

1/4/2014

KNOWSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Parish Hall Knowstone 22 April 2014 at 7.30pm.

Present:

Cllr John Smith	(CHAIR)	Cllr David Morgans,	(DBM)
Cllr Robert Barfoot,	(RJB)	Cllr Reg Howe,	(RGH)
Cllr Suzanne Howe	(SMH)	Cllr John Stanbury	(JRS)
Richard Vos	(Clerk)		

Also in attendance:

District Councillor E. Ley & County Councillor J Yabsley
Members of the Public x4.
PC 6798 Adrian Micallef (South Molton Police Station)

1. Apologies:

1.1 Cllr Anthony Vigus,

2. Minutes:

2.1 The minutes of the last meeting of KPC having been circulated in advance of the meeting:

Approved subject to minor corrections approval to be ratified at the May meeting (see announcement at 4 below)

x *Adrian Micallef*

3. Declarations of interest:

3.1 None

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

Short Notice

CHAIR announced that as advised to parish councillors prior to the meeting due to the Easter Holidays insufficient notice had been given of today's meeting. The meeting would go ahead as per the published agenda BUT any decisions taken would have to be formally ratified at the May meeting.

7.2 CHAIR confirmed that a letter has been sent by email to Highways

16.2 Confirmed the date of the next meeting of KP{C is 27th May and NOT 20th as shown on the posted agenda.

5. Police Report:

5.1 PC 6789 Micallef gave a comprehensive update on policing matters in the South Molton and Knowstone areas. The number of full time police officers based at South Molton is due to increase shortly from two to five.

Adrian Micallef
27/5/16

The Police are aware of continuing thefts from outbuildings and sheds as well as ongoing problems with poachers.

Over the last month there have been x3 reports to the police involving the Knowstone area plus a Public Order Act offence (Sect 4a – verbal abuse of another)

The meeting was reminded of the Police contact numbers:

In Emergencies call : 999

Non-Emergency call : 101

Email contact : southmolton@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

CHAIR thanked PC Micallef for his attendance and his report which was of interest to all present.

6. Correspondence:

X7 items of correspondence have been received and filed in the correspondence file which was circulated at the meeting

6.1 Exmoor Link Federation

6.2 NDDC Notice of forthcoming elections

6.3 Letter from 10 Downing Street

6.4 email Mr & Mrs Brooks; Manor Cottage

6.5 email Lesley Smith DALC re poss funding options

6.6 copy letter to Wendy Vigus

6.7 copy email to DCC Highways

7. Public Questions (limited to 20 minutes)

Meeting closed at 7.59pm for public questions

7.1 The CHAIR was asked to include a report from the Village Hall committee on the standing Agenda

7.2 Mrs Barfoot queried the seconding of a money proposal involving the Village Hall PPC at the March meeting as recorded in the minutes.

(see 4.2 (8.2 d))

(On checking was found to be an error and the minutes corrected to show that the proposal had been seconded by RJB)

Public questions closed at 8.06pm the meeting was reopened.

8. Finance:

8.1 Finance Report: Report was presented by CHAIR

Donation of £25 to South Molton Community News Letter has been omitted in error but will be included in next month's statement

8.2 .a Proposed: To approve for payment invoices

i. DCC Road signs £548.14

ii. Aon Insurance £472.54

J. Smith
2 29/5/14

(prp: RJB, sec: SMH)

Outcome: Passed unanimously – to be ratified at May meeting

AC Smith
AC Smith

8.3. Proposed: To approve for payment Clerks salary £65.20

(prp: SMH, sec: RJB)

Outcome: Passed unanimously – to be ratified at May meeting >

9. Planning:

9.1 No new applications have been received

10. Report from District Councillor:

10.1 Cllr Eric Ley provided an update on various issues at the district council. In particular the new Local Plan has very recently been published; this to be considered as an agenda item at the May meeting.

11. Report from County Councillor:

11.1 Cllr Jeremy Yabsley provided an update on various issues at the County Council including an update on East Hill Farm and the possible disposal of ground by the DCC Farms Estate.

8.35pm – 8.40pm Meeting closed for public questions to DCC and NDC councillors

12. Highways and Footpaths.

12.1 Members report (Highways)

CHAIR reported an email had been sent to Highways regarding potholes in the parish. The DCC website has recently been improved to make it easier for individuals to report potholes as and when they notice them by completing in an online fault reporting form.

The link for reporting Potholes direct to DCC is: <http://www.devon.gov.uk/pothole>

12.2 Members Report (footpaths)

CHAIR nothing significant to report

13. Moors Management Report:

13.1 DBM gave a verbal report; there was nothing significant to report. There are changes in the rules relating to TB testing due to come into effect in June ~~14~~ which are likely to affect the turnout of livestock on the moor; these will come before the Moors Management committee for discussion.

AC Smith
27/5/14
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30/06/2014

14. PCC report.

14.1 RGH reported that donations from the service on Good Friday Walk of witness were being made to the Somerset Community Foundation for flood relief

Bill Bucknell's retirement as church warden had been marked by a celebratory tea on Easter Sunday which had been well attended.

The Rev'd Andrew Jones is due to retire in June; he will be replaced by the Rev'd David Baker who will be responsible for 11 parishes in the Edgemoor Group.

15. Purchase of Land – consideration of options

15.1 CHAIR lead a discussion regarding the possible investment of KPC funds for the purchase of amenity ground for the use of the parish. It is possible that DCC Farm Estates might be willing to sell a parcel of ground for purchase by the local community.

There were strong views expressed that subject to valuation and proper costing the purchase of ground for local amenity use would be a good investment at the same time strong views were expressed that the parish should not consider buying anything more than it could afford from its existing capital resources and in particular that no monies should be borrowed (this had been suggested at an earlier meeting as a way of buying more ground than the parish can currently afford)

It was felt that subject to valuations (and negotiation) it should be possible to buy between 2 1/2 and 3 acres of ground.

The meeting closed for public contributions 9.10pm to 9.25pm

The meeting reopened and it was decided to request that the matter be discussed further at the forthcoming Annual Parish Meeting on 19th May at the same time some valuation evidence should be obtained to better inform the discussion.

16. Members reports:

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

16.1 Annual Parish meeting. Will take place on Monday 19th May 2014

16.2 Annual meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday 27 May 2014

17. Date & Time of next meeting:

17.1 Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 27th May 2014 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.35pm

Minutes prepared by Richard Vos (Parish Clerk)

Richard Vos
27/5/14
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