

ABBOTSKERSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held Monday 24th November 2014 at
Parish Rooms, Abbotskerswell
Meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

Present Cllr K Eales (Chair), Cllr Mrs W Grierson, Cllr D McNee, Cllr B Chambers, Cllr K Farrelly, Cllr Mrs M Colclough, Cllr R Whiffin, C Cllr A Dewhirst (from item 6a), D Cllr D Smith (from item 5).

In Attendance 3 Members of the Public, Margaret Crompton (Allotments).

Apologies for Absence Mr John Lewis (Tree Warden), Cllr Mrs J Kniveton (Vice-Chair).

Declarations of interest

- 1) Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – Monday 27th October 2014.
Minutes of the Planning Meeting – Wednesday 12th November 2014.

The above minutes have been distributed and read - proposed by Cllr R Whiffin & seconded by Cllr Mrs M Colclough with all in agreement and duly signed by the Chairman – Cllr K Eales.

2) Public Time (Limited to 15 Minutes)

- a) Police Report – e-mail received from PCSO - Chris Hurden – no crimes to report this month.

3) Planning Applications & Decisions

Applications received from Teignbridge District Council –

- a) Application no 14/03384/CAN – Mr D Boxall – Pine Tree Lodge, Manor Road – Felling of one Douglas Fir. Parish Council support this application.

Decisions Received from Teignbridge District Council – none.

Appeals Received

- a) Mr A Black – The Beacon, Priory Road – Appeal against refusal of planning permission 14/01940/FUL – Replacement single storey garage, single storey extension to the rear of the property and a new ramp system in the garden.

4) Matters Arising

- a) Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr R Whiffin reported that David Munden has produced a draft questionnaire which will be reviewed. TDC have confirmed grant money will be forthcoming, but it has not arrived yet. Chairman – Cllr K Eales reported that Linden Homes' application has been requested to be deferred until January 2015. Natural England has raised no objection to the application, but has concerns with the moving of the "exceptional" slow worms to Torquay, which is not consistent with DEFRA guidance.

- b) TDC Local Plan Challenge – Chairman – Cllr K Eales confirmed he would be travelling to London tomorrow for the 2 day hearing, the outcome is in the hands of the Barristers and the Judge.
- c) Village Composting Scheme - carried forward to the next meeting.
- d) Teign Housing – Possible site for Affordable Homes – Cllr B Chambers reported that some exploratory digs have been made on site identified by Teign Housing in readiness for an application. 8 to 10 affordable homes would meet the needs of the Parish shown on the recent Housing Needs Survey.

Standing orders suspended to allow Parishioners present to speak - site access to the highway is a concern coming onto a very busy main road, also the site is quite wet and needs more investigation.

Standing orders reinstated - Chairman – Cllr K Eales recommended that the Parish Council should advise Teign Housing that, in principle, they are not against development of the site, subject to a planning application being submitted for further consideration, and the Council would not object to the site becoming a Local Plan exception site to provide affordable homes for local need, as identified by the recent Housing Needs Survey.

5) Correspondence

- a) E-mail from Rightdriver.co.uk – Highway Code – carried forward to the next meeting.
- b) Local Government Boundary Commission - Parish Council comment – the Council would rather that their County Councillor covered all rural Parishes as they have more in common than being joining with any urban/town areas.
- c) E-mail regards Broadband – Superfast Fibre optic broadband will not be coming to the village. It was noted that British Telecom seem to go at their own pace when doing any upgrades of broadband to fibre optic technology.

Matters not requiring discussion placed in the folder to be circulated

6) Main Agenda

- a) Report from County Cllr A Dewhirst - see report attached to the minutes.
- b) Report from District Cllr M Colclough & District Cllr D Smith – Cllr Mrs M Colclough reported - a Memorandum of Understanding for Joint Working has been drawn up, this should attract more national funding with District Councils working together. Barn at the Vineyard - change of use expected to be refused on Highways matters. Cllr D Smith reported - Cycling in Teignbridge, various projects are underway with routes being planned and landowners being consulted. 49000 cyclists have used the new Bridge this year. New University Technical College will be good for the town.
- c) Emergency Planning Committee report - DCC have recommended that the Parish Council purchase an “icy road” sign from A signs at Newton Abbot. This request will be given to the Emergency Planning Committee to decide. 50 sandbags have been delivered and are in the storage shed.
- d) Abbotskerswell Recreation Association report – Cllr B Chambers reported - over £4,000 was raised on November 5th Fireworks Night event. Quotes are being sought for repair of the play area surfaces.
- e) Allotments Report – Mrs M Crompton - nothing to report at the allotments.
- f) P3 Report – Cllr D McNee, annual forms to now be completed.

- g) Village Hall Report – Cllr K Farrelly reported the Village Hall accounts have just been finalised to the end of August, toilets have been finished and now enquiries will be made into replacing the Hall flooring. The AGM is on the 9th December at 7pm.
- h) Tree Warden Report - nothing to report.
- i) Reports from Parish Councillors of any external meetings or Committees.
 - 1) TALC.
 - 2) Parish Cluster meeting.
 - 3) Stoneycombe Liaison.
- j) DCC, Highways, Potholes, Roads & Hedges – Cllr R Whiffin confirmed that everything which has been outstanding has been dealt with, including Court Grange Lane, Priory Road, Odle Hill Grove and the pavement outside model stores.
Entrance to the vets - noted the road is breaking up and will be reported to DCC.
Railings need painting by school top of the village and elsewhere, seat area at the top of the village requires clearing and weed spraying required. Clearance of Parish Council land adjacent to the Quaker burial ground. All these items will be carried forward on the Council Agenda to be actioned in Spring 2015.
- k) Primary School Report – Cllr R Whiffin reported schools performance is very good, well above the national average. Note to Tim Hughes - very pleased to get a report on the RAISE data results.
- l) Volunteer Action Group - Note to John Brench - many thanks for your works done to clearing the Quaker Burial Ground, it's a great improvement to the village.
- m) Abbtalk - The first edition of the new magazine will be printed on Wednesday with distribution from Friday onwards. The Steering Group intend to produce 10 editions per year with no Jan and no September editions. Sponsorship has been obtained so far to cover 6 months of editions - 24 pages in this month's edition - cost £410.
- n) Consultations.
 - 1) Local Government Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Devon - see correspondence.
 - 2) Housing and Health Strategy from TDC.

7) Cheques for Signature/Finances

A copy of November 2014 financial report (Minute reference 115) has been distributed – Proposed by Cllr R Whiffin and seconded by Cllr B Chambers with all in agreement.

- 8) Any Items to go onto next Parish Council meeting Agenda.**

9) ARA Draw November 2014

£50 - 795 - Mrs S E Field – 4 Manor Gardens
 £20 - 330 - Mrs R Thomas – Conitor, Totnes Road
 £5 - 151 - Mr & Mrs Lewis – Oak Park, Two Mile Oak
 £5 - 817 - Mrs S Congdon – 8 Manor Road
 £5 - 447 - Mr J Abbot – 5 Odle Hill Grove
 £5 - 499 - Mr Plummer – 33 Manor Road

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Next Parish Council Meeting Abbotskerswell Parish Rooms – Monday 15th December 2014 @ 7.30pm.

ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAS SPECIAL NEEDS AND REQUIRES A COPY OF THESE MINUTES SENT TO THEM – PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK – 01364 654607