

## KNOWSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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### Minutes of the Meeting of the Council on 22nd June 2021 held in Knowstone Parish Hall

**Present:** Cllr D Barrett, Cllr J Clarke, Cllr D Maidment, Cllr A Parry, Cllr J Pomfret (Chairman)

In attendance: W Sweet (Clerk), 1 member of the public

**21/35 Apologies for absence** – D/Cllr Ley

**21/36 Declarations of Interest** (re. matters appearing on this agenda) - None

**21/37 Approve Minutes** It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2021 – Cllr Parry proposed, Cllr Clarke seconded, all agreed.

**21/38** The following correspondence (not covered elsewhere on the agenda) was NOTED.

- Email dated 25.05.21 from Mick Harrison, OPCC – Information re. G7;
- Email dated 26.05.21 from CPRE – John Nettles OBE spearheads our campaign against solar farms in Devon's countryside;
- Email dated 27.05.21 from CPRE campaigns – 8 billion wasted;
- Parish Online Newsletter – May Edition;
- Email dated 28.05.21 from Mick Harrison, OPCC – Contacting the Police – Devon and Cornwall Police campaign briefing sheet;
- Email dated 1.06.21 from CPRE – Special Devon Campaign News;
- Email dated 4.06.21 from secretary of SOHS North Devon Group re. Closed Minor Injuries Units;
- Email dated 4.06.21 from DCC re. Wild About Devon: invite to join & attend launch event – Monday 28th June;
- DALC Newsletter #26 2021 dated 11.06.21 – Latest News;

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

- Temporary Traffic Notice dated 21.06.21 re. closure of A361 between 19.00 and 7.00 during week commencing 12.07.21.

**21/39 Public Questions** – None

#### **21/40 Finance**

(a) It was RESOLVED to settle the following account, Cllr Barrett proposed, Cllr Clarke seconded, all agreed: Wendy Sweet (Clerk's pay) - £200.86.

(b) It was RESOLVED to settle the following account, Cllr Barrett proposed, Cllr Parry seconded, all agreed: Wendy Sweet (reimbursement for litter pickers & hi-viz vests) - £108.90.

(c) It was RESOLVED to settle the following account, Cllr Barrett proposed, Cllr Pomfret seconded, all agreed: B.N.C. Carpentry (7 x planters) - £750.00.

(d) It was RESOLVED to agree accounts to date for year ending 31st March 2022 (previously circulated), Cllr Pomfret proposed, Cllr Parry seconded, all agreed. Cllr Parry signed a copy of the accounts and the bank statements.

**21/41 Civic Pride Working Group** – It was reported that 7 planters had been purchased from BNC Carpentry near Oldways End which would be delivered in the next day or so. There is a total of 8 name signs in the parish, but one location is not suitable to have a planter underneath it due to its proximity to a farm gate. The logistics of the next stage of putting them into position and planting them will be discussed by the Working Group after the Council meeting.

#### **21/42 Litter Picking**

(a) Update – It was reported that 6 pickers had been purchased. Two people have borrowed and used them so far. They had collected two bags of rubbish and a wheel hub. An item about this has been posted to the

*Approved*

Knowstone website. Cllr Barrett will put information about the litter pickers on the Knowstone Facebook page. The Clerk had spoken to the Council's insurance broker who had been very helpful. They do not need to know dates of when the litter picking is taking place.

(b) It was RESOLVED to agree Litter Picking Collection Policy (previously circulated) after amending the fifth bullet point to read: "Needles should be left in situ and reported to the Clerk.....". It was RESOLVED to agree the risk assessment (previously circulated) after amending the first Hazard listed to read, "..., animal or human waste,...", Cllr Pomfret proposed, Cllr Parry seconded, all agreed.

### **21/43 Planning**

(i) Applications notified since last meeting - None

(ii) Applications notified since the preparation of the agenda - None

(iii) Note applications determined since the last Council meeting - None

(iv) Other planning matters – Cllr Clarke reported that North Devon Council seem to have had a tidy up of outstanding applications as dozens of applications were showing on their website as having been dealt with or withdrawn.

### **21/44 Third Party Reports**

a) District Councillor – not present

b) County Councillor – not present

### **21/45 Members Reports**

a) **Highways** – Cllr Barrett had not heard anything back re. white lines and will message C/Cllr Yabsley about it. Potholes are getting repaired in various places. He had looked at the Road Warden information which had been circulated but it was not a role he wished to take it on. There has been a fracas about parking in Knowstone - some residents have suggested a carpark for the village which can be discussed at a future council meeting. Perhaps there could be an overflow carpark if/when the Parish Council is given the land at East Hill farm. The Parish Council cannot dictate a policy or tell people where to park but would just hope that people park thoughtfully.

b) **Footpaths & Beaples Stone** – Cllr Pomfret reported that the paths in the parish are very overgrown at the moment. He has spoken to the owner of the field where the tenant farmer has ploughed up the footpath and seeded the whole area. There is now a path made by people walking across the field. He has suggested that the farmer strims the route of the path himself and puts the posts back. Until there is a clearly marked footpath Cllr Pomfret is not prepared to put up a sign like last year asking people to stick to the line of the path. Cllr Pomfret has spoken to the owner of the field behind Rose Cottage, and he is happy for the stile to be replaced with a field gate with pedestrian gate built into it. He is waiting for a picture of it from DCC. Three other stiles will be replaced with gates - the one behind Marilyn cottage, the one at the bottom of the field and the one at the end of the footpath near the Knowstone village sign on the Ash Mill road. This will make it easier for walkers generally. DCC will replace them all free of charge. A spring has been broken on the self-closing gate on the path past Marilyn Cottage, downhill into the woods which he will report to DCC in order to have it replaced.

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

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

e) **Emergency Plan** – Cllr Parry reported that he plans to undertake a survey as the last one was done several years ago. There will be caveats and the information gathered will be kept confidential. It is planned to ask whether the questionnaire can be delivered with the next issue of 'In Touch' which would ensure it gets to every household – 106 in total. In order to hopefully receive a wider response an SAE will be included. The cost of postage would be £69, plus cost of paper and envelopes – approximately £100 in total. It was RESOLVED to agree this expenditure, Cllr Clarke proposed, Cllr Barrett seconded, all agreed.

f) **Parish Hall** – Cllr Barrett reported that there will be a coffee morning outside the hall this Saturday, 10.30 a.m. – 12.00. There were limited events going on in the hall as still restricted by COVID rules.

g) **PCC Report** – Cllr Barrett reported that a service had been held on 13th June which had been quite well attended. There was going to be another service this coming Sunday, 27th June and in future regular services twice a month.

**21/46 Casual vacancy for a Parish Councillor**

A co-option notice has been put on all noticeboards in the parish. It will also go on the Knowstone website plus the Facebook page. If the vacancy is not filled by the time the Emergency Plan questionnaire goes out it can be mentioned in the accompanying letter.

**21/47 Business at the Chairman's discretion – None**

**21/48 The date, time and venue of the next meeting** were confirmed as follows: Tuesday 27th July 2021 at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

The meeting closed 20.25.