

KNOWSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a regular meeting held on Tuesday 27th November 2018 in Knowstone Parish Hall

18/108 Apologies for absence - Cllr J Stanbury

18/109 Declarations of Interest (re. matters appearing on this agenda) - None

18/110 Approve Minutes It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd October 2018, Cllr Howe proposed, Cllr Browse seconded, all agreed.

18/111 Toby Russell, Community Landing Sites Development Officer, Devon Air Ambulance gave a summary of the requirements for community (night) landing sites. They need to be 50m x 50m, flat and reasonably close to habitation. Lighting is needed for paramedics to do their work rather than from an aviation point of view and is accessed remotely using a switching system. Communities are asked to fundraise for their own lighting. There is a grant for labour but not for the kit. A ballpark figure for a single light is £3,000. Devon Air Ambulance's role is to support fundraising as well as identifying sites. DAA currently has 100 sites and 115 in development. They are trying to build up a network which would mean they can get to most villages. Different types of ground can be used – sports pitches, playing fields, open ground, bits of farmer's fields etc. They can look at a potential site and give quick feedback as to its suitability. There are landing sites in South and North Molton and one has been identified in Rackenford but not active yet. East Anstey has looked but a suitable site could not be found. Traumas picked up by the air ambulance are usually taken to Derriford or the appropriate major centre for the particular injury. If a site is identified that does not have mains electricity DAA will pay for power to be brought into the site by Western Power. D/Cllr Ley thought the most obvious place in the parish would be the picnic site. The chairman said the item would be put on the agenda for January's meeting and feelers could be put out in the parish about where a possible suitable site could be identified. Toby was thanked for coming and talking to the meeting.

18/112 Correspondence (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

- Note receipt of email dated 25.10.18 from DCC Flood and Coastal Risk Management with October 2018 Strategy Newsletter;
- Note receipt of email dated 29.10.18 from Wessex Resolutions CIC re. Home Improvement Loans in partnership with North Devon Council – article for website requested, poster to be displayed on Knowstone noticeboard;
- Note receipt of email dated 29.10.18 from North Devon Record Office re. Meeting for Funders and Supporters;
- Note receipt of email dated 1.11.18 from NDC Electoral Services Manager re. Polling District Review;
- Note receipt of email dated 1.11.18 from NDC Planning and Economy Manager re. Notification of adoption of the North Devon and Torridge Local Plan;
- Note receipt of email dated 5.11.18 from Office of the Poice and Crime Commissioner for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly re. Councillor Advocate Scheme Update;
- Note receipt of Parish Online News and Updates dated 6.11.18;
- Note and discuss response to email dated 9.11.18 from Mrs Cherry Selby re. The Log Cabin Diner. Response to be sent saying that KPC is happy to support them with training and advice and to make them aware of any future CPR training that is undertaken in the parish.
- Note letter dated 9.11.18 sent to Cllr D Brailey, Leader NDC re. Batsworthy Wind Farm – Noise Measurements, with copies to Peter Heaton-Jones MP, Tim Hatcher, Chairman Batsworthy Noise Working Group, D/Cllr J Yabsley, D/Cllr E Ley, D/Cllr R Cann, D/Cllr J Patrinos, M Mansell, Chief Executive, NDC
- Note receipt of letter from Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid & West Devon dated 12.11.18 thanking KPC for its recent donation;
- Note receipt of Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid & West Devon newsletter dated 12.11.18;
- Note receipt of DALC newsletter dated 14.11.18;
- Note receipt of CPRE's 'Field Work' and 'Countryside Voice' Winter 2018 – copies available at meeting;
- Note receipt of email dated 20.11.18 from Beverley Triggs, NDC re. Parish Councillors Register of Interests – letter from Devon and Cornwall Police;
- Note receipt of email dated 20.11.18 from CPRE re. Green Clean 2018 – the results are in;
- Note any correspondence received after the preparation of the agenda:
- Email dated 23.11.18 from South West Heritage Trust re. Funding for the North Devon Record Office;
- Email dated 23.11.18 from NDC Exchequer Manager re. Knowstone Parish Funding 2019/20;
- Email dated 26.11.18 from Graham James, Community officer, South Molton Police Station re. Parish Council interaction;

- Cllr Howe had received an email from a parishioner about impingement on land by neighbour.

