

# DRAFT

## KILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** P. Ball (Chair), M. Collier, S. Huscroft, S. Seward, K. Veberth,  
A. Dare, M. Jones, J. Mear & B. Trott

**In Attendance:** A Jenkins (Clerk/RFO)

**Members of Public:** 3

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Council meeting and outlined / reminded everyone of the Covid-19 measures which had been adopted for Council meetings.

### OPEN SESSION

A resident from Silver Lea spoke about the mess of the yellow builders bags that reside to the top of Silver Street, outside of Bryants Cottage. These bags had been in situ for many years and residents in Silver Lea are fed up with this continuing problem. She said that they have spoken many times to the owner and the builder who was working there for months a couple years ago about these bags which are spoiling the picturesque village but to no avail. The residents were asking the Parish Council for advice on how this problem could be resolved. Councillors said they were aware of the problem but felt that as the bags were on private property there was no other action that can be taken other than speaking to the owner.

She also spoke about the posts and metal bar on the edge of the stream on the lower part of Silver Street. The posts and metal bar have both fallen into disrepair and are very unstable. Many more vehicles are travelling this route in both directions, especially delivery vans. With no pavements, at times when traffic must reverse, the easiest point for pedestrians to be safe, is to hold onto the post or the metal bar and residents are concerned that an accident could easily occur due to their disrepair and instability.

Councillors said that the posts/metal bar were the responsibility of DCC Highways. Cllr. Mear undertook to report the matter to the Highways Officer and ask him to inspect them.

A resident from the Roman road spoke about the pot holes on the tarmacked section of the Roman road which were causing cars to ground and be a safety hazard for pedestrians and others. He said that builders working on a bungalow near where the tarmac section ends are throwing bricks etc in the potholes which are in themselves causing another safety hazard. He also said that Green waste is being dumped in the roadside ditch on the opposite side of the road to the properties. Councillors said that they would report the matter to the DCC Highways officer and ask him to inspect.

# **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

## **1. Apologies**

None

## **2 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Dare – Items 13a, 13b & 13c

## **2. Grant Application – Village Hall PV Panels**

Cllr. Ball said that a grant application had been received from the Village Hall asking for a grant towards the cost of installing of PV Panels with a batteries storage system. The application and supporting installation costs estimates had been forwarded to all Councillors. Judith Chapman, Chair of the Kilmington Village Hall Management Committee spoke about the PV Panels project.

The project has two aims:- to make a small contribution to the planet by being environmentally friendly, and to reduce the electricity bill for the Hall. Electricity supply costs have and are continuing to substantially increase. This will affect the financial viability of running the Village Hall resulting in increased room hire costs for the various users of the Hall.

The PV panels themselves would generate electricity and the battery storage system would be vital in order to provide this stored electricity for use when the hall is used in the evenings. Their lead person for this project is Steve Boon, supported by herself and other committee members. Richard Quincey has also generously contributed his expert advice to the development of the project. Richard said that he had assessed and calibrated a model according to usage based on the 2019 pre pandemic year. This model showed that the PV panels and battery storage system should save approximately £2,000 a year on electricity supply charges with an environmental saving of 4 tonnes of CO2 emissions.

Judith said they are aware of the East Devon Community Building Fund which has a maximum limit of £5,000 and is dependent on other funding being secured for the project. and The Village Hall Committee are seeking a grant from the Parish Council and are also looking at further sources of funding.

Councillors discussed the project and application. Councillor Seward proposed that the Parish Council support the PV panels project by directly purchasing the battery and control units up to a maximum cost of £10,000 inclusive of VAT, subject to the following conditions:-

- 1) Village Hall seeking confirmation from their Insurers and the Fire Service that the installation of the batteries and control units within the building will be acceptable and comply with Fire regulations.
- 2) that following installation and commissioning of the PV Panels, batteries and control units the Village Hall Committee will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance costs of the batteries and control units.
- 3) that the batteries and control units will be insured by the Village Hall for both material damage and Public Liability Insurance.

Seconded by Cllr. Collier, all in favour.

Councillors hope that this support to the project from the Parish Council, will assist the Village Hall in progressing their applications for grant funding from EDDC and other organisations.

### **3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th October 2022**

The minutes were declared a true record of the proceedings, proposed by Cllr. Veberth seconded by Cllr. Huscroft, all in favour.

### **4. Matters arising from the Minutes**

Cllr. Jones said that the Larch and Oak Tree had not yet been removed from the lowland heath area on the Common as he was waiting for the leaves to drop off.

