

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Winkleigh Parish Council held at the Community Centre at 7:30pm on 25th January 2023

Cllrs Present: Goldsworthy, Phillips, Turner, Hodgson, Findlay, Whitehead, Naylor, Jacobs and Odulinski.

Public Participation – A parishioner implored the community to start a conversation about mental health, citing a movement called the Talking Bench in Guernsey (a literal bench for people to use to meet and talk about mental health in this case) and suggested that WPC do something similar. Cllr Findlay levied her support for this, saying she observed something similar work very well in her schools.

A parishioner stated that the developers on Townsend Hill had closed off many roads to much dismay the day before the meeting, allegedly making no provision for a through route. Cllr Findlay suggested the parishioner complain to the relevant authorities and said she would support it. Another parishioner stated that ‘thirty-ton’ gravel lorries were moving during school pick up time, also stated he had taken pictures of the ‘huge amount’ of debris in the road and would submit them as a complaint. Also mentioned that, in his opinion, were an HSC investigation to take place on the site, it would be devastating for them. Further stated that he had spotted molehills in the area, and that if the developers were caught doing anything against them without proper intervention they would be sued by public office. Cllr Findlay stated WPC did raise the concern with TDC that they hadn’t adopted the Considerate Builders program on this note.

County Councillor – Responded to the question raise by Cllr Findlay on considerate builders that DCC is not the planning authority on this development, but he did know that whilst London boroughs have far more clout when it comes to enforcing those kinds of agreements or insisting developers use them, DCC does not. He drove home the point that concerning the large amount of potholes currently plaguing our roads it matters a ‘great deal’ how many reports made there are; he confirmed that DCC are going to approach the Department of Transport for more money to repair the 8,000 miles of road in Devon.

District Councillor – Cllr Newton gave his apologies in advance of the meeting.

AGENDA

1.1.23: Welcome (Chair)

The Chair welcomed everyone and informed people no recording was being made by the Clerk, but that there was one being made by Cllr Goldsworthy and Cllr Turner.

2.1.23: Apologies for Absence to be received and considered for approval (Chair)

None at this time.

3.1.23: Declaration of Interests (Chair)

Cllr Whitehead declared an interest in one of the Grant applications made to the Council at Agenda Item 16.1.23 in respect of the Village Hall.

4.1.23: Planning

Cllr Naylor, proposed the first planning item be accepted and approved, seconded Cllr Whitehead, All in Favour. *RESOLVED RR059/22.*

After some discussion it was decided that the radio tower concerns should be more fully investigated before a decision was come to on whether or not to support their going ahead. Cllr Jacobs proposed

that this planning item, that of the radio tower, be postponed to a later meeting, seconded Cllr Findlay. Eight in favour, One against. *RESOLVED RR060/22.*

5.1.23: Minutes

Cllr Hodgson proposed the minutes on the agenda be approved, Cllr Phillips seconded. Eight in favour, One abstention. *RESOLVED RR061/22.*

6.1.23: Defibrillator

After much discussion it was confirmed by the Chair that the best way to go forward without the use of a permanent Clerk on site to check the Defibrillators under the Council's care, would be to train volunteers to whom the task is delegated by the Clerk, thereby covering them under the insurance of the Council.

7.1.23: S106 Funds (Cllr Findlay)

Cllr Findlay stated she was concerned that the Council was potentially missing out on opportunities to apply for S.106 Funds. Cllr Odulinski suggested that we have many documents about possible public beneficence, such as the Neighbourhood Plan, and they should be used to guide requests for funds. Cllr Findlay suggested we invite the officers concerned. Cllr Turner stated she remembers 'wishlists' being requested from TDC, but never an approach about S.106 funds. Cllr Phillips stated that Adrian Avery, a TDC Community Engagement Officer, who had been intending to come speak to the Council about S.106 was held up by childcare issues but would hopefully come again.

8.1.23: Appointment of a Locum Clerk (possible need to defer to PART II if contracts discussed)

The Chair moved this item to PART II at his discretion.

9.1.23: New Equipment (Cllr Goldsworthy)

Cllr Goldsworthy raised the issue that the Council has no way of printing in A3, and that with development plans and blueprints this capacity is highly useful, asked for and received the Council's support to seek three quotes on printers with this capacity.

10.1.23: Home Builders Federation (Cllr Goldsworthy)

Discussion was had on whether or not the HBF would know if any NDA's sought by Alison Holmes were illegal or not; it being agreed they would, the Council moved to seek their advice. Cllr Goldsworthy proposed he seek their advice on behalf of the Council, seconded Cllr Jacobs, seven in favour, two abstentions. *RESOLVED RRO61B/22*

11.1.23: Internal Auditor Appointment

It being confirmed one quote was received, the Clerk was instructed to again attempt to seek two more before a decision was made.

12.1.23: Financial Schedule

Cllr Jacobs proposed the Council accept the Financial Schedule, seconded Cllr Findlay, Eight in favour, One against. *RESOLVED RR062/22.*

13.1.23: Councillors Verbal Reports not requiring resolution

Cllr Jacobs mentioned that the seat which needed fixing thrown up by the Asset Register review had been fixed.

14.1.23: Governance Policies

Cllr Turner proposed to defer the Code of Conduct till the May meeting, seconded Cllr Whitehead. All in favour. *RESOLVED RR063/22.*

Cllr Jacobs proposed the Council accept all other documents proposed, seconded Cllr Goldsworthy. All in Favour. *RESOLVED RR064/22.*

15.1.23: Grants

Cllr Whitehead excused himself. The concordance was to approach Citizens Advice Bureau to have an outreach here. Cllr Jacobs proposed the Council allocate budgeted grants of £2000 to CAB and Village Hall – split between them. Seconded Cllr Findlay. Six for, One abstention, One against. *RESOLVED RR065/22.*

Cllr Whitehead returned to the meeting.

16.1.23: Budget

Cllr Jacobs proposed a budget of £41,490.00 and a precept of £33,881.00, Cllr Findlay seconded. Two Abstentions. Seven in favour. *RESOLVED RR066/22.*

17.1.23: Confidential matters (PART II) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1 (2).

Cllr Turner proposed the Council move into PART II, seconded Cllr Phillips. All in favour. *RESOLVED RR067/22.*

Coming out of PART II Cllr Findlay proposed the Council appoint Lorraine Wheeler as Locum Clerk from Monday 30th January, seconded Cllr Jacobs. Eight for, One abstention. *RESOLVED RR068/22.*

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting.

Amended 09/02/23