

ABBOTSKERSWELL PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held Monday 25th February 2013 at
Parish Rooms, Abbotskerswell
Meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

Present Cllr K Eales (Chair), Cllr Mrs J Kniveton (Vice-Chair), Cllr D McNee, Cllr B Chambers, Cllr R Whiffin, Cllr Mrs W Grierson, Cllr Mrs M Colclough, C Cllr D Smith.

In Attendance 3 members of the public, Mr John Lewis – Tree Warden, Mr Tim Hughes – Abbotskerswell Primary School Headteacher.

Apologies for Absence – none received.

- 1) Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – Monday 28th January 2013.
Minutes of the Planning Meeting – no meeting held.

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

2) **Public Time (Limited to 15 Minutes)**

- a) Police Report - no report received, but a Parishioner has reported a broken window over the weekend and youths climbed over the wall of Bambinis setting off the security lights, the police have been informed. Chairman – Cllr K Eales also report a youth has been served with a warning for dangerous driving on a motorcycle in the village.
- b) Tim Hughes - Headmaster of Abbotskerswell Primary School. Tim was welcomed by the Chairman - Cllr K Eales. Tim confirmed he is currently in a temporary post of leadership for the school. Whether the school stands alone after this period or joins together with other schools is to be decided by the governors. Links with the Parish Council and in particular the ARA is good for the school who will shortly be applying to the ARA for a grant for their new gardening project.
- c) Item 4 f - Mrs Crompton the Chairman of the Allotments Association was present and confirmed that the language used by the Football players has been putting people off using the Allotments on a Saturday.

Cllr B Chambers confirmed that further to last month's meeting when this problem was raised, Bob Clements will be speaking to the Football Club and the referees at any match played on the field, he confirms that referees are under instructions to keep bad language under control. An e-mail has also been received from Paul Morrison at the Devon FA, he confirmed the policy is that players can be removed by referees if bad language is used this can also be applied to spectators from both teams. Chairman - Cllr K Eales confirmed that he had attended a match a few weeks ago and there was swearing occurring so another letter should go to the Devon FA to follow this up to ensure that the referees are adhering to this policy. The Parish Council will also ask that they write to the referee involved in this match and make him aware of this situation. Litter - this has been very minimal and the litter picker has been asked to pick up litter after the weekend to ensure that this is clear after the weekend matches.

3) **Planning Applications & Decisions**

Applications received from Teignbridge District Council

- a) Application no 13/00424/FUL – Mr & Mrs J Paton – The Old Orchard, Abbotskerswell – Single storey extension on north elevation. No objections from the Parish Council.
- b) Application no 13/00318/FUL – Mrs A Harvey – 1 Manor Road – Dwelling. Carried forward to the next planning meeting.

Decisions Received from Teignbridge District Council

- a) Grant of Conditional Planning Permission – Application no 12/02300/FUL – Miss A Harvey – Heathcot – Erection of building to form ancillary accommodation and alterations to existing access.

4) **Matters Arising**

- a) Court Farm Green drain flooding – Chairman – Cllr K Eales reported that some more works have been carried out to feed the water away, this has been successful in taking the water away into the drain. The manhole cover was lifted for inspection and the water is definitely going away. Fairly confident that this is now working. Proposed by Cllr R Whiffin and seconded by Cllr D McNee that the Aquatech bill is now paid.
- b) Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr R Whiffin reported that TDC will only put support to 4 Parish Councils this year and Abbotskerswell is not included, however it has been noted that this is being reviewed at a TDC Council Meeting. Letter to Darren Summerfield – TDC to formally register our interest in starting a Neighbourhood plan, we note that this is on the TDC Executive Agenda and would be interested to see the outcome of this. Letter also to Jeremy Christophers regards the Neighbourhood Plans and when he envisages all Parishes to have plans in place as he confirmed he is in support of them.

Standing orders suspended - Land behind Wilton Way - John Lewis (Tree warden) reported on a meeting which was held with Mark Waddams from TDC to look at this piece of land. The corner of land in question is a tangle which developers want to go through to gain access to the field beyond for development. Standing orders reinstated. Cllr Mrs M Colclough reported that Mark Waddams – TDC, is against any cutting down of trees in the area and development will not be encouraged, however there may be some tidying up of the area to allow larger trees to grow.

Letter to Tom Wilson and Mark Waddams at TDC with a copy to Stuart Green. The Parish Council will not be supporting any development in this area. It is a protected site and it is essential to the Village boundary. Also it has a very high ecological value to the parish and the Council feels strongly that this needs to be retained.

- c) Core Strategy update – Local Plan – Chairman – Cllr K Eales reported that no objections have been put up on the TDC website yet. Public Inspection procedures are being looked into and it is understood that supplementary evidence can be updated and submitted to the Inspector. It is almost certain that the examination will take place in Newton Abbot, the Inspection starts at the position of a sound plan and has to be convinced otherwise by way of the evidence submitted. Any supplementary evidence needs to be submitted in late May/early June for a July enquiry. At a meeting with Anne Marie-Morris MP she confirmed that she will find out whether the plan is amendable by the Inspector and is happy to have a meeting with the Parish Council and look at their submission - all in agreement that Cllr K Eales sets up a meeting.

- d) Standing Orders - new version now amended to be adopted at the AGM.
- e) Parish Councillor Vacancy - Mandy Turner would like to be co-opted at the next meeting.
- f) Field use – Correspondence from Brian Mackness and Mrs Sercombe and Devon FA. This matter was dealt with in Public Time – Item 2c).

