

KILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY 13th MARCH 2023 AT 7.30PM IN THE CRICKET PAVILION

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

In Attendance: A Jenkins (Clerk/RFO),

Members of Public: 5

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

Judith Chapman, the Village Hall Chair spoke and gave the Parish Council an update on the Village Hall Solar Panels/Batteries project and the costings/fund raising/installation and completion dates. She said that the Village Hall grant application to EDDC had been granted and that this coupled with the battery equipment direct purchase by the Parish Council and others monies they have raised has enabled the project to go ahead. They have accepted the quotation from Total Renewable Solutions who will be installing the equipment in early April. The battery equipment that the Parish Council are purchasing is £8,569.75 plus VAT which Total Renewable Solutions will invoice to the Parish Council.

A number of residents spoke about Item 10 on the agenda (the Licensing Variation application for Kilmington Cross Services, Gammons Hill (A35), Kilmington,) and their objections to this application being granted. They expressed their concerns about the Public Safety, the Public nuisance including the noise and light issues, possible and Crime and Disorder issues from the 24 hour sale of alcohol. The recently introduced 24 hour opening hours had already created public nuisance issues.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

- 1. To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons given (LGA 1972 S.85 (1))**
Cllr. B. Trott, DCC/EDDC Cllr. I. Chubb
- 2. To receive any declarations of interest relating to items outlined in this agenda (this does not preclude the duty to declare further interests as applicable)**
Cllr. Dare – Items 9a, 9b, 9c & 9d.
- 3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th February 2023**
The minutes were declared a true record of the proceedings, proposed by Cllr. Seward seconded by Cllr. S. Huscroft, all in favour.
- 4. Matters arising from the Minutes**

Cllr. Seward said that it appeared that Highways had not actually done any repairs to Gore Bridge and had merely put some hazard cones around it.

The Chair advised that he had spoken to the homeowner in relation to the bricks and waste material which had been dumped in potholes and in the roadside ditch on Roman Road and that they were going to ask the their builders to remove the material.

The Chair reported that he had received only 2 responses to his latest message about holding a First Aid course, so there was clearly insufficient interest to make holding a course cost effective.

5. Reports:

a) Police

The Clerk reported that he had received a March newsletter but yet again the crime statistics were out of date. They showed the Axminster Rural crime statistics for October 2023 and referred persons to the Police.uk website for their area's crime information. However, when he had checked for Kilmington on the website there was no crime statistics since October 2023.

The Clerk also said that the Newsletter was such a large digital file that he was unable to forward it on to Councillors or put it on the website. He suggested that Councillors attend one of the forthcoming Meet the Police events at Axminster market and discuss with them the lack of Crime Statistics for Kilmington and for the newsletters to be condensed and made easier to forward/email on.

b) District and County Councillors

The Clerk advised that Cllr. Chubb had tended his apologies as he had another meeting to attend. He had sent a written report mentioning that the Bus Fares £2 scheme had been extended to the end of June 2023, details of the funding available to communities to be better prepared for emergencies and about the Voter ID requirement at the forthcoming May elections.

c) Clerk – Parish Council Elections May 2023

The Clerk reported that he had received the Nomination Packs for the Parish Council elections on the 4th May 2023 and gave packs to those councillors present. He will forward digital packs to those Councillors not present at the meeting. He reported that Cllrs. Mear, Huscroft and Collier had advised that they were not standing for re-election.

He is posting on both the noticeboards and the website, details of the elections and for any persons interested in standing for election to contact him for further information and a nomination pack.

He reminded Councillors that their term of office will cease on the 4th May and that if they wish to continue as a Councillor they have to submit a nomination form to stand for election. . Also that nomination papers must be hand delivered to the Returning Officer, EDDC, Blackdown House, Border Road, Honiton, EX14 1EJ between the hours of 10am and 4pm from 27 March 2023 until 4 pm on Tuesday, 4th April. No forms will be accepted before or after that those times and dates. The official notices of election will be issued by EDDC on the 27th March and he will ensure that they are posted on both the noticeboards and the Parish Council website on that date.

He said that that he will also post on the website details of the Voter ID requirements etc.

d) Kilmington Neighbourhood /Warm Welcome Support

Nothing to report

e) Highways Matters

1) 20 mph Speed limit submission to DCC

Devon Highways have not confirmed receipt of the application and submission. Cllr. Ball to contact them.

2) Speed Watch Scheme

Cllr. Seward advised that 5 volunteers had now received the training and there was another 3 awaiting training.