18/113 Public Questions (limited to 20 minutes) Standing orders suspended

Mrs Wilmetts reported on a problem, now resolved to her satisfaction, whereby the owner of the newly built property next to Enfield House had put fence posts in the field further out than he should have. Fence has now been reinstated in exactly the same position as it was before. She said there was still an infringement onto land owned by Mrs Spottiswood. Cllr Howe will speak to Mrs Greaves at Enfield House who had written to him about the problem and will advise her that she needs to speak to North Devon Planning Department. Cllr Howe will forward her email to the clerk to circulate to all councillors.

Mr Morgans asked that as the police are not seen at all in Roachill whether KPC could take the lead through DALC and discuss with other parish councils to formulate a letter to the Police Commissioner to help her get more money to discharge their services in rural areas. The Chairman said that the Council had recently received correspondence from the police which he will cover under his report. Mr Morgans also said that he had had to rescue the door of the Roachill noticeboard from blowing open; it needs to be pushed firmly closed and possibly needed a catch fitted. The clerk will speak to David Herbert, the carpenter, about having one fitted.

Standing orders resumed

18/114 Finance

a) It was RESOLVED to agree accounts and bank reconciliation as at 26.10.18, previously circulated, Cllr Filmer-Bennett proposed, Cllr Moore seconded, all agreed. Cllr Filmer-Bennett signed the accounts.

b) Accounts to settle

- Clerk's salary Oct/Nov (£161.36) & expenses (£71.07) £232.43
- DALC – attendance of T Moore at Chairmanship course £30.00 (incl VAT)
- McAfee (c/o the Clerk) – 2 year subscription to McAfee LiveSafe £79.98 (incl VAT)
- Clerk's salary Nov/Dec (to be paid on 28.12.18) £156.15

It was RESOLVED to settle the above accounts, proposed Cllr Browse, seconded Cllr Howe, all agreed.

c) It was RESOLVED to donate £200 to the Parish Hall as per their email dated 29.10.18, Cllr Moore proposed, Cllr Filmer-Bennett seconded, all agreed.

d) It was RESOLVED to renew KPC's membership of CPRE at a cost of £36, Cllr Howe proposed, Cllr Moore seconded, all agreed.

e) **Budget 2019/20 preparation** – review and discuss draft budget for 19/20 and provisional Precept figure. Discuss new projects and new community expenditure. The draft budget which had been circulated to all councillors is a first stab at what KPC plans to spend next year. The chairman asked councillors to give some thoughts to possible capital expenditure, eg mobile Roachill road sign, trailer for grit distribution, potential East Hill projects. It was agreed that councillors would have an informal meeting to discuss and brain storm before next council meeting which the Clerk will organise. The deadline for the Precept submission is 21st January 2019 the day before the next KPC meeting. The clerk will ask NDC for a 48 hour extension to the deadline as last year.

18/115 Planning

a) Applications received after preparation of the agenda - None

b) Applications notified since last meeting – **Reference 65023**: Approval of details in respect of discharge of condition 4 (soft & hard landscaping) attached to planning permission 65272 (variation of condition 2 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 63067 (change of use of land from agriculture to mixed agriculture & equine use & erection of stable block together with formation of manege) to enable the re-positioning of the stable block) at Luckett Mill, Knowstone. Cllr Howe reported that his application was just a formality and it was agreed that the Council would make no comment.

c) Oaklands Poultry Farm retrospective planning application, ref. 64059 – Cllr Howe reported that he had attended the NDC Planning meeting on 14th November where he had spoken on behalf of KPC regarding concerns over the smell and the possible transportation of chicken manure through Roachill. He had also emphasised the lack of affordable housing in the area and the concern that the proposed affordable houses were being put in jeopardy by this application. The decision on this application has been put back for a maximum of 3 months.

18/116 Third Party Reports (if present):

a) **District Councillor** – re. East Hill Cllr Ley reported that planning will not be issued until the S106 has been finalised and that it was currently the in solicitors' hands. He mentioned the DCC Estate land at top of the hill which

could be a possible landing site for the Air Ambulance. With reference to the Poultry Farm application he said that the open housing market houses value was being diminished but evidence was needed from a chartered surveyor (not an estate agent). The original planning was for a small brooder unit tucked away but subsequently plans to double it were submitted but they did not get to East Anstey Parish Council in time for them to comment on it. He had persuaded councillors to defer a decision and it will come before the Planning Committee again in due course.

Re. letter to Cllr Brailey re. Batsworthy noise monitoring. It has been accepted that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will look at the issue with reference to the enforcement of conditions of planning. .

