

KNOWSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Parish Hall Knowstone on 23rd April 2013, starting at 7.30pm.

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

In attendance: J. Bates, J Yabsley, K Dykes and 2 members of the public.

1. Apologies: B. Barfoot,(away) E Ley.

2. Minutes:

Amendment: Item 4 re. 11.1.should read as Cllr Morgans not Cllr Morgan.
The minutes were signed as a true record.

3. Declarations of Interest:

There were none recorded.

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

Item 14. Repairs to fencing on the moors is being done.

Item 9.1. James Bates attended today's meeting to explain what is happening with the Conservation boundaries plan. Following the consultation exercise meeting (which was poorly attended as few people were aware it was taking place) some amendments have been done. SWOT has been done. The management plan will be available for consultation in a month's time with a 6 week time scale. We await feedback from our comments. Cllr Morgans asked if they were consulting with other agencies. Mr Bates said that they were but they use 5 year plans not longer. An electronic plan will be sent to us. We need to decide if the plan gives us what we want and if not we should tell them. Mr Bates was asked why we hadn't been notified of the consultation meeting and he replied that it had been emailed via the new email directory which has been set up. It would appear that we were not included. Mr Bates offered to look into this for us.

5. Police Report

There was no one present to report.

It was raised that someone had been knocking on doors at Rose Ash asking about dogs.

6. Public Questions

There were no questions raised.

15.4 Transfer of funds to Village Hall. (This was heard out of order to allow Mr Dykes to leave the meeting)

Mr Dykes explained that the work to extend the hall car park to include disabled parking was going well. This was able to be done due to a national lottery grant. They still needed another £3500.00 to complete the work and Mr Dykes asked whether the council would consider making a grant towards the cost. It was agreed that the council would discuss later in the meeting.

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7. Finance

7.1 Finance report: Financial summary to the end of March 2013 was agreed by all councillors.

7.2 Accounts to settle:

Cheques were raised and signed for Clerks salary for March and April (£86.05 and £54.92), Exe Valley Community Bus (£153.78), HMRC (67.40), Aon Insurance (£472.17), Website Development (222.00) and DALC subscription (£54.96).

7.3 Approve draft Audit. Accounting statement was agreed as correct.

8. Planning

8.1 There were no new planning applications.

8.2 Report from Cllr Smith re. App 13/00253/FULL (500kw windturbine max blade tip 77m at Rifton Barton) joint meeting between Rackenford and Stoodleigh. Rackenford have sent a statement which will be circulated to all cllrs.

8.3 Batsworthy – update on review process.

The review has been heard and they are awaiting judgment. Npower were allowed to present a new submission which was a surprise.

9. Report from District Councillor.

No report as Cllr Ley was unable to attend and had sent his apologies.

10. Report from County Councillor.

Cllr Yabsley said that there was nothing new to report. Cllr Morgans asked if Cllr Yabsley had found out anything re. The unauthorised entrance/exit to the Boar farm which is being used and has now been stoned. Cllr Yabsley to follow this up. Cllr Howe asked about South West Highways apparent high staff rates. She has noted that there are times when there are 6 workers present to do a job that 2 or 3 could handle. They also leave their litter behind them which is not acceptable. Cllr Yabsley said that this was being looked at. Cllr Yabsley was thanked for his help and attendances over the past year.

11. Local Plan.

Nothing to report.

12. Highways and Footpaths

12.1 Members report (Highways)

The road markings are very worn at the Side Moor picnic area which makes it confusing as to the right of way. Clerk to report it to Highways.

12.2 Members report (Footpaths)

The byeway at the bottom of Traceys Hill has been obstructed lately by parked vehicle. Chairman to investigate.

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12.3 **Planned works within the Parish:**

Sam Jeffcoat has written with detailed plans and maps showing where in the Parish they are hoping (subject to landowners permissions) to make improvements and repairs.

13. Moors Management Report

Cllr Morgans reported that fences were being repaired today and that despite the very wet winter the moor was in reasonable condition.

14. Co-option of Councillor.

The notice of vacancy have been put on the notice boards again.

15. Members reports.

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

15.1 Knowstone Bus Project – we are in the 4th week now and it is going well.

15.2 Parish Meeting.

We have been unable to find a speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting. Everyone we approached was already committed on that date.

15.3 Recent death of Parish resident: The chairman has sent a letter of condolence to P. Boundy's family as she was a long time resident of the parish.

15.4 Transfer of funds to Village Hall: following Mr Dykes request earlier in the meeting a discussion was held to decide how to proceed. It was moved by Cllr Morgans that the council give a grant of £1500.00 to the village hall. It was resolved by 5 votes to 0 that a grant of £1500.00 be given to the village hall.(LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976, S.19

16. Date & time of next meeting (Annual Council Meeting)

Tuesday 28th May 2013 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 10pm.

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