

KILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING ON MONDAY 14th MARCH 2022 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs B. Trott (Chair), M. Collier, S.Seward, S. Huscroft, A. Dare, P. Ball, M. Jones

In Attendance: A Jenkins (Clerk/RFO), DCC/EDDC Cllr. I. Chubb

Members of Public: 0

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

No matters raised

COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Apologies

Cllr. J. Mear

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Seward on Item 8f and Item 9b. Cllr. Collier and Cllr. Jones on item 9b.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd February 2022

Deferred to next meeting

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

Deferred

4. Reports:

a) Police

The Clerk advised that no report had been received.

b) District and County Councillors

Cllr. Chubb reported that the Devon County Council Budget was approved at Full Council on the 17th of February after many months of work in what had been the most challenging one in living memory, for a variety of reasons, not least the Pandemic. The DCC part of Council tax will go up by 2.99%, the lowest increase in 7 years, adding 87p per week or £45 a year to Homes in the Band D Council tax bracket. DCC have put back £1m in to Highways for cyclic maintenance, drainage schemes and pothole repairs, as well as £329k of funding for community organisations, who were invaluable during the Pandemic.

In recognition of greater healthcare working between the NHS and DCC we have received £10m to offset high service needs in the Adult Social Care sector and currently negotiating with the Department for Education on a multi-million settlement to help with the Special Educational needs deficit in Devon.

Details of the Government Council tax discount, helping to counter some of the hike of upcoming fuel price increases are now known. They are an automatic one off grant, which is not means tested, spreading across Council Tax Bands A-D.

DCC has today received details of the total sum, which will then be split across the District Councils to distribute as the collection authority. The £150 discount will be applied and deducted from the bill, when issued.

Cllr. Chubb also gave brief details of how the Government package of support to help households with rising energy bills, will be administered by the District Councils.

He advised that DCC had recently released its Council Plan, setting out its key objectives and ambitions for the people and County of Devon, with climate change and the environment at the top of the tree. This document will run like a Golden Thread through everything that DCC does. The Plan and details/priorities can be viewed on the website.

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He reported that South Western Railway (SWR) has completed the installation of Co Bikes docking stations plus 30 e-bikes at Cranbrook and Honiton stations, launching a new eco-friendly onward travel option for their customers, and he hopes this scheme will be rolled out to Axminster as well.

c) Clerk

None

d) Kilmington Neighbourhood Support Group

None

e) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr. Ball advised that the 2 presentation meetings to the public had been held and that at present EDDC are in the process of appointing the Examiner.

f) Highways Matters

The Clerk advised that the pot holes on the tarmacked section of the Roman Road had been reported to the Devon Highways Officer.

g) Playground

The Clerk advised that Cllr. Huscroft and himself had met with the Proludic Area Manager to inspect and discuss the matter of the bearings on the Rocker and also the black transfer from the wet pour rubber mulch surfacing onto childrens hands and clothing. Subsequent to the meeting the Manager had been able to loosen the existing worn bearings and had provided instructions on how to replace these bearings and refit the rocker. Cllr Dare said that he would arrange for this work to be carried out in order that the rocker can be fitted and the play item brought back into use.

As regards the black rubber mulch transfer problem Proludic had advised that the wet pour mulch was out of warranty and had suggested that we contact the mulch installers (Abacus Playgrounds) directly to see if a binding coat could be applied on top of the mulch surface. The Clerk said that he had spoken with Abacus who had advised whilst it may be possible to apply a binding coat they could not guarantee that this would solve the problem or if it did how long the binding coat would last before it broke down itself and the problem reoccur. They recommended that the mulch be replaced with a different and newer type of wet pour mulch which does not

breakdown and result in the black colour transfer problem. The Clerk had requested that they supply an indication of cost for this solution.

h) Trees

1) EDDC Platinum Jubilee Commemorative Oak Tree Sapling

The Clerk advised that EDDC had offered to supply and plant an oak tree sapling with a commemorative plaque to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. It had to be planted in a public accessible space which is suitable to allow the tree to grow and achieve full maturity size. Council agreed that the Jubilee Green would be a suitable site. Cllr. Jones to advise the Clerk of the exact what3words location.

2) Arboricultural Assessment Resurvey

The Clerk advised that the report had just been received and that he had passed a copy to Cllr. Jones. Report to be discussed at next meeting.

Clerk to invoice the Hitchcock Trust for an amount of £137.50 for their portion of the resurvey.

3) Tree Management Plan

Deferred to next meeting

4) Kilmington Common Management

Deferred to next meeting

i) Footpaths Report

The Clerk advised that he had reported the damage to the Roman Road byeway caused by Euro Forest to the DCC Public Rights of Way Officer

j) Any Other Reports

1) Damage to Car Park wall

The walls have been repaired. The invoice just received from Simon Williams for the repair work including the reglazing of the bus shelter window is £135.00.

Cllr. Ball proposed payment, seconded by Cllr. Collier, all in favour.

5. To consider any matters pertaining to Coronavirus and Kilmington Parish

None

6. Correspondence

a) Kilmington School PTFA – Painting exterior of the school extension

The Clerk advised that an email had been received from the Chair of the PTFA that they propose to repaint the exterior of the school.