Re. occupancy of the new house – Cllr Ley said that single dwellings built in rural settlements are subject to local occupancy requirements. If occupancy not taken up initially from within the parish within 3 months, it is then widened out to adjoining parishes for a further 6 months, after which it can be offered to someone with the district. He did not think it was being advertised on this basis.

- b) **County Councillor** – Cllr Yabsley said he was chasing up signage issues. He has been involved recently in interviewing potential Devon County Council farm tenants. They had received applications from 14 couples for 4 farms and the quality of applicants had been very high. The County Council Chairman had hosted a lunch that day for farm tenants which had been attended by 80.

18/117 Members Reports

- a) **Highways** – re. Street light in Knowstone – Cllr Filmer-Bennett read out the response from NDC. Clerk to write to NDC to enquire whether inspection and fitting of a shield to the light has taken place yet.

Cllr Filmer-Bennett reported that he had completed a Highways Course and has received a certificate. This means that KPC can now go ahead with work under the Road Warden Scheme. He has sourced where the council can get hi-viz jackets which will be supported financially.

With reference to the requested HGV signage change no response has been received from DCC and it was agreed to chase the officer concerned more robustly for action. There have been some instances recently when a lorry has got stuck. The decision for signage change does not need to go to a highways committee, it is decided internally by officers. Cllr Filmer-Bennett reiterated that the council was not trying to stop HGV's going down to East Knowstone altogether; it was a case of not specifically directing them to East Knowstone.

Re. broken grate in East Knowstone - no response received from DCC resilience people so will be chased.

Re. problem on Wadham Hill – an officer has been to have a look at it and it is on DCC's list to be done within the time agreed.

Rubbish has been dumped in the stone store layby. It has been reported by a resident and Cllr Howe has also phoned ND Council about it.

Cllr Browse asked that when C/Cllr Yabsley and Highways officer make their next tour of the parish to look at the road from Log Cabin upwards as it is in very poor condition. He has reported the potholes online. C/Cllr said that the next visit was due to happen in a fortnight's time.

Harpson and Kidland sign which was flattened was supposed to have been looked at it by 19.11.18. There has been no action yet but DCC has got another week (5 week limit) in which to repair it. The post on the island near the Log Cabin has also been flattened and was reported about 1 week ago.

Cllr Howe said there had been a problem with a couple of black sacks not collected at Harpson/Kidland because they contained bale wrapping which is not domestic waste.

- b) **Footpaths & Beaples Stone** – Cllr Browse – nothing to report.

- c) **Police Report** – Cllr Moore

- (i) Agree KPC's involvement with Councillor Advocate Scheme – item deferred until January meeting.
- (ii) Information had been received from the Police regarding their priorities. This information will be put on the website. To be discussed at greater length at January's meeting.

- d) **Parish Pound** – Cllr Howe reported that it was being kept tidy by two residents. He feels that it would be the ideal place for a Knowstone war memorial which he will look into and report back at a future meeting.

e) **Parish Hall** – Cllr Howe reported that the disabled toilet had now been installed. There had been a problem with the solar panels not working but this was because they had been turned off whilst the building work was going on. The Christmas Fair takes place this Saturday, the dances continue – some to raise funds for the hall and some for the church. An 8ft batten has been fixed in place ready to carry curtains to cover the film screen. The next film night on 6th December will be showing ‘The Greatest Showman’. The film nights will continue in January, February and March 2019.

f) **PCC Report** – Cllr Howe reported that the PCC had met last week. The restoration work in the church continues. The Con Spirito concert is on 7th December – tickets available from Jerney Filmer-Bennett. The Carol Service will take place on 16th December at 6.30 p.m. and Bingo night which raises money for the church and the hall will be on Tuesday 11th December, 7.30 p.m. for eyes down at 8.00 p.m.

g) **Snow Warden** – Cllr Filmer-Bennett said he had been in touch with Richard Sables and Cllr Stanbury and that online training had been set up for Cllr Stanbury to undertake. He also reported that grit has been delivered to Anthony Vigus and the grit bin for the top of Tracey’s Hill is on the list to be done in the next week or so. It was pointed out by Cllr Howe that the grit bin at Wadham has been damaged again. Cllr Filmer-Bennett will report it.

18/118 Casual Vacancy for two Parish Councillors The Chairman said it was important to talk to parishioners about the vacancies and he pointed out that the council needed to have at least 5 councillors to be viable.

18/119 Business at the Chairman’s discretion – none.

18/120 Date & Time of next meeting: Tuesday 22nd January 2019 at 7.30 p.m

The meeting closed at 21.29.