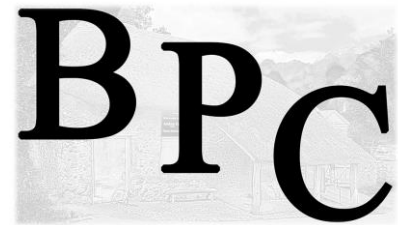


# BRANSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL



**MINUTES** OF THE BRANSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held in the Branoc Hall Social Room (Village Hall) on **THURSDAY 13<sup>th</sup> August 2015 at 19.30.**

PRESENT: Cllrs. Bass, Cox, Evans, Lambert, Mayes, Pike, Knight (DCC), Chris Bass (web site)

APOLOGIES: Cllr Willmington

NO. OF PUBLIC: None

PRESS: None

CLERK IN ATTENDANCE: Gail Kenyon

## PUBLIC SPEAKING

**Branscombe Parish Council Web Site** - Chris Bass gave a demonstration of the new web site he has been working on and advised that he would like to take photographs of each councillor and the clerk together with a short resume of each. The web site address is [www.branscombe-pc.org.uk](http://www.branscombe-pc.org.uk). The web site is still under construction. Agendas and minutes of the Parish meetings starting from the AGM/Annual Parish meeting in 2015. There will also be a feedback form with the email address going to [clerk@branscombe.eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@branscombe.eastdevon.gov.uk). Chris demonstrated the calendar where all the meetings will be identified. It was suggested that the new web site be advertised in the next Parish Magazine. The minutes and agendas will still be emailed out to councillors. The cost of the web domain is approximately £74 and Chris Bass will advise of the final amount. All agreed that the new web site was excellent and thanked Chris for his work on it. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the web site should progress and go live as soon as possible.

MINUTES OF Parish Council meeting and dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 2015, which were previously circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

## DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

None

## Police Report:

No report provided.

## National Trust:

No report provided.

## MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. Bass welcomed Gail Kenyon as the new Clerk to the Parish Council.

Signs for Parking at Beach – Cllr. Knight (DCC) advised that there was no funding from DCC to provide these signs. Two signs were proposed adding a ‘P’ and the number of spaces available, one in the square and another at the Village Hall which would also identify Disabled Parking at the Village Hall and the route to the Beach which is an accessible route.

Cllr. Mayes asked if Mr. Sellick should pay for all of the signs, Cllr. Bass advised that he understood his comment but felt that he should not pay for them all.

**It was agreed that costings would be obtained by the Parish Council and provide Cllr. Knight with this for him to advise on a way forward.**

## PLANNING

Housing Needs Survey – Cllr. Bass advised that Cllr. Pook (EDDC) spoke to EDDC and they are adamant that the survey should be done. Cllr. Bass said that the Parish residents may feel that it is ‘questionnaire fatigue’, but that it may help with the application behind the Fountain Head. Cllr. Evans asked what is meant by ‘affordable’ in the village as it is not explained on the form. Cllr. Bass advised that in the “Statement to Full Council 29<sup>th</sup> July 2015” (to be discussed later), it mentions a figure of £120k. The last survey identified the need for 18 affordable homes in Branscombe Parish. Cllr. Mayes asked if we should have a survey. Cllr. Knight advised that if a need is not recognised the houses could be let to anyone.

Cllr. Mayes proposed and **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would contribute a maximum of £300 towards the survey. This was seconded by Cllr. Evans with ALL IN FAVOUR.

## PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

The following decisions were noted:

**15/1604/FUL** – Gannet Chalet Sea Shanty Caravan Park. Retention of new support structure to chalet, timber deck and external steps.

The Parish Council reviewed the application.

Cllr. Cost proposed and **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Parish Council support the application. This was seconded by Cllr. Lambert with ALL IN FAVOUR.

**Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation** – Development Plan Document (DPD) – The Parish Council reviewed the document and it was agreed that there were no suitable areas in the Parish which should be added to the Plan. This will be communicated to EDDC by the Clerk.

