. Moors Management Report:

15.1 The Value of Rights has been assessed and paid for and a cheque for £2920.00 was handed to the Chairman who thanked them on behalf of the Council.

15.2 The road fences are to be checked for damage.

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16. PCC report.

The Carol Service will be on Dec 22nd at 6.30pm.

17. Resignation of Parish Clerk.

Due to moving out of the Parish the parish clerk has resigned and finishes on December 31st 2013. She was thanked by the Chairman for her work over the past year. It was agreed to advertise the position with DALC and on the notice boards.

18. Members reports:

Matters of immediate concern or for inclusion at the next meeting.

18.1 Proposed dates for the meeting for 2014 were proposed, the former August and December dates would be held as standby dates should something urgent occur and the January meeting brought forward one week to spread the time between the November and February meetings more evenly. It was resolved by 6 votes – 0 to accept the new dates.

19. Date & Time of next meeting: Tuesday 21st January 2014 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at c.9.30pm

Minutes prepared by S.M. Beeney (Parish Clerk)

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