

BRANSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE BRANSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held in the Branoc Hall Social Room (Village Hall) on **THURSDAY 29th June 2017 at 19.30hrs.**

PRESENT: Cllrs Bass, Mayes, Cox, Pike, Fastnedge, Walford-Howell

NO. OF PUBLIC: None

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Evans, Fastnedge and Shaw (DCC)

PRESS: None

CLERK IN ATTENDANCE: Gail Llewellyn

PUBLIC SPEAKING: None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Parish Council Annual Parish meetings minutes dated 11th May 2017, and the Parish Council meeting held on 1st June 2017, which were previously circulated, were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: None

POLICE AND NATIONAL TRUST REPORT

Police: PC Richard Jenkins reported that there has been a number of car break ins at Weston Car Park and outside the church, they believe they may have a suspect and an operation is running from Sidmouth Police station. A report of a white van selling Chelsea Garden Show furniture was also received but no registration number, PC Jenkins has a suspect and will provide a photo ID to see if they are recognised. Have Your Say is still popular. Cllr Mayes suggested that he put another article in the Church Magazine regarding the car crime. The Clerk reported that she had not received a response to her letter regarding support for the current level of resourcing and PC Jenkins suggested that we send a reminder. Crime figures as follows:

Crimes Recorded - 01/06/2017 to 25/06/2017 - KN3F

Offence	Recorded Crime 01/06/2017 to 25/06/2017	Recorded Crime 01/06/2016 to 25/06/2016	Recorded Crime % Difference
Other Sexual Offences	0	1	-100.0%
Vehicle Offences	1	0	-
Other Theft	2	1	100.0%
Public Order Offences	1	0	-
Total	4	2	100.0%

Incidents Recorded - 01/06/2017 to 25/06/2017 - KN3F

Incident Closing Category	Incidents - 01/06/2017 to 25/06/2017	Incidents - 01/06/2016 to 25/06/2016	Incidents % Difference
Crime Recorded	1	1	0.0%
Public Safety	0	1	-100.0%
Transport	0	1	-100.0%
Total	1	3	-66.7%

National Trust: Not in attendance and nothing reported.

MATTERS ARISING

Fountain Head Gardens Bench Plaque – The wording for the plaque was agreed and the Clerk advised that she has requested a price from Mr. Hunt in Seaton for providing this.

West Bank Friends – Vicky-Jo Eva – The suggestion of a welcome home from hospital service was proposed by Cllr Bass and was agreed. There is a survey on the back of the leaflet, the Clerk will email a copy to Cllr Mayes for the Magazine and Cllr Cox.

PLANNING

Planning Update – The update was noted.

Appeals - None

Planning Applications:

17/1273/FUL – Land to the North of Northern Lane Branscombe – Erection of steel framed barn to store machinery and hay. Cllr Cox advised that a lot of building rubbish had been dumped in the field and that EDDC Environmental Health are aware. Cllr Bass suggested that the size of the shed was not warranted in relation to the size of the field and that within the AONB it was only permitted for development to be reasonable for the area which he felt this was not, and that the previous application reasons should also be referred to. After this full discussion, Cllr Cox proposed and **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the council **NOT SUPPORT** the application for the following reasons:

1. The field that it is located in does not warrant the size of shed proposed.
2. The proposed development is in a rural area where it is the policy of the Local Planning Authority only to permit development which is essential to the needs of agriculture. The proposal would therefore constitute unnecessary development within the open countryside and would therefore be contrary to the provisions of the Local Plan
3. The site lies within a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and would occupy a visually prominent siting, isolated from any other buildings and there-

fore represent an unwarranted intrusion within the landscape and fail to conserve or enhance the natural beauty of the surrounding area. Therefore, it would conflict with the intention of the Local Plan.

This was seconded by Cllr Mayes 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 July 2017

Community hospital beds

I spoke at Devon County Council's Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee on 19 June and East Devon District Council's Scrutiny Committee on 22 June to oppose the NEW Devon Clinical Commissioning Group's plans for cutting beds in Seaton and Honiton hospitals.

I was disappointed that Health Scrutiny, on the recommendation of the Chair, Councillor Sara Randall Johnson, delayed a decision on whether or not to refer the CCG's decisions to the Secretary of State for Health until 25 July. There have been reliable reports that staff are leaving and patients being turned away from both hospitals, although 'permanent closure' is not scheduled until September (Honiton) and October (Seaton). The delay risks leaving us with a *fait accompli*.

EDDC's Scrutiny Committee, however, expressed 'great concern that there will be no community hospital beds east of Sidmouth, leaving residents in a whole swathe of eastern Devon remote from the nearest hospital facilities.' The Committee also agreed to write to DCC's Health Scrutiny Committee, urging it to refer the matter to the Secretary of State for Health 'as a matter of urgency'. The Chair, Councillor Roger Giles, repeatedly asked the CCG 'how many additional staff will be required' for the CCG's new model of care, only to be told merely 'what is required'.

There is mounting cross-party support for looking again at the CCG's completely indefensible switch of beds away from Seaton. County Councillor Ian Hall and Councillor Andrew Moulding, both representing Axminster, Mike McAlpine, Chair of the Committee for the Axe Valley Health Hub, and Seaton's Deputy Mayor, Martin Pigott, all made strong arguments against this switch in these meetings. CCG representatives, Dr Sonja Manton at DCC and Dr John Kerr at EDDC, both avoided answering direct questions about the flawed case for axing Seaton's beds.

