

KILMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MONTHLY ORDINARY MEETING ON MONDAY 25th OCTOBER 2021 AT 7.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

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

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

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

Members of the public asked what was the present position as regards the A35 improvements that the Community and the Council had been seeking and also what could be done to reduce the speed limit in the village.

Cllr. Ball said that along with Cllr. Styles that David Vickers had been the person mainly dealing with Highways England on this issue but had recently moved away. Cllr. Styles had also recently moved from the Village and tendered her resignation.

Cllr. Ball said that David had passed over all his files of documents relating to the A35 prior to him leaving and that a new Councillor/s would need to take on the role of dealing with the A35 matters.

Cllr. Ball together with DCC/EDDC Cllr. Chubb gave an update on the Highways England proposed A35 improvement scheme which they understood was being submitted for funding consideration/decision to the Department of Transport and Highways England Head Office.

As regards the speed limit in villages Devon Highways were shortly due to trial a 30mph down to 20 mph scheme in Newton Abbott and if this trial proved to be positive, then it maybe rolled out to other villages in Devon.

Cllr. Ball said that the Council would keep parishioners informed through the parish magazine of progress on both matters and also how parishioners can lobby the Dept of Transport/Highways England for a positive funding decision to approve the A35 improvement scheme.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Apologies

Cllr. A. Dare

2. Resignation

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Styles had tendered her resignation. The Chair had written to her thanking for the work she had done for the community during her term of office.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Seward declared an interest in Item 10a

4. Resumption of Council Meetings- Change of Venue & Day

The Clerk explained that the Chair and himself had decided to change the venue for the resumption of Council meetings to the Village Hall as it would provide a more Covid 19 safe environment allowing greater social distancing space for attendees. He had written a detailed Risk Assessment for the resumption of Council Meetings in the village hall and this document had been circulated and was published on the website. Unfortunately, due to availability of the Hall, Council meetings would in future be on the second Monday of the month, except for November meeting which would be on Monday 29th November and the February meeting which will be on Wednesday 2nd February 2022. He had booked the Hall for the monthly meetings up to 2023.

5. Minutes of the Meeting held on

a) 6th May 2021

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

6. Matters arising from the Minutes

a) 6th May 2021

Cllr. Ball advised that EDDC had not advised anything further in respect of the 2 strips of land assets which assigned in 1985 & 1989.

7. Reports:

a) Police

DCC/EDDC Cllr. Chubb advised that he had met with the Police and the topics discussed centred around Cyber Crime, Police force cross border liason and Police advocates. Further monthly meetings were planned.

b) District and County Councillors

Cllr. Chubb advised that the District Council were not meeting in person and were still working under delegated authority to the principal officer.

He said that Devon Highways were very busy as they had 33 vacant posts out of 240 staff. There was a backlog of work but he advised that all the Winter service vehicles and equipment had been serviced and the grit salt barns were well stocked. Highways were also in November due to hold an online Parish and Town Council Conference. Details would be issued shortly. He encouraged Councillors to register for the online event.

He also reported that the recycling rate in the County Council recycling centres had fallen from 56% to 55.5%. EDDC still had the highest recycling rate amongst the district councils in Devon at 60%.

c) Clerk

Nothing to report

d) Kilmington Neighbourhood Support Group

Nothing to report

e) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr. Ball advised that further evidential work had been done on the Plan and that this had been forwarded to the Planning Consultant for him to prepare the necessary formal documentation.

f) Highways Matters

The Clerk advised that he was waiting for the Temporary Traffic Order Notice to be issued for the Remembrance Day service road closure.

Highways had advised that Nower Road had now reopened

g) Trees & Damage to car

The Clerk reported that a resident's parked car on Roman Road had been damaged by an overhanging deadwood branch falling from an Ash Tree on the edge of the council owned Kilmington Common. The resident had provided an estimate for the repairs and the Clerk understood that he was in the process of submitting a written claim against the Council. On receipt of this, the Clerk will notify and submit the resident's claim to the Council's insurers.

The Clerk was arranging for the Council's tree surgeons to inspect the Ash tree and the other trees which overhang the area where residents park their cars. If the tree surgeon recommended that work is required to remove deadwood, the Clerk will liaise with the Chair and Cllr. Jones for approval of the works and cost.

h) Footpaths Report

Cllr. Jones advised that the cycle footpath for approx. 40/50 metres either side of the underpass was overgrown with weeds and required clearing. The Clerk to notify PROW.

i) Any Other Reports

None

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

None

9. Correspondence

The Clerk reported that a very elderly couple had complained about the ongoing interruptions to the water supply in Kilmington which had been going on for a number of years. It was causing them great difficulty as when they received notice that the water supply was due to be cut off they had to prepare by carrying heavy buckets of water to the toilets. This was becoming very difficult and hazardous for them as their home is two storeys They asked if the Parish Council could ask the Water Utilities Company to confirm what their plans and the timescale is for renewing the water supply pipes to Kilmington to finally end these constant interruptions.

Councillors agreed that this was a longstanding problem and was due to the age and deterioration of the water supplies. They asked the Clerk to write to the Water Utilities Company. Cllr. Huscroft said that she would speak to the couple.

