

KNOWSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Knowstone Parish Council held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 25 September 2012 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs J.Smith (Chairman), J.Stanbury (Vice Chairman), R.Barfoot. D.Blackburn.
Mrs C Howe, D Morgans. A.Vigus.

In Attendance; District Cllr.E.Ley, 6 members of the public.

1. Apologies

No apologies for absence were received.

2. Minutes of the meeting held 28 August 2012

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations.

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

Min 4. No response had been received regarding the date of the West Hill enforcement appeal.

The Clerk reported that Western Power Distribution had tried to contact him earlier that day regarding recent power cuts. He would be speaking to them the next day, and would circulate the response to councillors.

Min 12 The pot holes reported at the last meeting had not received attention.

Min 15 It was reported that the Parochial Charity had been wound up and that the funds would be used to provide a memorial wall in the churchyard.

Min 18 Cllr Mrs Howe had provided a new circulation file.

5. Police Report

The theft of red diesel in the Crediton & Yealmpton area was reported.

6. Public Questions

1. It was reported that Mr McGill was in hospital. It was agreed to send a card from the parish council. Cllr Smith to arrange.

2. It was noted that the Batsworthy Cross public inquiry was now over. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to David Cocks. Cllr Barfoot was thanked for all his work.

3. It was reported that the auction of ½ acre of land on Harsedown Moor by Webbers on behalf of South West Water had been advertised in the North Devon Journal.
To be discussed under item 19.1

Cllr Stanbury joined the meeting.

7. Finance

7.1 Financial Report

The Clerk circulated copies of the finance report. A full breakdown would be presented at the next meeting.

7.2 Audit Return

The audit of the 2011/2012 Accounts had been completed by the Audit Commission. No matters of concern had been raised.

The Audit Commission had noted that councils should not accumulate excessive balances.

- 7.3 Accounts to Settle
- | | | |
|----|-------------------|---------|
| 1. | Mr K Scoynes | £ 87.50 |
| 2. | CPRE subscription | £ 29.00 |
| 3. | Parish Clerk | £104.30 |

Cllr Barfoot declared an interest in the CPRE payment.
The three accounts were approved for payment.

Cllr Vigus joined the meeting.

8. Planning

8.1 Batsworthy Cross - Update on the Highways Review 20th Sept.

Cllr Barfoot reported that the public enquire had been reopened to consider highway improvements. DCC had confirmed that improvements to the highway layout would be possible. The inspector's decision was expected by 23 October.

Councillors considered that due to the narrow verge on the south side of the road, any changes to the road layout could pose an increased danger to motorists.
Cllr Barfoot was thanked for all his work.

8.2 Blackerton House - Update on Open day 7th Sept.

It was noted that a number of councillors had attended the Open Day. Cllr Morgans considered that, due to the lack of public transport, the site was unsuitable for affordable housing. There were fears that the actual number of affordable built could be low.

It was agreed to invite Colin Savage to the next meeting.

8.3 Applications received after preparation of Agenda.

54585 Listed building application for internal works at Manor Cottage.
It was agreed to request an extension to enable the application to be considered at the next meeting.

54622 Erection of 1 agricultural dwelling at Lockett Wood, Knowstone
It was agreed to request an extension to also allow the application to be considered at the next meeting. It was noted that the application did have merit.

It was reported that a new entrance had been made at the old wild boar farm. It was agreed to report the matter to Planning Enforcement, together with an additional dwelling.

9. East Hill Farm: Update on DCC & DDC meetings.

It was reported that the meeting had been cancelled.

Mr Penhallagon at NPS was unwilling to change the present S106 agreement which the council considered to be too onerous for any developer.

The possibility of serving a Section 215 on Devon County Council was discussed. Cllr Ley offered to enquire if a s215 could be served on DCC

Cllr Smith offered to draft a letter to Mr Kelly at North Devon council and Cllr Yabsley.

10. Report from District Councillor

Cllr Ley outlined the treatment of planning applications for Agricultural Dwellings.

11. Reports from County Councillor

None – County councillor not present.

12. Highways and Footpaths

12.1 Members Report (Highways)

It was reported that work on Sturcombe Viaduct had not yet started.
Potholes on Holymoore to be reported to Highways.

12.2 Members Report (Footpaths)

Cllr Mrs Howe was reported that the P3 workshop would be on 24 October at Halberton, starting at 9.30am.

13. Moors Management Report

Cllr Morgans reported that grazing had been extended to the end of October, weather permitting. He reported that the parish council should be prepared not to expect payment on the same time scale as in the past due to a revised payment system.

14. Developing Local Transport Links - Update on Progress

Cllr Smith reported on a meeting with Exe Valley Community Bus. It had been proposed to run a pilot service to South Molton on the first four Thursdays in November. The bus would leave Oakford at 9.15am, Roachill at 9.30, East Knowstone at 9.35, and Knowstone at 9.40, arriving at South Molton at 10.20. the return bus would leave at 12.30pm.

It was agreed to deliver flyers to every home and to place notices on the notice boards. The cost of hiring the 16 seater mini bus would be £37 per day, payable by the parish council. It was agreed to run the service for a trial period of one month in order to assess its viability.

Cllr Smith was thanked for all his work in making the necessary arrangements.

15. Parish Compensation Fund - Update

Due to the unavailability of the land, it was not possible at present to progress the provision of a Playground.

It was agreed to keep the item on future agendas.

16. Roachill 20 mph Speed Project - Update from Tony Chetham.

It was reported that Mr Chetham had sent a letter to Nick Harvey MP, seeking his support for a 20mph speed limit,

17. Ordnance Survey PSMA & On-Line Parish Mapping

Cllr Smith reported that the free trial period was due to end shortly. The annual subscription was £20. He considered it a worthwhile tool to have, and that it had already proved to be very useful.

It was unanimously agreed to subscribe to On-Line Mapping.

18. Correspondence

18.1 Printed matter sent/received in past month

1. DCC had advised that Cllr John Hart, the Leader of the Council, was again touring the county to enable everyone to what had been happening, and to inform DCC what was important in the community. The South Molton area meeting would be held at Filleigh Village Hall on 3 December at 6.30pm.

19. Members' Reports

19.1 Matters of immediate concern or for inclusion in the October meeting
With regard to the land currently for sale, it was noted that South West Water had previously been asked to supply proof of ownership, but had failed to do so. The land had previously been used by the Highways Agency as a storage area whilst the link road was being constructed. The Parish Council had been asked for permission for this to be done.

It was agreed to request Webbers not to proceed with the sale until proof of ownership had been supplied. It was believed to be parish council owned land. It was noted that no right of common existed on the land. Cllr Blackburn to draft letter to Webbers.

Items for next agenda: East Hill Farm; Parish Compensation Fund Update.

20. Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 23 October at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9:45pm.