

BRANSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE BRANSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held in the Branoc Hall Social Room (Village Hall) on **THURSDAY 1st June 2017 at 19.30hrs.**

PRESENT: Cllrs Bass, Lambert, Evans, Cox, Pike, Fastnedge, Walford-Howell, White

NO. OF PUBLIC: 3

APOLOGIES: Cllrs, Mayes, Pook (EDDC) and Shaw (DCC)

PRESS: None

CLERK IN ATTENDANCE: Gail Llewellyn

PUBLIC SPEAKING:

Vicky-Jo Eva spoke on the offer from West Bank Friends regarding assistance to residence with long-term health problems and older people, and social isolation. The group is volunteer led. They enable such things as Memory Café, Social Cooks, Walking buddies, film groups, seated exercise classes. They are looking for ideas in the Branscombe area and the local GP's have already suggested that the welcome home from hospital scheme would be a good idea. Cllr Bass said that we could put the leaflets up in our notice boards and web site if appropriate. Rev Hilary Dawson advised that the church do have monthly gatherings but during daytime, with visitor's groups and also do a welcome pack. Cllr Bass advised the meeting that we should have a think about this and put it on the next meeting for discussion and ideas that we can feedback to Vicky. Rev Hilary Dawson advised that at the last coffee morning they did a dementia awareness session which was very successful. She advised that as this was all through church volunteers they sometimes need help and suggested things like; transport and mobility, hospital transport, Memory Café (Colyton and Seaton already have one), she also advised that we could use the Parish Magazine.

Rev Hilary Dawson advised that the new churchyard will soon be consecrated and thanked the council for their initial help with this. She also advised that she would be happy to attend any future meetings if need be.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Parish Council Annual Parish meetings minutes dated 11th March 2017, which were previously circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record with one correction on the last page and paragraph from Cllr. Mayes to Cllr Evans.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Cllr Bass declared a non-pecuniary interest in application17/0773/LBC as he is a neighbour.

POLICE AND NATIONAL TRUST REPORT

Police: Not in attendance and nothing reported.

National Trust: Not in attendance and nothing reported.

MATTERS ARISING

Fountain Head Gardens Bench Plaque – Graham Williams memorial plaque for the bench. Cllr Cox is to provide the Clerk with details of the plaque maker, the size need, to be firmed up as well as the wording. The Clerk agreed to obtain this and get the wording finalised, currently being “In Loving Memory of Graham Williams 19?? To 2017 – a greatly missed Branscombe legend and barman for 20 years at the Fountain Head”

Designated Areas – These were agreed and will be put on the website.

PLANNING

Planning Update – The update was noted.

Appeals - None

Planning Applications:

17/0773/LBC 6 Chapel Row Branscombe Seaton EX12 3AZ - Excavation of garden levels to include retaining walls, pedestrian access, 2 no. garden gates and replacement fence; construction of a single storey rear extension and the removal of ruined walls (known as pigsty) and the re-orientation and rebuild of walls – After a full discussion Cllr Cox proposed that we do not support the application on the same grounds as the previous application discussed at the Parish Council meeting held on 15th September 2016. After this full discussion, Cllr Cox proposed and **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the council **NOT SUPPORT** the application for the following reasons:

- Highway/Pedestrian safety issues regarding the positioning of the gate and steps
- The profiled metal roof of the lean-to is not in keeping with the thatched Grade II listed building

This was seconded by Cllr Evans with **ALL IN FAVOUR**.

Enforcement – None

PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE - None

REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS:

Cllr Martin Shaw (DCC) had previously given his apologies and provided the clerk with the following report:

County Councillor's report June 2017

I will send out a written report to all parishes towards the end of each month, for the following month's meetings. As often as possible, I will attend parish meetings to speak to my report and answer questions.

1. Annual meeting of Devon County Council

I attended this meeting on 25 May, at which the new officers of the Council were elected. It is a formal event because all significant decisions have been made in advance between the leaders of the majority Conservatives (42 seats) and the minority groups, the Liberal Democrats (7), Labour (7) and Non-aligned Group (4). As an Independent, I belong to the Non-aligned Group, together with fellow Independent, Claire Wright (Otter Valley), another Independent and a Green councillor, both from other parts of Devon.

2. Committee memberships

I will be a member of the Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee, which may be more interesting than it sounds because it deals with how the Council organises itself and spends its money, and also with oversight of Highways. I will also be on the Rights of Way Committee, and represent the Council on the Beer Community Land Trust. So far as committees on which I do not sit, I still have a right to attend and speak.

3. Locality Budget

I have now had a general briefing on this, but I am consulting further with officers on how to handle it, in view of practices in the two former divisions. I will send further information shortly. Parishes and community groups can of course apply for funding at any point in the year via the County Council website.