5) Correspondence

- a) E- Mail from Anna Lang – TDC – New Dog/Litter Bin - noted that at present no finances available but in the new financial year a litter bin may be available.
- b) E-Mail regards HGVs, traffic and illegal parking in the Village – Chairman – Cllr K Eales confirmed that a Parishioner reported that a large lorry had got stuck in the cul-de-sac at the top of the Village again he also asked whether vehicles could be removed from the industrial estate and to stop illegal parking in and around the village. The Parish Council does not have any powers to stop parking if cars are road legal. PCSO Robert Wright has confirmed that there have been no reported traffic related incidents in the village, but the Parish Council will ask him if there is any further advice he can give on the parking problems in the village.
- c) D Cllr Mrs M Colclough reported on the Community Right to Bid details which have been placed in the envelope, if any local assets come up for sale they can be listed on a register at TDC to stop them from closing if they did come up for sale. The matter to be placed on the next Agenda.

Matters not requiring discussion placed in the folder to be circulated.

6) Main Agenda.

- a) Report from County Cllr D Smith – copy of report attached to the minutes.
- b) Report from District Cllr M Colclough & District Cllr D Smith – Cllr Mrs M Colclough reported that budget went through with no rise from TDC. Public consultation that took place regards the budget - 93% responded by backing local business and jobs, 89% backed a freeze on council tax, free Sunday parking retention was also supported, but with a 5% increase in parking charges. Housing List - changes are being considered and there is a consultation until the 15th April 2013. Freedom of information requests - this has risen during the last year, in 2012 there were 806 requests costing £236,000. New footbridge has been opened at Town Quay. Court Grange Lane - Certificate of Lawfulness - Steven Hobbs is looking for evidence that it was not used in 2003 for parking but has received nothing yet. Rural Aid - closing date for this 7th June 2013 to give more time for applications, there is £55,000 in the pot to give out.
- c) Emergency Planning Committee report - nothing to report.
- d) Abbotskerswell Recreation Association report -
 - 1) Grants for Tennis Courts - £2,000 received from Co-op and £1,200 from C Cllr D Smith, £25,000 Viridor grant has been applied for & £20,000 from Veolia and the rest hopefully to be topped up with a Sport England Grant.
 - 2) New Litter Bin – Various types of metal bin have been looked at, to be decided on at the next ARA meeting in March 2013.
- e) Allotments Report - Mrs Crompton reported the allotments to go onto the national garden scheme this year and vegetable growing to be encouraged.
- f) P3 Report.
 - 1) Annual Footpath Survey – Cllr D McNee & Cllr B Chambers have now completed the survey which will be returned to Roz Davies at DCC.
- g) Village Hall Report – Chairman – Cllr K Eales reported - looking at getting energy bills cheaper and also looking at installing CCTV at the Hall. May Fayre will be 6th May this year and garden show on the 3rd August 2013.

- h) Tree Warden Report – Mr John Lewis reported that the Ash trees have been topped in Court Grange Lane by the footpath, one has damaged the street lamp when it fell. This has been reported for repair.
 - i) Reports from Parish Councillors of any external meetings or Committees.
 - 1) TALC - meeting in March
 - 2) Parish Cluster meeting - nothing to report.
 - 3) Stoneycombe Liasion - no meeting until November.
 - 4) Teign Estuary Annual Forum – Cllr D McNee and Cllr B Chambers attended.
 - j) DCC, Highways, Potholes, Roads & Hedges – Cllr R Whiffin confirmed he is meeting Emma Nicks tomorrow morning. Various items as follows –
 - 1) Potholes Manor Road at the junction of firestone lane.
 - 2) Pothole up past the Butchers Arms.
 - 3) Top of the village, the hedge needs a tidy up where it is overgrowing the footpath and the railings need painting.
 - 4) Report to the blitz team at TDC bits of a bathroom suite dumped in Firestone Lane in the hedge.
 - 5) Noted that hedge cuttings have been left in the road in several areas in the village, one in particular opposite Mallands where the hedge has been cut and left.
 - k) Primary School Report – nothing to report.
 - l) Volunteer Action Group.
 - m) Abbtalk – PR.
 - n) Consultations.
 - o) TDC Planning Validation – Cllr R Whiffin to look at this.
 - p) Parish meeting speaker – any suggestions to the Clerk.
 - q) Beating the Bounds - carried forward to the next meeting.
- 7) Cheques for Signature/Finances – A copy of February 2013 financial report (Minute reference 96) has been distributed – Proposed by Cllr Mrs W Grierson and seconded by Cllr R Whiffin with all in agreement.
- 8) Any Items to go onto next Parish Council meeting Agenda.

9) **ARA Draw February 2013**

£50 - 780 - Mr Dewhurst – Dornafeld Caravan, Totnes Road
 £20 - 660 - Mrs McNee – Bede Cottage, Slade Lane
 £5 - 259 - Mr J Tuckett – c/oRuby Farm, Totnes Road
 £5 - 451 – Mrs L Berner – 19 Manor Road
 £5 - 785 - Mr P Worden – Gate House, Court Grange
 £5 - 248 - Mrs P Munden – 1 Monks Orchard

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Next Parish Council Meeting Abbotskerswell Parish Rooms – Monday 25th March 2013 @ 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 644109