### **6. Reports:**

#### **a) Police**

No report received

#### **b) District and County Councillors**

No report received

#### **c) Clerk**

Nothing to report

#### **d) Kilmington Neighbourhood Support Group**

Nothing to report

#### **e) Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr. Ball reported that the Kilmington Neighbourhood plan had now been officially adopted by EDDC

#### **f) Highways Matters**

##### **1) Update on Village 20**

Cllr. Ball gave an update on Village 20 and the petition. He said that they now had some Twenty is Plenty signs.

##### **2) Speed Watch**

Cllr. Ball advised that there were 8 volunteers prepared to form a Speedwatch team. The Clerk to find out more about Speed Watch.

##### **3) A35 Meeting with National Highways (NH)**

Cllr Ball reported that the meeting had been well attended with representatives from most of the various Parish and Town Councils from Chideock to Honiton, relevant County Councillors incl. DCC Cllr Chubb, Cllr. Arnott (leader of EDDC), DCC Highways Officers and a representative from Richard Foord, M.P.,s office.

Ben Hampson and Jack from National Highways (NH) had addressed the meeting and outlined the NH plan for the A35.

They had explained that they had two different budgets:-

- a. Safety and Congestion - Safety is reliant upon accident data; and attention is to areas of greatest concern, using “Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI)” statistics to identify areas of greatest concern. This budget is largely “reactive” and requires an evidenced accident profile.

Its important to note that safety and perception of danger are not synonymous when it comes to taking safety interventions

- b. Severance (User and Communities) - This budget could be considered as “proactive” and can use anecdotal evidence and reports from customers and stakeholders to initiate assessments. It looks to address community issues such as severance where Villages are severed in half by the A35 , crossings, walking and cycling.

They were asked whether with the new government changes, would NH budgets be affected? They said that NH remain confident that their budgets are “ring-fenced” for the current RIS spending (2020 - 2025) and that budgets will continue to be allocated in future RIS periods of 5 years and not annually.

The Safety scheme, currently coming to the end of the feasibility stage, will look at a range of measures. Improved lining signing, visibility as well as speed reductions and average speed cameras through the villages however, no one specific safety solution suited all sites, and that the consideration would always be for the route overall not specific bits.

NH would not be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the camera equipment, the police will have sole responsibility and autonomy of how they choose to use the equipment and enforce the road.

The detailed design work should be completed in 23/24, with some work likely to start at the end of 23 and the work carrying on for 2 to 3 years over the whole route of the scheme. The scheme would follow a similar approach through the entire route.

In respect of Kilmington they indicated that there is likely to be Village Gateway signs with average speed cameras at each end of a 40mph speed limit stretch with a light controlled pedestrian crossing. The feasibility study is not yet complete however.

They were asked why do minor accidents not feature as part of the safety evidence, as villagers are often aware of many dangerous situations for potential serious accidents? They said that Safety is evidence lead and requires an evidenced accident profile, they use numerous data sources and utilise all available data, if incidents are not reported then they have no way of knowing they occurred. Any local knowledge of unreported minor accidents can be submitted by the Parish council as part of a Severance issue submission.

It was proposed that “Village Walk-throughs” with NH representatives would be a good basis for informing NH of the problems and they agreed that they would welcome such village walk throughs going forward in order to best understand the severance issues that each village/parish face.

Cllr. Ball said that the meeting was very informative and that NH wished to have further meetings in 2023 with the walk throughs to take place in early 2023. He would continue the direct follow up with NH and will be pushing for their 'walk through' villages visits to be done as soon as possible next year

Cllr. Trott left the meeting at this point.

#### **4) Other matters**

Cllr. Collier advised that the broken lit sign on the central road island opposite the entrance to Summerhayes Farm was still lying on the floor. The Clerk undertook to speak to the Highways Officer to find out when this longstanding matter would be resolved and new sign installed.

**g) Playground**

Cllr. Huscroft advised that SMP was the manufacturer of the playground item with broken step. The Clrk to contact them.

**h) Trees**

**1) Tree Management Plan**

Deferred to next meeting

**2) Kilmington Common Management Plan**

Deferred to next meeting

**i) Footpaths Report**

None

**j) Any Other Reports**

None

**7. Correspondence**

The Clerk advised that the following correspondence had been received:-

- a) Correspondence had been received from a resident complaining that the bottom end of the Common had not been cut for two years. Cllr. Seward reported that it had now been cut.
- b) The annual P3 parish paths partnership surveys forms had been received from DCC. He said that he would contact Tom Cook in early January to arrange to meet, walk the paths and complete and submit the survey/P3 forms ahead of the 13<sup>th</sup> February deadline.
- b) Maxine Lawson had received a request from Kilmington History Group asking if their digital archives could be hosted on the Kilmington Village website. Councillors asked the Clerk to investigate whether there would any costs involved.
- c) He had also received correspondence which was relevant to the Warm Welcome Initiative and had forwarded these on to Reverend Julie Lomas and Pastor Mike Hudson.