5. Highways matters

On 23 May, I met for the first time with Stephen Kelly, the Neighbourhood Highways Officer for the new Seaton & Colyton division. I went through a list of all the issues of which parishes and residents had made me aware, so that Stephen knows of them. He gave me preliminary indications of the situation concerning each, or undertook to look into them. I will report further next month.

6. Hospital beds

Keeping the in-patient beds in Seaton and Honiton Hospitals has been a priority in my first three weeks as your County Councillor. The day after my election on 5 May, I attempted to revive the proposal for a judicial review of the NEW Devon CCG's decision to remove the Seaton beds.

However despite raising over £5,000 in a week, I was forced to conclude that there were insufficient funds and time to pursue this potentially very costly course. The Hospital League of Friends, through whom donations were made, are now arranging to return money to donors who wished it to be returned if not used for judicial review.

I will now press for the County's newly reappointed Health Scrutiny Committee, at its first meeting on 19 June, to use its legal power to refer the decision to the new Secretary of State for Health who will be appointed after the General Election. I shall be writing to the committee's Chair about the CCG's answer to the question the committee asked about the choice of Sidmouth rather than Seaton for the 24-bed unit in the proposed new arrangements, since I am not satisfied with their answer.

Marlin Shaw

26 May 2017

It was agreed that the Clerk should arrange a meeting with Cllrs Shaw and Bass, and Stephen Kelly (DCC Neighbourhood Highways Officer).

Village Hall – Cllr Pike advised that the Village Hall Committee should have been acknowledged in the Parish Council Annual Report with reference to the work they did to secure the post office for Branscombe at the Village Hall. He also said that for the past year they had not been charged for the use of the foyer which would be £5/week, and asked if the Parish Council would be willing to pay for this. Cllr White asked if the DCC Locality Budget may be able to fund this, the Clerk will ask Cllr Shaw. Cllr Evans advised that the post office do similar at Sidbury and we should find out if they pay rent there. Cllr Pike advised that the Village Hall committee want the Post Office to pay but are looking for the hire charge to be paid. Cllr Bass asked the meeting if they would be willing to support paying half. Cllr Pike will find out what the Post Masters views are first and feed back to the next meeting.

HIGHWAYS:

Cllr White reported the following:

- Potholes – the Berry Hill potholes are growing although some of them have been repaired.
- Flooding – Lugsmore Lane drainage is causing a flooding problem. The Clerk will report both these issues.
-

Cllr Bass asked the Clerk to email DCC and Highways Officer regarding the Highway works at Street to Coxes Corner and thank them for a good job.

FOOTPATHS: Nothing reported.

CORRESPONDENCE:

CPRE Devon Our Outdoors Competition 2017 - Noted

Community Building Fund – EDDC Jamie Buckley email 17th May 2017 – Discussion took place on if the Village Hall Play Park may be a candidate for funding. The Clerk passed the information onto Cllr Pike for discussion with the Village Hall Committee.

EDDC Garden Party Sunday 16th July 2017 – Cllr Bass suggested that we nominate Gary Pinnock regarding his Cricket Club work to attend with Cllr Bass. Cllr Bass will discuss with him and let the Clerk know.

Laura Williams – Himalayan Balsam – This was discussed and Cllr Bass recalled that we tried to address this issue with the National Trust some time ago. It was suggested that we put the flyer up on our notice board and suggest to her to put it in the Parish Magazine.

FINANCE:

Finance Update 2017/18 – the Clerk advised the following:

Total Income for the year	-	£4,137.15
Total Expenditure for the year	-	£392.00
Balance for the year	-	£3,745.15

Cheques – None

The Clerk advised that all the accounts have now gone off to the External Auditors.

PART B MATTER – None

MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN: None

Cllr Fastnedge – advised that there was a notice board at Cox’s Corner but it was damaged and had been removed. This was not a Parish notice board. The Clerk advised that the Masons Arms notice board is now inaccessible due to barriers and has recently been obstructed by the wheelie bins. Cllr Bass suggested obtaining advice from Cllr Pook regarding the bins. Cllr Pike suggested he could have a chat with the Manager of the Masons Arms. The Clerk also reported that the weeds around the Weston notice board were getting unmanageable, Cllr Evans advised that this should have been cut back by now.

The Clerk - advised that Cllr Mayes had asked her to raise the issue of Dog Fouling along the beach path from the Village Hall. After discussion it was decided the Clerk would email EDDC for suggestions and Cllr Bass would discuss with Nicola Bullock for advice.

The next meeting is due on 29th June 2017 @ 19:30 in Branoc Hall (Village Hall).

Meeting closed at 20.55hrs

Signed..... Date