

KNOWSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the annual meeting of the Council on 24th May 2022 held in Knowstone Parish Hall

Present: Cllr J Clarke, Cllr D Maidment, Cllr J Pomfret (Chairman)

In attendance: W Sweet (Clerk)

22/18 Election of Chairman - Cllr Maidment proposed Cllr Pomfret as Chairman, Cllr Clarke seconded, all agreed.

22/19 Election of Vice Chairman – Cllr Pomfret proposed Cllr Parry as Vice Chairman, Cllr Maidment seconded, all agreed.

22/20 Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman was signed by Cllr Pomfret.

22/21 Apologies for absence – Cllr Parry, C/Cllr Yabsley

22/22 Declarations of Interest - None

22/23 Approve Minutes It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 26th April 2022 – Cllr Pomfret proposed, Cllr Clarke seconded, all agreed.

22/24 Appointment of members to serve on Parish Committees: Parish Hall, Moors Management Association – this item was deferred until the next Council meeting.

22/25 Allocation of Roles amongst members: Footpaths & Beaples Stone, Planning, Highways, Snow Warden, Police liaison, Emergency Plan, Road Warden – this item was deferred until the next Council meeting.

22/26 Correspondence (not covered elsewhere on the agenda).

Receipt of the following correspondence was NOTED:

- Parish Online Newsletter – April Edition dated 28.04.22;
- Devon Climate Emergency May Newsletter dated 4.05.22
- DALC #22 2022 E-bulletin dated 4.05.22;
- Email dated 9.05.22 from NDC re. Jubilee waste and recycling collections;
- DALC #23 2022 E-bulletin dated 11.05.22;
- Email from NDC dated 17.05.22 – Code of Conduct Training;
- DALC #24 2022 E-bulletin dated 18.05.22;
- Email from NDLR @ Alun Griffiths dated 18.05.22 – Borners Bridge - Update;

The following correspondence received after the preparation of the agenda was NOTED:

- Email dated 24.05.22 from DCC re. Parish Paths Partnership Free Strimmer/Brushcutter courses June/July 2022.

22/27 Public Questions (limited to 20 minutes)

(i) With regard to a question asked at a previous council meeting by a member of the public about whether it was legal for the tenant at Sidemoor picnic area to live on site, it was reported that a response had been received from Joe Deasy, Devon Highways. The email was read out and it was Mr Deasy's understanding that the tenant was not living on site. A copy of email will be forwarded to the parishioner who had asked the question.

(ii) At the previous week's Annual Meeting of the Parish a parishioner had raised the issue of brief / intermittent dropouts of power and had suggested that KPC contacts neighbouring parish councils to see if their residents experience the same problem and write collectively to Western Power. It was felt that more information was needed before the Parish Council would get involved and that times and dates of any power loss should be recorded. This could be publicised to parishioners to ascertain how widespread the problem is.

Approved

22/28 Finance

(a) It was RESOLVED to settle the following accounts, Cllr Pomfret proposed, Cllr Clarke seconded, all agreed:

- Wendy Sweet - Clerk's pay & back pay (£163.62) & WFH allowance (£24.00) £187.62
- Knowstone Parish Hall (donation / hall hire) £200.00

(b) **Insurance** – it was RESOLVED to accept BHIB's insurance quote of £506.80, Cllr Clarke proposed, Cllr Maidment seconded, all agreed.

22/29 Risk Assessment It was RESOLVED to accept the amended Risk Assessment, previously circulated, Cllr Pomfret proposed, Cllr Maidment seconded, all agreed.

22/30 Electric Vehicle Charging Point – Cllr Clarke reported that he had contacted PodPoint for a quote. Initially he will supply them with information via an online survey along with photos as requested, eg of the hall's fuse board.

22/31 Planning

(a) Applications notified since last meeting – **Ref. 75017** Extensions and alterations to dwelling at Sunnymead, Knowstone, South Molton Devon EX36 4EB. This application is for two small extensions, reasonably sized in relation to the footprint of the building. The nearest property is 10m away and it was felt that there would not be any overlooking issues. Cllr Clarke proposed that Knowstone Parish Council supports this application, Cllr Maidment seconded, all agreed.

(b) Applications notified since the preparation of the agenda – none.

(c) Other planning matters – It was reported that the clerk had written to the Enforcement Department re. Tower Farm as requested at the last meeting but no response has been received.

22/32 Third Party Reports

- a) District Councillor – not present
- b) County Councillor – not present

22/33 Review the Council's and staff subscriptions to other bodies:

- DALC (Devon Association of Local Councils)
- SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks)
- CPRE (Council for the Protection of Rural England)
- Parish Online.

This item was deferred until the next Council meeting.

22/34 Members Reports

a) Highways

(i) Give way signs/white lines at Wiston Cross – the absence of these were reported online to DCC by a parishioner and the response they had received from the local Highways Officer was as follows: "Thank you for bringing this to our attention. There is no requirement for a give way sign at this location which is why such a sign has never been erected at the location. Whilst I accept that the give way markings have worn this is no longer classed as a safety defect except on roads of a higher maintenance category (3-5's) the main route through is a 7 whilst the others are classed at 9 which are too low to qualify. In order to gain maximum use of what line budget we have, we commission on a parish basis rather than an individual location therefore these marking will have to wait until a bid to complete a parish remark is made."

The possibility of the Parish Council putting up a 'Give way' sign was discussed and Cllr Pomfret will investigate the cost. The Clerk will ask the local Highways Officer how a parish puts in a bid for remarking. Cllr Maidment reported that she had been told by a resident that they had seen a driver go straight across without stopping at the Wiston Cross junction.

(ii) Damaged signpost at Holy Moor – Cllr Pomfret is currently investigating whether it is repairable.

(iii) Problem of cars driving too fast through Roachill – suggestions received from local residents on how to alleviate this problem included moving the Roachill sign (coming from Blackerton Cross direction) over to the right so it would be more visible, speed bumps at the gateways at both ends of Roachill, look into criteria for quiet lane status. A pedestrian warning sign on the gateway on the right-hand side from the Blackerton

Approved

Cross direction might help and the Clerk will research the cost of this.

(iv) JP reported that the road closure notice has been received for the Jubilee Street party on Sunday 5th June.

b) **Footpaths & Beaples Stone** – Cllr Pomfret reported that the footpaths will be strimmed at some point by Devon County Council.

c) **Moors Management Association** – Cllr Maidment – nothing to report.

d) **Welcome Pack** - Cllr Maidment - nothing to report

e) **Emergency Plan** – It was reported that the Chairman and the Clerk are now in receipt of the Emergency Plan spreadsheet produced by Cllr Parry. It was felt that it would be a good idea if the hall had a generator and could be used as a hub in the event of any future lengthy power cuts.

f) **Parish Hall** – Jubilee Celebration arrangements are well in hand. There will be a community walk in the morning of Saturday 4th June and a street party from midday on Sunday 5th June.

22/35 Casual vacancy for a Parish Councillor – no expressions of interest have been received. The vacancy has been ‘advertised’ on the Knowstone Facebook page.

22/36 Business at the Chairman’s discretion – none.

22/37 To agree dates & times of meetings in the coming year – It was AGREED that the Council will meet bi-monthly on the following dates: 26th July 2022, 27th September 2022, 22nd November 2022, 24th January 2023, 28th March 2023, Tuesday 16th May 2023.

The meeting closed 20.40