3) A35 Meeting with National Highways

Cllr. Ball advised that he contacted them in the last week, but had been dismayed to learn that both of the two National Highways officers who had attended the joint meeting last year were no longer in charge of the project. He had spoken to the new project manager and was going to contact him again to press for the walk rounds timetable and an update of the current standing of the project. He would report back at the next meeting.

4. Other matters

With regard to the safety issue of the posts and railings on Silver Street, the Clerk advised that he had reported the matter to the Highways Officer who had been and inspected them. He had advised however that he did not consider them a safety defect. He had however offered to meet with the Clerk or a Councillor at the site in order to discuss the matter. Cllr Ball is to contact him to arrange the site meeting.

f) Playground

The Clerk advised that he had met with the HAGS playground maintenance engineer and that they had looked at all the equipment and assessed what was damaged or needed servicing. Some of the items needed work to be done as soon as possible. He was now waiting a quotation from them for the necessary works and asked for Councillors to give him together with the Chair authority to accept the quotation and to instruct the repairs to proceed. He said that HAGS also offer a bi-annual maintenance inspection report service and he recommended that the Parish Council consider taking out this service and using HAGS as their playground equipment maintenance contractor. This would ensure that the Parish Council had in place an effective risk management policy for the playground with the equipment being professionally regularly inspected, maintained and serviced.

Cllr. Mear proposed that the Clerk and Chair be authorised to accept the quotation, instruct for the required works to proceed, to take out the bi-annual maintenance inspection report service and for HAGS to be the Parish Council's playground equipment maintenance contractor.

Cllr. Mear proposed, seconded by Cllr. Huscroft seconded, all in favour.

g) Trees

1) Tree Management Plan

Deferred to next meeting

2) Kilmington Common Management Plan

Deferred to next meeting

h) Footpaths Report

None

i) Any Other Reports

Cllr. Collier raised the issue of the cleaning of the Bus shelters. He had been doing it for a number of years but the Council now needed someone else to take this on. The Chair thanked him for the work he had done and that he would seek someone who would be prepared to take on this role.

6. Correspondence

Letter received from Kilmington Postscript seeking a grant donation from the Parish Council towards the cost of producing the Postscript. Cllr. Collier proposed giving a donation of £250.00, seconded by Cllr. Seward, all in favour.

7. Finance

a) Current Financial Position

The Clerk advised that the present balance in the Lloyds Account was £8,089.15

This did not include any payments to be approved at this meeting on the 13th March 2023.

NSI Account as at 13-06-2022	£45,592.93
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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 March 2023 (23/02/2023 to 30/03/2023) and to HMRC for the appropriate amount based on a gross salary amount of £491.20.

2) Payment of £84.00 to A Jenkins for Home Office allowance for the months of October, November, December 2022, January, February and March 2023.

Payments proposed by Cllr. Dare, seconded by Cllr. Veberth, all in favour.

d) The King's Coronation Celebration grant application

The Clerk advised that a grant application had been received from the Kilmington Community Association requesting a grant of £470 towards the cost of the Coronation weekend events planned for the Coronation. The Association are seeking contributions from both Churches for their events and will also generate funds from a bar and the barbeque . If these funds reduce the amount of grant required, the Association will make a corresponding refund to the Parish Council.

Councillors discussed the matter and also purchasing something to mark the Coronation. It was suggested that a picnic bench would be a suitable item for the Council to purchase to mark the Coronation and be of lasting benefit to the Community.

Cllr. Veberth proposed that the Council give a grant of £470 to the Kilmington Community Association and separately purchase a picnic table (made from recycled materials) with a suitable inscribed plaque to be sited on Jubilee Green. Seconded by Cllr. Mear, all in favour.

e) Village Hall solar panels/battery project

The Clerk advised that the invoice to be received from Total renewable Solutions will be for £10,283.70 (£8,569.75 plus VAT) and that this will be included on the agenda for the meeting on the 3rd April for approval and issuing of the cheque. The equipment will subsequently be gifted to the Village Hall once it has been installed and commissioned subject to the conditions that the Village Hall assume responsibility for the maintenance, safety and care of the equipment

and that they are also responsible for insuring the equipment for material damage/ public liability risks and for any statutory safety inspection requirements.

A Councillor raised a query as to whether the Parish Council's direct purchase of the battery equipment would affect the Village Hall's ability to receive the payments for when they export excess energy to the grid. Judith Chapman, the Village Hall Chair to check on this matter and advise the Clerk.

