

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 27th August 2019, Knowstone Parish Hall

Present: Cllr D Barrett, Cllr J Filmer-Bennett (Vice Chairman), Cllr R Howe, Cllr D Maidment, Cllr T Moore (Chairman), Cllr J Pomfret

In attendance: W Sweet (clerk), 1 member of the public, D/Cllr E Ley (part)

19/64 Apologies for absence - None

19/65 Declarations of Interest (re. matters appearing on this agenda) - None

19/66 Approve Minutes It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes of meeting held on 23rd July 2019, Cllr Moore proposed, Cllr Filmer-Bennett seconded, all agreed.

19/67 Correspondence (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

- Letter dated 19.07.19 from the Environment Agency re. New Authorisation licences;
- Parish Online News dated 25.07.19;
- Email dated 28.07.19 from Jane Faust with copy of email sent to Andrew Cole, Environmental Health, NDC
- Email dated 29.07.19 from Devon County Council (Traffic Regulation & On-Street Parking Places) Amendment Order reference IMR/B06948-5758;
- DALC Annual Report 2018/2019 – copy available at the meeting;
- Email dated 1.08.19 from Save Our Hospital Services re. Public Engagement on Hospital Services;
- Latest news from the ICO dated 1.08.19;
- DALC News 2019#15 dated 5.08.19;
- Email dated 5.08.19 from NDC re. Rural Alliance meeting on 24.10.19;

Note any correspondence received after the preparation of the agenda

- The Rural Bulletin - 6 August 2019
- Email dated 6 August 2019 re. formation of a Climate Emergency network;
- Email dated 6 August 2019 - Invitation to North Devon Council's Parish Forum Thursday 19th September 2019
- Email dated 7.08.19 from ND Hospital re. Hospital services in northern Devon – engagement update
- North Devon Weekly Information Sheets dated 9.08.19, 16.08.19
- Email dated 10.08.19 from CPRE – Campaigns Update August 2019
- Email dated 11.08.19 from David Morgans re. Poultry Farm Appeal Objection
- DALC News#16 dated 12.08.19
- Email dated 14.08.19 from Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner re. Upcoming Police Programme
- Email dated 14.08.19 from Corporate and Community Services Officer, NDC re. North Devon Council Consultation. The Chairman read out brief details of NDC's corporate priorities which are: protecting the environment, financial security, providing the best service and creating a better future for North Devon. He suggested that all councillors read the corporate plan and accompanying questions and then circulate any comments they have so that a response from KPC to the consultation can be submitted. Cllr Barrett said he felt that the recycling system in North Devon was inefficient compared to Norfolk where he had previously lived. It was AGREED that Cllr Moore and Cllr Filmer-Bennett will compile a response which has to be submitted to NDC by 15th September 2019.

Received by post

- Countryside Voice Summer 2019 from CPRE
- Brochure & tickets for Flood Expo event taking place at NEC on 11 & 12 September
- Poster advertising Peter Heaton-Jones; future surgery dates to go on noticeboards & website.

19/68 Public Questions - None

19/69 Finance

- a) Financial Report by RFO. The accounts and bank reconciliation to date were REVIEWED. The Clerk reported that the VAT refund of £381.42 had been received from HMRC. The Council had not yet received an invoice from Fremington Parish Council for the new councillor training.
- b) Accounts to settle:
 - Wendy Sweet – pay & holiday pay (£190.74) & expenses (£42.51) £233.25It was RESOLVED to settle the above account, Cllr Moore proposed, Cllr Filmer-Bennett seconded, all agreed

19/70 Planning

- a) Applications notified since last meeting – Ref .70190 Change of Use of land to allow formation of a Manège for private use at West Hill, Knowstone Cllr Howe reported that he had made a site visit and saw no reason for the applicant not to create a training area for their horses. It was RESOLVED to support the application, Cllr Howe proposed, Cllr Pomfret seconded, all agreed
- b) Applications determined since last meeting – None
- c) Oaklands Chicken Farm – Cllr Howe reported that he had attended a meeting in East Anstey to discuss making representations to the Planning inspectorate. He had submitted a letter on behalf of KPC the main point of which was the probable loss of the proposed affordable housing and reiterating that had the applicant gone through the planning process in the correct way the application would undoubtedly have been refused. East Anstey PC's response focused on the creation of an industrial place where once there had been a meadow.
- d) East Hill Farm update – Cllr Ley said that due to holidays he had been unable to speak to the person he needed to about the breach of planning conditions regarding access to the site. The clerk flagged up that an application had been submitted by Kingston Contractors to vary the conditions of the planning permission including condition 8 re. site access. It was AGREED to delegate powers to Cllr Moore and Cllr Howe to put together and submit a response.
- e) Discuss and agree KPC's response to NDC's proposal to remove two telephone boxes in the Parish. It was pointed out that the telephone in Knowstone had been disconnected some time ago. No feedback had been received from the community. It was RESOLVED to submit a 'no comment' response, Cllr Moore proposed, Cllr Filmer-Bennett seconded, all agreed.
- f) Cllr Howe reported that he had met with Cllr Maidment to discuss the welcome pack and they are suggesting that it includes an item on planning encouraging residents to attend the relevant parish council meeting if they want to do something on their property that involves a planning application.
- g) It was pointed out that when responding to a planning application that the council has considered it needs to give reasons for its objection or support, based on planning criteria.

