

BISHOPS TAWTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 24 January 2013 at Bishops Tawton Village Hall at 7:30pm

Present: Cllrs J Taylor (Chairman), Ms S Barber, J Lewis and C Verney

In attendance: Cllrs R Edgell (DCC), G Lane (NDC), D Luggar (NDC), PC Andy Wills,
14 members of the public, Parish Clerk.

98. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs K Barron, C Bell and Ms S McKernan.

99. Police Report

PC Andy Will reported that during the past 60 days the only crime reported in Bishops Tawton was the theft of a motor vehicle.

100. Questions from the Public/Reports

None

101. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 27 November 2012.

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

102. Matters Arising from meeting held on 27 November 2012.

Min 84. Cllr Ms Barber reported that she was due to visit the school the following week.

103. Declarations of Interest

None.

104. District Councillor's Report

Cllr Lane reported that plans for the car park in the village were progressing. A Conservation Area Appraisal was currently being carried out. He was pleased to be able to award a grant of £100 towards the cost of the projector.

Cllr Luggar reported that North Devon Council was taking the recent flooding very seriously. It was looking to see what could be done to prevent it happening again. It was agreed that robust measures needed to be in place.

The severe weather condition plan had recently been implemented, which had resulted in six homeless people being referred to the Freedom Centre.

He was unhappy with the recently introduced Mortgage Deposit Scheme as it only helped a very small number of people with housing needs.

Money was still available through Active Villages, which could be used to run various courses. Cllr Luggar to liaise with Cllr Ms Barber.

105. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Edgell reported that he had submitted a grant application of £500 towards the cost of a projector for the parish council, and £3000 for the school.

The County Council was working towards not increasing the Council Tax. Councils not increasing Council Tax would receive an additional 1% funding from central government.

The recent consultation regarding proposed yellow lines had resulted in 40 responses being received. 19 had been in favour, 18 against. Formal consultation may follow.

Details of the recent flooding were being collated from those affected.

106. Planning

1. Applications:

55147 Listed building application creation of new window openings Easter Mill Easter Street Bishops Tawton

It was resolved to recommend approval.

2. Decisions - Approval:

54298 Extension to dwelling at Little Silver Venn Road Barnstaple

3. Disposed Of:

49406 Conversion of public house to form 1 dwelling together with demolition of single storey structures at The Three Pigeons, Bishops Tawton.

49407 Listed building application for conversion of public house to 1 dwelling & demolition of single storey structures at The Three Pigeons, Bishops Tawton.

107. Parking Problems in Bishops Tawton

It was agreed to write to Highways requesting a copy of the plan sent to residents detailing the proposed yellow lines, and to enquire which properties were consulted at it appeared that some were missed.

Copies of the survey conducted by Cllr Bell were circulated to councillors.

It was understood that the school was reviewing its Travel Plan.

It was explained that there may be a possibility for using part of the Playing Field for some car parking. Cllr Verney to make enquiries.

108. Flooding

Cllr Taylor read a report that he had prepared detailing the main causes of the recent flooding, and possible solutions. It was noted that in addition to three major floods, other smaller floods had occurred.

A survey had been undertaken in 2000, but a copy of the report had not been received. It was agreed to request a copy. It was also agreed to request a copy of the 2012 survey.

It was reported that one pump at the SWW pumping station was out of order at the time of the flood. It was agreed to enquire why this was the case.

Cllr Edgell offered to enquire when the collation of the information received from residents would be available. Clerk to enquire who was collating the material.

It was agreed to form a sub committee consisting Cllrs Taylor, Lewis and Verney.

109. Traffic Survey

Already covered earlier in meeting.

110. Parish Council Meetings

The Chairman proposed that the council should meet in December, which would remove the long period of time between meetings.

It was resolved to hold meetings on the third Thursday in December.

111. NDC Local Plan

Concern was expressed that new properties were having an effect on the Venn Stream. It was agreed to enquire what water retaining device was in place and what mechanism was used for its release. It was agreed to invite a planner to a future meeting.

It was agreed that items to include in the Local Plan for the parish should include: a Railway Halt; new Parish Hall; extension to Footpath 13; Asset List.

112. Finance

1. Setting of Precept 2013/2014

The Clerk explained that, due to changes in the way that Council Tax Relief was to be made, the council would not receive the full Precept requested. A grant had been awarded by central government to offset any shortfall, but this may not cover the full reduction.

It was agreed not to increase the Precept for 2013/2014, noting that this may be necessary in the next financial year..

2. Request for Grant from Bishops Tawton School

The clerk reported that the request for a grant had been withdrawn.

3. Payments:

J & J Bins – emptying dog bins £ 52.00

The account was agreed for payment.

113. Correspondence

1. A letter had been received from Mrs Chesters regarding the use of her land for housing.

Other circulars and periodicals were noted.

114. Items to placed on the agenda of the next meeting

Parish Plan – overview; Date of Overview and Scrutiny Committee

115. Date of next meeting: Thursday 28 February 2013

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:55pm

Signed

Chairman

Date