

KILMINGTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2017

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 7.30 P.M. THURSDAY, 27TH APRIL 2017 IN THE MAIN HALL, AT KILMINGTON VILLAGE HALL

1. PRESENT: Cllr. M. Collier (Chairman), Cllrs. Bolton, Dare, Jones, Hodges, Huscroft, Mear, Seward and Trott, the Clerk (Miss H. Kirkcaldie) and 15 members of the public.

2. APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Mrs. Seward.

3. GUEST SPEAKER: The Chairman introduced the guest speakers, Mr. G Bourton and Mr. S. McLure, officers in the Streetscene department of East Devon District Council, who gave a presentation on the imminent introduction of new recycling arrangements in the eastern part of the District . Mr. McLure gave the background to the introduction of the changes which stemmed from a combination of public pressure to have the facility to recycle cardboard and a wider range of plastics and the financial advantages in complying with Government pressure to reduce the amount of waste going to land fill. Pilot schemes had been run two years previously. When the District Council put its waste contract out to tender these two items were included. Custom built vehicles had to be phased in and the scheme had started in Exmouth and Feniton. There were now sufficient vehicles to roll the scheme out to the rest of the District from 12th June.

Mr. Bourton demonstrated the various containers which each household would have and what refuse should be put in each.

The officers and Dist. Cllr. Chubb then responded to numerous questions from the floor ranging from what options there were for green waste to arrangements for disposal of nappies.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the speakers.

Refreshments were taken at this point.

4. MINUTES OF THE 2016 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: Mrs. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Vickers proposed that these be approved. Agreed.

5. MATTERS ARISING: None.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: the Chairman began his annual report of a busy year by speaking of the church service, unveiling of a new seat on the Village Green by four 90 year old Kilmington residents and celebratory lunch in the village hall to mark the 90th Birthday of H.M. The Queen.

Completion of the long-awaited affordable housing scheme in George Lane had brought several new residents to the community, many of whom had connections with the village.

Following the decision to undertake a Neighbourhood Plan, a Steering Committee had been formed and work was underway. Cllr. Collier said that this would be a lengthy process which would involve much public consultation and would result in a statutory document which would be a supplement to the Local Plan.

He thanked Mr. Vickers for his continuing endeavours to get Highways England to commit to some much needed improvements to the A35 following a report the previous year. However, progress in implementing even some of its proposals has been extremely slow.

He thanked Mrs. Woodsford for her many years keeping an eye on the bus shelters. Mr. Cross had taken on this task and his sudden death earlier in the month had been a great shock and a huge loss to the local community. He said that the contractor who had taken on the grass maintenance in the village was doing a good job and mentioned also the installation of a new water pump at the

allotments, and the re-printing of the popular walks leaflet among other activities for which he thanked the numerous people who had assisted the Parish Council in various ways throughout the year.

He concluded his report by thanking his fellow Councillors and the Clerk for their help during the year.

8. PLAYING FIELD REPORT : Cllr. Bolton said that it had been a quiet year with nothing major to report. In response to a question from a resident he said that a strip of land behind the tennis court had now been included in the area to be cut by the new contractor.

9. SCHOOL REPORT : Cllr. Trott said that there were five teaching and ten support staff with the school roll standing at 109 pupils.

He said that the leadership structure of the Axe Beacon Federation was working well. Funding is received on a per-pupil basis.

Cllr. Trott went on to report on the role of the activities of the Parent Teacher and Friends Association which include such varied events as the Kilmington Kanter, bingo, film nights and quiz nights to raise funds to buy items for the school as well as being enjoyable social events in themselves.

10. THE COMMON : The Clerk said that the Parish Council had gifted £346 worth of maintenance works to the Common during the course of the year. This had included cutting of grass and removal of brambles. She said that monitoring of invasive species continued.

11. WEBSITE REPORT: the Chairman said that the web masters had reported that there had been 8,800 viewing sessions and that there were 5,800 regular users. 60% are new users and 40% returning users.

12. AFFORDABLE HOUSING: there was nothing to add to what had been said in the Chairman's Report.

13. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT : Cty. Cllr. Moulding began by adding to what had been said by the guest speakers by explaining that Devon County Council was responsible for disposing of the waste collected by the District Council. Formerly, this had been put into land fill at sites such as Gammons Hill and Tolcis tip but now other means such as waste-to-energy schemes were used with much more emphasis on re-cycling.

He said that he would be standing down after serving eight years as County Councillor and that the election in May would be held under the new electoral ward boundaries which had been set by the Boundary Commission some two years ago.

Moving on to the recent County Council budget setting process, he said that this had been very tough and that residents would be feeling its effects in their pockets as more money was sought to pay for adult social care, among other things.

Referring to the continued closure of in-patient beds in community hospitals, he said that it was important to keep up the pressure to have as many health and well-being services as possible based at the Axminster hospital site

He welcomed the fact that the Parishes Together Funding allocation was to be used to support drainage projects in the village.

He concluded by wishing the community well in the future.

14. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT : Dist. Cllr. Chubb reported that the District Council still had a 5 year housing supply, which was important in planning terms. He said that the removal of the

District Council headquarters from Sidmouth was underway and should be completed by the end of 2018.

He concluded by saying that the average cost of providing services throughout the District was £126 for a band D property which he felt represented good value.

15. FOOTPATH REPORT : In a written report, Mrs. Penzer stated that the all footpaths had been inspected and the Annual Surveys had been submitted. Stream erosion had necessitated closure of the footpath between Fordhayes and Clifthorne on safety grounds but the path was now open again following remedial works.

Anyone who wishes to raise any issues relating to the paths should contact Mrs. Penzer on 34287

16. SPEED LIMIT AND ROAD SAFETY ON A35: Mr. Vickers said that the accident rate has kept increasing over the years despite the reduction in the speed limit. He said that he would keep pushing Highways England to implement the recommendations of the 2015 survey – although he was aware that lack of funding was a problem.

17. PUBLIC FORUM : the following were among issues raised from the floor:

a) Dog fouling on Roman Road – residents expressed their frustration that some dog owners do not act responsibly in clearing up after their dogs. It was not felt that moving the position of the dog bin would result in any improvement in this respect.

b) Bonfires – a resident expressed her frustration at what she described as a regular pall of bonfire smoke across the village which is unpleasant for those who wish to enjoy their gardens and a problem for those who have certain health problems. The District Council does have guidelines regarding bonfires. It was suggested that she contact the Environmental Health department as officers will come out to visit those who are identified as persistent offenders.

The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.