19/71 East Hill Working Group The Group has not met yet due to holidays. The Chairman reported that Timothy Browse will join the Working Group

19/72 Third Party Reports

- a) **District Councillor** – Re. West Hill planning application Cllr Ley said there is an issue with

the barn conversion as the proposal extends its footprint by 17% which policy does not allow. This is quite a major stumbling block and he is not sure what the outcome will be. The Planning

Department may not want to set a precedent by allowing it. He encouraged the council to respond to NDC's Corporate Plan. He pointed out that the council is hamstrung by what comes down from central government.

b) County Councillor - not present

19/73 Members Reports

a) **Highways** – Cllr Filmer-Bennett reported the following:

(i) The council had recently voted to improve the approach to Roachill from the east end and this is almost complete with the final bit of brushing down still to do. Before and after photos were shown to the meeting.

(ii) C/Cllr Jeremy Yabsley and traffic officer had recently visited the parish. Signage for East Knowstone had been blocked by the traffic officer who was not convinced of the agreement to change the signage. C/Cllr Jeremy Yabsley will now chase Tom Vaughan at DCC and urgently request that the work is done.

(iii) The request for speed indicators has not yet come in front of the relevant committee. A case needs to be made for their installation and to this end a speed testing exercise is being carried out. Two days have been done so far with one more due to take place. A report with the findings will be sent out in due course.

(iv) Consultation with Roachill – Cllr Filmer-Bennett had written to all residents and a copy of the letter was circulated at the meeting. 54% had responded to the two questions - (1) Residents unanimously did not want to go down route of sending a solicitor's letter but requested that KPC writes a letter to the haulage companies and copies in the Environment agency. Cllr Filmer-Bennett will draft a letter via the clerk. (2) 20 is plenty campaign – all residents were in favour of participating in the voluntary scheme which involves displaying signs that say '20 is plenty'. Cllr Filmer-Bennet would like to ask KPC to go down that route.

(v) Cllr Filmer-Bennett gave advance notice that he will be asking KPC to consider and agree the road closure for next year's fair. In discussions with Highways he will be able to use a 'fair open today' sign to avoid confusion for people wishing to attend the fair.

b) **Footpaths & Beaples Stone** – Cllr J Pomfret reported that he expects to meet with Ros Davis next week in the parish. He had asked her about the Two Moors Way alternative route as he had seen workmen working on the former crossing and has been told that the alternative route is staying. He had not heard back re. tick warning signs which had been raised at the last meeting. It was queried whether there should be a warning about deer keds but although they can bite they are not dangerous in the same way as ticks. No progress yet on obtaining quotes for renewing the wording at Beaples Stone The damaged Two Moors Way signpost by the cattle grid has been reported.

c) **Police** – Cllr Moore - not much to report. The main thrust was around domestic abuse and warning people not to leave doors and windows open when it's hot and they go out..

d) **Parish Pound** – Cllr Howe – nothing new to report

e) **Parish Hall** – Cllr Howe reported that the next meeting is on 5th September when the committee will be making decisions regarding next year's fair. The organisation of film nights has been taken over by Chris and Phil Dey and the first two dates are Thursday 7th November and Thursday 5th December. There will be a Quiz Night on Saturday 19th October

f) **PCC** – Cllr Howe – the Harvest festive will take place on Saturday 14th September at 7.00 p.m., followed at approximately 7.30 p.m. by the supper and auction of produce. The auctioneer will be Geoff Clapp. The last piece of work to be done on rood loft steps project is the replacement of the choir stalls which will be quite an expensive job. This is because the church is a grade 2 listed building and it has to use as much of the original wood as possible which has to be knitted

together. The PCC is going ahead with applying for a faculty to install under pew heating and will also be applying to the Batsworthy fund for financial assistance.

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19/74 Vacancy for a Parish Councillor – The Chairman asked councillors to keep their ears to the ground re. an additional person to be co-opted and to encourage people to come along to a meeting. Anyone interested should make themselves known to the clerk. In response to a question about whether John Stanbury was interested in being co-opted back onto the Council, it was AGREED that Cllr Filmer-Bennett will speak to him formally to ascertain whether he is interested.

19/75 Business at the Chairman's discretion – no decision making to take place during this item

Cllr Howe said that at their meeting to discuss the Welcome Pack, he and Cllr Maidment had come up with the idea of including an item that stated the purpose/scope of the parish council. Cllr Maidment will meet with the Clerk to draw up something appropriate.

19/76 To confirm date & time of the next meeting – 24th September 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 20.55.