10. Finance

a) Current Financial Position

The Clerk reported that:-

Lloyds Account Bank Statement Balance as at 30-09-2021 was	£ 18,969.27
Uncleared Cheques	£ 3,316.91
Present Balance	£ 15,652.36

Notes:-

The second precept payment of £10,500 was received on 01-09-2021 and is included in the above balance

The above balance does not include payments of £482.00 to be approved (Agenda 25-10-2021 Item9b)

NSI Account as at 01-04-2021	£45,545.78
Santander Account	£ 1,095.66

b) To consider and ratify the following payments and expenditure made under the Clerk's and Chair's delegated authority since the 6th May 2021

Chq No	Date	Payee	Amount
2165	12/05/2021	Postscript	205.00
2166	29/05/2021	A. Jenkins	255.80
2168	29/05/2021	HMRC	97.80
2169	29/05/2021	A. Jenkins	14.39
2170	29/05/2021	Came & Co.	1051.98
2171	07/06/2021	RSD Music	3477.60
2172	08/06/2021	EDDC	1296.00
2173	17/06/2021	C S Garden Services	198.00
2174	30/06/2021	A. Jenkins	261.20
2175	31/07/2021	C S Garden Services	990.00
2176	31/07/2021	M. Lawson	100.00
2177	31/07/2021	EDF Energy	114.25
2178	31/07/2021	A. Jenkins	331.80
2179	31/07/2021	HMRC	110.20
2180	31/08/2021	A. Jenkins	261.20
2181	31/08/2021	HMRC	92.40
2182	31/08/2021	HMRC	92.40
2183	24/09/2021	A Jenkins	84.00
2184	24/09/2021	All Saints Parish Council	147.80
2185	30/09/2021	A. Jenkins	261.20
2186	30/09/2021	HMRC	92.40
2187	15/10/2021	M. Lawson	100.00
2188	15/10/2021	C S Garden Services	1110.00
2189	20/10/2021	EDF Energy	88.64
2190	20/10/2021	R E J Wareham	52.20
2191	20/10/2021	C S Garden Services	558.00

Ratification of payments proposed by Cllr. Collier, seconded by Cllr. Jones, all in favour.

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 October 2021
- 2) Payment of £110.20 to HMRC
- 3) Payment of £40.00 to the Information Commissioner for Data Protection registration renewal

Payment proposed by Cllr. Seward, seconded by Cllr. Huscroft, all in favour

10. Planning Applications:

Cllr. Seward had declared an interest in Item a) and left the room.

a) 21/2268/FUL - The Firs Kilmington Axminster EX13 7SS

Proposed use of existing mobile home as independent holiday let unit and adjacent bell tent for associated amenity facilities.

Proposed by Cllr. Collier, seconded by Cllr. Ball that the Council support this application. All in favour

Cllr. Seward returned to the meeting.

b) 21/2233/FUL - 2 Whitehayes Close Kilmington Axminster EX13 7RR

Single storey side extension, reduction in length of garage to install patio area at rear of property

Proposed by Cllr. Ball, seconded by Cllr. Huscroft that the Council had no objection to this application. All in favour

11. Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

Cllr Collier advised that the Parish Council's beacon equipment would be refurbished ready for the Jubilee event.

12. Gapemouth Corner

Cllr. Ball said that a number of people had been seen looking at the site following it being put up for sale. He had checked with the Forestry Commission the position as regards the Forestry Licence if the site was sold. They had confirmed that the Licence and its terms and conditions would be transferred on to the new owners.

13. A35 verge

Cllr. Ball said that Highways England had been working on the area between the two bus shelters and had sowed yellow rattle. This work would assist in the implementation of an agreed wildlife corridor as envisaged in the proposed Neighbourhood Plan.

14. Kilmington Common – advice on it's management

Cllr. Ball advised that the AONB Heath Lobelia Project had cleared brambles on the Common and planted some Lobelia plants. They were seeking advice on the appropriate grass management to be followed for the plants to flourish and prosper. On receipt of the advice, they will submit it for Council's consideration and approval.

15. Devon Climate Assembly Report

Noted

16. The Climate & Ecological Emergency Bill

Deferred to next meeting

17. Kilmington Playing Fields – Request for a Public Spaces Protection Order

The Clerk advised that the Playing Fields Committee had reported that since the start of the lockdown, there had been a marked increase in the number of people visiting the park to walk and exercise their dogs. The majority of the people were not from Kilmington but from Axminster and other areas. It appeared that they were coming to Kilmington as similar playing fields in their own areas had dog exclusion orders.

This increase in the dog walkers using the Kilmington Playing Fields had resulted in damage to the cricket pitch and dog faeces left on the ground causing an unpleasant health and safety hazard to other users/visitors of the playing fields and the Childrens playground. People with dogs had also been seen inside the fenced Playground even though no dogs are allowed inside it.

The Playing Fields Committee had asked for the Parish Council's support by requesting EDDC to consider making a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO).

The Clerk said that he had sought advice from EDDC who advised that it was the Playing Fields Committee which would have to apply for a PSPO but in order to do so they would need to provide written recorded incidents of the dog problem over an extended period. EDDC would then investigate and then consider the matter following a consultation process. New PSPO's are due for consideration in 2003.

DCC/EDDC Cllr. Chubb said that the Trustees of the Playing fields should introduce a Bye Law under their constitution excluding dogs from the Playing Fields.

Cllr. Huscroft and Cllr. Collier said that they would report back to the Trustees.

18. Blackdown Way

The Clerk had circulated the information and plan of the proposed Blackdown Way showing its route through Kilmington.

16. Sandbags

The Clerk reported that he had ordered and collected 50 new bags from EDDC and gave these to Cllr. Seward.

17.Grit bins

The Clerk said that he would ask Highways for a plan showing the details and locations of all the grit bins in Kilmington.

17. Council meeting Dates for 2021 and 2022

2021 Council Meeting Dates

November Monday 29th

December No Meeting

2022 Council Meeting Dates

January Monday 10th

July Monday 11th

February Monday 2nd

August Monday 8th

March Monday 14th

September Monday 12th

April Monday 11th

October Monday 10th

May Monday 9th

November Monday 14th

June Monday 13th

December Monday 12th

18. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

None

20. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 29th November 2021 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.40pm

Signed ***B. Trott***

Date ***29/11/2021***