**8. Finance**

**a) Current Financial Position**

The Clerk advised that the present balance in the Lloyds Account was £13,456.85 This did not include any payments to be approved at this meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

NSI Account as at 13-06-2022	£45,550.54
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Santander Account	£ 1,095.66
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The transfer of the monies from the NSI account and the closure of the Santander Account had not yet been completed.

**b) Expenditure to be ratified**

None

**c) Expenditure to be approved for which bills have been received**

- 1) Payments to A. Jenkins for the Clerk's net amount of salary after tax/NIC deduction for the month of November 2022 and to HMRC for the appropriate amount based on a gross salary amount of £360.96
- 2) Payment of £140.66 to Axminster Town Council for supply of paediatric pads for the Defibrillator
- 3) Domain kilmingtonvillage.com renewal with Freeola/Get Dotted -£18.30
- 4) Payment of £90.00 to Parish Online for renewal of online mapping service.  
Payments proposed by Cllr. Dare, seconded by Cllr. Collier.

**d) Electricity Supply for Allotments**

The Clerk advised that EDF had launched a new tariff account with a substantially lower daily standing charge. He had written to them twice and phoned a few times asking them to change the allotments account onto this new tariff but they had not replied. He would continue to chase them up.

**9. NJC National Salary Award 2022/23 Payscales for Clerks- (Implementation backdated from April 2022)**

The Clerk had circulated copies of the payscales. Cllr. Collier proposed that the pay award be implemented and that a backdated payment of £272.00 for the period from April to date be made to the Clerk with the appropriate payment to HMRC based on this amount.

Seconded by Cllr. Dare, all in favour.

**10. Defibrillator Training**

The Clerk advised that the Defibrillator training session was scheduled to take place on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November, morning from 10.00am. The trainer would be Paul Hayward, the Clerk at both All Saints and Axminster Councils.

**11. EDDC New Local Plan consultation**

Cllr. Ball advised that EDDC had now launched the consultation and that the draft plan can be viewed on their website.

**12. 2023 Council Meetings including Annual Parish Meeting**

Cllr. Seward proposed that as from January 2023 that the Council Meetings be held in the Cricket Pavilion at 7.30pm on the second Monday of each month (other than the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in May), seconded by Cllr. Mear, all in favour.

The Council Meeting dates for 2023 will be:-

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> July
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> August
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> September
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> November
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December

**13. Planning Applications:**

**a) 22/2177/FUL – Land at Broadview, Kilmington**

Erection of a storage shed

Cllr. Collier proposed that the Parish Council object to this application on the following grounds, seconded by Cllr. Huscroft, all in favour (except for Cllr. Dare who took no part in the discussion or vote)

Objection - Councillors question why the site for the new storage building is located away from the existing farmhouse and farm buildings. These are located approx. 550m from the proposed site. The proposed storage building will be isolated down a lane in a dip and can't be seen from the road. With the increase in rural and farm crime it would seem logical to locate storage alongside existing buildings and the farmhouse which is only a short distance away.

**b) 22/2330/FUL – Former Kilmington Quarry, Whitford Road, Kilmington**

Replacement three bay single storey building for storage purposes

Cllr. Mear proposed that the Parish Council has no objection to this application, seconded by Cllr. Collier, all in favour (except for Cllr. Dare who took no part in the discussion or vote)

c) **22/1820/LBC – Marsh Farm, Kilmington EX13 7DR**

Dismantle chimney stack and rebuild

Cllr. Huscroft proposed that the Parish Council support this application, seconded by Cllr. Seward, all in favour (except for Cllr. Dare who took no part in the discussion or vote)

d) **22/2240/FUL - Highfield Kilmington Axminster Devon EX13 7RX**

Single storey rear extension, alterations to fenestration and demolition of existing detached garage.

Cllr. Ball proposed that the Parish Council object to this application on the following grounds, seconded by Cllr. Seward, all in favour:-

Objection - Councillors have concerns that the proposed development overcrowds the site and overshadows the neighbouring property. The new extension is close to the boundary and the higher roof will impact the neighbouring property.

**14. Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

Risk Management Plan

Laptop computer update

**15. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Cllr. Ball tendered his apologies in advance for this meeting.