9. Planning Applications:

Cllr. Dare left the room at this point due to the declared interest in the following items 9a to 9j (inclusive).

- a) **23/0339/FUL – Marsh Farm Kilmington Devon EX13 7DR**
Erection of roof over existing silage clamps
- b) **23/0340/FUL – Marsh Farm Kilmington Devon EX13 7DR**
Erection of roof over existing open cow yards and manure store
- c) **23/0341/FUL – Marsh Farm Kilmington Devon EX13 7DR**
Erection of roof over existing open cow yards
- d) **23/0342/FUL – Marsh Farm Kilmington Devon EX13 7DR**
Erection of roof over existing manure store

Cllr. Collier proposed that the Parish Council support the above applications (9a to 9d inclusive) but with a comment that the Parish Council hope that the new structures will be strong enough to support solar panels and the roof slope, and direction is designed to maximise the solar benefits, should panels be fitted in the future, seconded by Cllr. Huscroft, all in favour (except for Cllr. Dare who took no part in the discussion or vote).

Cllr. Dare now returned to the room.

e) **23/0439/FUL – Roswyn Well Mead, Kilmington EX137SQ**

Construction of rear dormer window and single storey rear/side extension

Cllr. Collier proposed, seconded by Cllr. Seward, all in favour that the Parish Council not object to this application but make the following comments that the application specifies the exterior cladding of the dormer as 'Cedral Weatherboarding in the colour grey'. This does not respect the character of the existing building which has cream painted render. Nor would the colour grey harmonise with the colour of the neighbouring properties, also painted in light cream colours.

It is the council's view that the specified grey colour does not follow the recommendations of the Kilmington Neighbourhood Plan and Village Design Statement which the Parish Council seeks to uphold.

In line with the Kilmington Neighbourhood Plan and Village Design Statement, the Parish council would like the colour of the dormer to respect the character and cream colour of the existing building. The new structure would then blend visually with the existing build, creating a sense of quality and better harmonising with surrounding buildings.

The Kilmington Neighbourhood Plan and Design Statement were prepared by villagers following a lengthy consultation process within the community, approved by the Parish Council and endorsed by the East Devon District Council (EDDC). The advisory document sets out a series of recommendations in an attempt to protect the village, its rural setting, its character and its heritage. In addition, a recent village questionnaire for the emerging Neighbourhood Plan endorsed this recommendation: Harmonisation of new buildings (Q10) - the majority of respondents (114 replies) thought new buildings

should harmonise visually with the surrounding buildings.

The Kilmington Village Design Statement (see village website) recommends:.

Recommendation 21: The colour of renders and other external wall finishes should be neutral or pastel shades (not vivid colours) and should blend with the neighbouring properties.

Recommendation 28: All extensions and alterations (including partial rebuilding) to existing buildings should respect the character of the original. Extensions should be subordinate in scale and in height to the existing building(s).

f) 23/0432/FUL – Vealhays Kilmington EX13 7RD

Replacement of air source heat pump and internal heating pipes

g) 23/0433/LBC – Vealhays Kilmington EX13 7RD

Replacement of air source heat pump and internal heating pipes

Cllr. Seward proposed, seconded by Cllr. Huscroft, all in favour that the Parish Council support application 9f and 9g.

h) 22/1221/FUL – Studhayes Barn and The Dairy Kilmington EX13 7DR

Construction of a single storey extension and porch to Studhayes and the conversion of the workshop and garage to habitable accommodation at The Dairy

i) 22/1222/LBC – Studhayes Barn and The Dairy Kilmington EX13 7DR

Construction of a single storey extension and porch to Studhayes and the conversion of the workshop and garage to habitable accommodation at The Dairy

Cllr. Mear proposed, seconded by Cllr. Veberth, all in favour that the Parish Council had no objection to applications 9h and 9i.

10. Licence variation Application 055338 - Kilmington Cross Services, Gammons Hill (A35), Kilmington, AXMINSTER, Devon, EX13 7RB

Councillors discussed this matter at length taking into account the representations made by residents in the Open session. Cllr. Seward proposed that the Parish Council object to the Licence variation on the grounds of Public Safety, Prevention of Public nuisance, Prevention of Crime and Disorder, seconded by Cllr. Collier, all in favour. The Clerk and Chair to submit a detailed representation of the objections to EDDC licensing.

11. Risk Management Plan

Deferred to next meeting

12. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Risk Management Plan

Tree Management Plan

Kilmington Common Management Plan

13. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 10th April 2023

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Signed *P. Ball*

Date *03/04/2023*