

KNOWSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Parish hall, Knowstone on 25th June 2013 at 7.30pm.

Present: S. Beeney (Parish Clerk) J. Smith (chairman), D. Morgans, B. Barfoot, A. Vigus.

In Attendance: E. Ley (district cllr) J Yabsley (County Cllr) and 2 members of the public.

1. Apologies: R. Howe & C Howe (holiday) J Stanbury (work)

2. Minutes: There were minor amendments made as follows:

14.2 "statutory" inserted before review.

14.5 "throw" substituted for "create".

20.1 "at Greenhill Cross" inserted after roundabout.

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)

The Village Hall Committee has written a letter of thanks for the Councils donation towards the Hall car park improvements.

19. Conservation Management Plan – James Bates has asked to meet with interested councillors from Knowstone and Witheridge. It was agreed that Cllrs Smith and Morgans would attend and any other cllrs if available. The 22nd July in the evening was suggested at Knowstone Parish Hall.

5. Parish Clerk Review.

After some discussion it was resolved by 4 votes to 0 to offer Mrs Beeney a permanent contract. Mrs Beeney accepted the offer.

6. Police Report.

No police in attendance. It was asked if the clerk could ask for a written report if no police officer could be present and ask if someone could attend at least quarterly.

7. Public Questions

It was asked if the Council had been able to walk the field that is being considered as a community field for the Parish. This has not been done yet but it was asked if the clerk could put "no police in attendance" under Police Report if there was no police officer in attendance. Clerk agreed to do this.

8. Finance

8.1 Finance Report: Cllr Smith presented the monthly report.

8.2 Accounts to settle:

Cheques were raised and signed for the following amounts:

Clerks salary (89.41)

HMRC (62.40)

Community Bus (223.93)

The Community Bus was discussed at this time ~~out of order~~. See item 15.

Admelt
23/7/13.

8.3 Change of Bank Account to Nat West.

Following difficulties with the present bank Cllr Smith had looked into other bank accounts and asked that the Council consider changing to National Westminster. After discussion it was resolved by 4 votes to 0 to change to National Westminster. The resolution was read out to the Councillors and it was resolved by 4 votes to 0 to accept the resolution.

It was agreed that signatures would be Cllrs Howe, Stanbury and Smith and the Parish Clerk would be the contact point. *v B. Bayford*

9. Planning

9.1 Applications received after preparation of Agenda.

Mr & Mrs Dey of the Old School House have requested the councils approval to remove a short section of the Parish boundary wall to allow them to increase the width of the drive entrance from 3.5m to 5m. There was a discussion re. protecting the parking rights of parishioners visiting the Parish Hall. It was resolved by 3 votes to 1 to refuse the request.

9.2 55826 Erection of building to house Biomass Boiler and associated store, Little Wadham.

There were no objections raised.

9.3 55781 Listed building app to demolish outbuilding and erection of outbuilding to house swimming pool, Little Wadham.

There were no objections raised.

9.4 55780 Demolition of outbuilding and erection of outbuilding to house swimming pool, Little Wadham.

There were no objections raised.

9.5 55717 Extension to dwelling at Old School House

There were no objections raised.

9.6 54402. Solar array at Bommertown.

This project is considerably larger than was first thought and the scale and impact was not appreciated when it came forward 18 months ago. The visual impact on the landscape will be considerable from the road (a recognised holiday route) and the view to Exmoor National Park will be affected. It was resolved by 4 votes to 0 to object to this application.

10. Report from District Councillor

On hearing the discussion re. the community bus Cllr Ley suggested that Cllr Yabsley may have access to grant money which can be applied for.

11. Report from County Councillor.

Cllr Yabsley reported that he does have a small amount of grant monies and would be happy to consider a request to help keep this service viable for the community and will send Cllr Smith the necessary paperwork to apply. He reported that South Molton College was looking for parent governors. He is working with the NHS North Devon Commissioning Group which is underfunded compared to the other Devon groups.

12. Conservation Management Plan

See matters arising

13. Highways and Footpaths

*Admitted
23/2/13₂*

13.1 Highways

There was a discussion re. lorries coming through East Knowstone and Knowstone. The lorries are getting bigger and the banks of the lanes are getting ~~in a bad~~ paths

Following our request for costings Sam Jeffcoat has quoted £125 -£150 to replace a stile with a pedestrian gate. It was agreed to carry this forward to the next meeting.

14. Moors Management

A caravan went out of control on the A361 at the bottom of the hill damaging a section of fence. Highways have erected a very good temporary fence.

15. Members Report

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

15.1 East Hill Proposal.

Members have not yet been able to walk the field.

15.2 Community Bus

Cllr Smith reported that for the first 9 weeks there has been an average of 8 passengers per trip but that there has been a financial loss of £223.93. Ways of fundraising were discussed as it was agreed that this was a service to the community that should be maintained if at all possible.

16. Date and Time of next meeting Tuesday 23rd July 2013

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

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

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23/7/13
J. Smith
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