**East Devon Villages Plan** – Cllr. Bass thought EDDC were doing away with the boundaries and advised that EDDC failed to put the northern boundary information on the plan, however he felt that it is best left off as it will be dealt with as Green Belt.

Cllr. Bass proposed and **IT WAS RESOLVED** that there be no amendment and this should be communicated to EDDC. This was seconded by Cllr. Cox with ALL IN FAVOUR.

**Statement for full council 29<sup>th</sup> July 2015** – Cllr. Knight explained that the government in its July Budget Statement presented to the House of Commons changes to Housing Revenue Account

finances and that rent reduction proposals (although it was expected that this would be welcomed by DCC tenants) will affect the Housing Revenue Account 30 year Business Plan. DCC had to proceed with a public works loan of £84.5m which would cost £4m/year to pay off instead of paying the government £6m therefore saving £2m/year which would be used to build new homes. Now the government have changed the rules and it is costing DCC £8m/year therefore costing DCC more and there being no residual funds for building new homes.

This was discussed by the Parish Council.

Cllr. Bass proposed and **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Parish Council writes to John Golding advising that the Parish Council fully support the “Statement for Full Council 29<sup>th</sup> July 2015”. This was seconded by Cllr. Mayes with ALL IN FAVOUR.

#### REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS:

##### CLLR KNIGHT:

Cllr. Knight advised that he had carried out a village tour regarding potholes and overgrown hedges (which are the responsibility of the land owner). He advised that the potholes will be repaired, Locsley Land had already been repaired and Bobby Lane was down for resurfacing. Locations near the Donkey Sanctuary will also be repaired; potholes by the Masons Arms have been repaired. Cllr. Bass advised that in Weston there are a lot and asked if these had been picked up. Cllr. Knight advised that he was aware of these and that there is a new way of filling the potholes known as ‘velocity fill’ which has been carried out for the first time in the County in Branscombe. Cllr. Cox advised that some visibility hedge cutting has been carried out but no one was aware who may have done this. Cllr. Bass advised that some hedges are covering road signs and could this be done, Cllr. Knight advised that there was no budget for clearing or cleaning road signs.

VILLAGE HALL: Nothing to report.

##### HIGHWAYS:

The Road Closure outside Chapel Row by South West Water between 18<sup>th</sup> November and 20<sup>th</sup> November 2015 was noted.

Cllr Knight advised that the rocking manhole which was due to subsidence had been picked up during his visit today and will be repaired.

FOOTPATHS: None.

##### CORRESPONDENCE:

**Review of polling districts, polling places and polling stations 2015** – It was agreed that there should be no change as there are no other alternatives. The form will be completed on this basis by the Clerk.

**Letter from the Post Office 6<sup>th</sup> August 2015** – The Post Office advised that they had been exploring options for restoring a Post Office service and are currently seeking to identify a nearby Postmaster who is interested in the opportunity to provide a service to the community. They have visited the area to identify possible sites for which the Outreach service can be operated. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to the letter saying that we understand that the foyer of the Village Hall is an ideal venue and we are very interested in supporting this service in coming back to the village.

FINANCE:

The Clerk confirmed that Grant Thornton had amended the return and this is now acceptable to Internal Auditor which has been received in writing. All were in favour of the accounts being published and displayed on the notice boards.

The following cheque was signed:

Cheque Number	Description	Amount £
911	DALC Cllr. Evans Course 14/07/15	30.00

PART B MATTER - None

MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN:

Cllr. Evans advised that EDDC Planning department were very busy, Kingsley Cottage at Stonley was approved as a wedding location, Donkey Sanctuary was approved, Westleigh at Slade Lane approved. A member of the public had approached him regarding the overhanding hedges on the road signs.

Cllr Mayes suggested that we should put an article in the Parish Magazine about the Parish Council, who we are and what we do, say for the October publication. Cllr. Lambert suggested a follow up information report and Cllr. Evans suggested contact details at the back of the publication.

Next meeting Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015 @ 19:30 in Branoc Hall (Village Hall) Social Room  
Meeting closed at 8.55 pm

*John Bass*

03/09/2015

Signed..... Date .....