Highways reporting

I am in regular touch with parishes and our Neighbourhood Highways Officer, Stephen Kelly, stephen.kelly@devon.gov.uk, about issues that councils and residents have brought to me. On 23 July I attended a Highways induction for new members. I was given a huge amount of information, but some points seem important to pass on now:

1. Issues should be reported online whenever possible, at <https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/> Online reporting means issues go directly to the teams which deal with them (e.g. potholes to the contactor filling them, hedges to the hedge-cutting team), rather than taking extra time if emailed or phoned in.
2. If there are two or more nearby potholes, or hedges which are obstructing drivers' vision (the ones the County will cut), make a report for each hole or hedge separately. This helps them to see clusters of issues.

3. Remember that they have criteria for filling potholes (a 40 mm drop at the rim of the hole, not in the middle, and minimum width of 300 mm). The contractors will only fill the ones that are reported *and* fit these criteria, not others. This explains why some holes are filled while nearby ones are not (not my policy - don't shoot the messenger!).

I will be attending the East Devon Highways and Traffic Order Committee (HATOC) on 24 July. I will see if it is possible to get any last-minute additions to the 2017-18 schedule. Otherwise, new requests will be for 2018-19.

Traffic group

Colyton Parish Council have asked for a meeting with the NHO and myself, which will take place on 10 July. I am aware that there have been different practices in the two previous divisions on 'traffic group' meetings. I have also heard different views on the effectiveness of such meetings. If parishes see a benefit in regular divisional meetings, rather than in dealing with Highways issues directly with the NHO and myself, I will convene them.

Speeding

On 14 July, I will be attending a meeting with Neil Parish MP and Highways officers, arranged at the request of the Speedwatch teams at Colyford and Seaton Down Hill, about the speeding problems in these two areas and possible solutions.

Stop Line Way

On 3 July, I will be meeting Ros Mills of the County Rights of Way team about issues relating to different sections of the Stop Line Way cycle and walk way, brought to me by residents in both Colyford and Seaton.

Other issues

I have intended induction sessions on Children's and Schools and on Health and Adult Care services.

I have circulated details to parishes of DCC's Property Level Resilience (PLR) Grant Scheme, to which householders at risk from flooding can apply for approximately £5,000. Contact Flood Risk on [01392 383000](tel:01392383000).

Martin Shaw, 24 June 2017

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

Cllr Pook (EDDC) –

- Reported that EDDC had contacted the CCG regarding homes.
- The Village Plans have been accepted.
- Refuse collection has had some teething problems but this will be resolved. The Clerk reported the bins that are now permanently outside the Square Notice Board are very heavy to move and are blocking the footpath, Cllr Pook agreed to take a look on his way home.
- Cllr Wolford-Howell reported that the bin outside the church is overflowing and keeping getting missed on the collection. Cllr Pook advised that this was done under a separate contract and he would report it to them.
- EDDC have now reached a recycling level from 50 tonne to 54 tonne.
- Tesco's are asking for votes for different projects and he asked for support for the Thelma Holbert Gallery.

- The Planning for the Beach Toilets is now approved and will be operational next year.
- The Boundary commission changes have gone through.
- The Planning for the Rock Armoury is now approved.

Village Hall – Cllr Pike asked if there had been any progress with the work to the stream, Cllr Bass advised that there had not.

HIGHWAYS:

Cllr White reported the following:

- Potholes – the Berry Hill potholes are growing.
- Hedges – Cllr Bass advised that the hedge at No. Chapel Row is hanging over the highway about 3ft the Clerk will report this.

FOOTPATHS: Nothing reported.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- PLR Grant – Cllr Martin Shaw email 8th June 2017** - Noted
- EDDC Training for Town and Parish Officers and Councillors email 23rd June 2017** – Cllr Walford-Howell, Pike and Fastnedge registered an interest in the Planning Training.
- Barn at Higher Coxes Farm – Tony Fastnedge email 9th June 2017** – The latest email was noted and Cllr. Bass acknowledged EDDC’s help on this matter.
- Road Closure 2nd to 6th October 2017 SWW works** – noted.
- Dog Fouling – EDDC letter 9th June 2017** – A letter has been received from EDDC Environmental Health, there is little they can do without evidence to support any claims, however she supplied a number of stickers to put up that may assist. Cllr Walford-Howell advised that the Donkey Sanctuary have a walking path around the paddocks and supply poo bags. He was advised that EDDC would not be able to supply these. Cllr Mayes asked for a copy of the letter and the stickers were handed over to him. Cllr Pook advised that a person has been prosecuted in the past but not in the Branscombe area.
- Bulstone Springs - Branscombe Balsam Clearance Project - Laura Williams email 20th June 2017** – Cllr Cox brought in a sample of the offending plant, it was very large, the Clerk took a photo and agreed to post it on the Councils Facebook page along with the poster provided.
- Register of Interest Forms** – Cllr. Cox provided a new form, Cllr Pike, Walford-Howell and Mayes advised no change. Cllr White, Fastnedge and Bass had confirmed no change by email. **Cllr Evan and Lambert are required to confirm their interested.**

FINANCE:

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

Total Income for the year	-	£4,137.32
Total Expenditure for the year	-	£524.40
Balance for the year	-	£3,612.92

Cheques –

No. 966	HMRC PAYE	-	£132.40
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PART B MATTER – None

MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD WITH PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN: None

The next meeting is due on 20th July 2017 @ 19:30 in Branoc Hall (Village Hall).
Meeting closed at 21.00hrs

Signed..... Date