The PTFA understand that the exterior of the school (the new extension part) has had some previous issues with the colour that Mrs White had chosen to paint it and having some objection from the parish council. Therefore ending with an incomplete job. Only half the wall has been painted. They now wish to complete the painting but wish to liaise beforehand with the Parish Council on the colour issue.

Council agreed for Cllr. Ball and Cllr. Jones should meet with the PTFA to discuss and reach an agreement on the colour for it to be repainted

b) Kilmington, Shute & Dalwood Parishes boundary marker stone

The Clerk had circulated an email received from Dalwood Parish Council with details of the signs which they were proposing to attach by drilling and bolting to the boundary marker stone. Councillors were appalled at what was being proposed and felt that this would deface and damage this historic feature. The Clerk to speak to the Clerks at both the other Parish Councils and inform them that Kilmington PC strongly object to what is being proposed.

c) Government consultation on the Glover Landscapes Review – an opportunity to stop ‘off-roading’ in the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs)

Noted

d) Wild About Devon

The Clerk advised that this was a new DCC initiative and is all about supporting communities and Parish and Town Councils to take action for wildlife and helping them connect up. Wild About Devon comes under the umbrella of the Devon Local Nature Partnership, which includes a range of environmental and other organisations keen to restore Devon's natural environment. They have set up a Parish and Town Council Wildlife Network to help P&TCs fulfil their statutory wildlife duty, restoring and enhancing local areas for wildlife. The website has lots of information, with useful links and contacts, to support those starting to, or currently taking action for nature. There will be regular newsletters.

e) Ukrainian Refugee

The Chair advised that he had received correspondence from a parishioner suggesting that the Parish Council should set up a response for Ukrainian refugees. Council felt that this was more a matter for Devon County Council or EDDC rather than the Parish Council.

7. Finance

a) Current Financial Position

The Clerk advised that the present balance in the Lloyds Account was £8,323.74

This did not include any payments to be approved at this meeting on the 14th March.

NSI Account as at 01-01-2022 £45,545.78

Santander Account £ 1,095.66

b) Expenditure to be approved for which bills have been received

1) Payment of £331.80 to A. Jenkins for the Clerk's salary for the month of March 2022

2) Payment of £110.20 to HMRC

3) Payment of £84.00 to A. Jenkins for Clerk's Home Office allowance for the months Oct, Nov, Dec 2021, Jan, Feb & Mar 2022

4) Payment of £41.58 to Axminster Printing for stationery

5) Payment of £660.00 to Advanced Arboriculture for Arboricultural Safety inspection.

6) Payment of £30.76 to Hags for supply of caps for Hippo rocker

The Clerk also requested that the following additional item be considered for approval.

7) Payment of £960.00 to CS Garden Services SW Ltd for works carried out 06/10/21, 20/10/21, 23/11/21, 24/11/21 and 23/02/22.

Payment of Items 1-7 proposed by Cllr. Ball, seconded by Cllr. Jones, all in favour.

c) East Devon AONB Communities Project Grant

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council has received a grant of £279.49 to cover the cost of tools, seed and for the Cutting and clearance work on Kilmington Common. This was in connection with the Lobellia & Lowland Heath AONB project.

Invoices had been received from David Simpson- £112.70 and OM, SA & DP Seward-£240.00.

Cllr. Ball proposed payments of these two invoices, seconded by Cllr. Collier, all in favour. (Cllr. Seward had declared an interest and took no part in this matter)

d) Grant application from Kilmington Postscript

The Clerk reported that an application for a grant had been received from the editor of the Kilmington Postscript. Cllr. Trott proposed that a grant of £250 be given, seconded by Cllr. Ball, all in favour.

9. Planning Applications:

a) **21/3180/FUL-4 The Cross Whitford Road Kilmington EX13 7RF**

Two-storey extension to dwelling.

Noted that this application had been approved.

Cllrs. Seward, Collier and Jones left the meeting the meeting at this point due to declared interest in the following application.

b) **22/0387/FU - Land Adjacent To Woodthorpe Kilmington**

Erection of a two storey 3-bed detached dwelling, with single storey link extension to existing farm building and conversion of existing farm building to habitable use.

Following discussion on the need for this dwelling, Cllr. Trott proposed that the Parish Council had no objection subject to an Agricultural Occupancy Condition being imposed, seconded by Cllr. Ball, all in favour.

Cllrs. Seward, Collier and Jones then returned to the meeting.

c) **21/3223/CPL - The Firs Kilmington Axminster EX13 7SS**

Certificate of Lawfulness of Proposed Use or Development (CLOPUD) for the use of the land for the stationing of a mobile home for use as accommodation ancillary to the main dwelling.

Noted that the Certificate application had been granted.

The Clerk left the meeting at this point.

10. **NJC National Salary Award 2021/22 Payscales for Clerks- (Implementation backdated from April 2021)**

Councillors discussed and agreed to apply the 2021/22 salary award payscale backdated to April 2021. Cllr. Trott proposed that the Clerk's payscale be increased from Level 10 to level 12, seconded by Cllr. Seward, all in favour.

The Clerk rejoined the meeting.

11. **Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2020**

Cllr. Ball reported that the plans for the Jubilee celebration event were progressing well and he was presently investigating the purchase of the commemorative coins for the village

12. **Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

None

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

Monday 11th April 2022 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

Signed *M. Collier*

Date *25/04/2022*