

BISHOPS TAWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25 July 2013 at Bishops Tawton Village Hall at 7:00pm

Present: Cllrs R Hambley, Ms S Barber, K Barron, S Clayton and Ms S McKernan.

In attendance: Cllrs R Edgell (DCC), D Luggar (NDC), PCSO Paul Grantham, 30 members of the public, Parish Clerk.

The Chair was taken by Cllr Hambly, Vice Chairman of the council.

43. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs C Bell, J Tucker and C Verney.

44. Co-option & Election of Parish Councillors

Cllr Hambly reported that as only two nominations had been received, the election for two new councillors was uncontested, and would not take place. He welcomed Cllr Clayton to the meeting.

There still remained one vacancy to be filled by co-option. He proposed Pete Leaver as councillor. Seconded by Cllr Ms McKernan. 4 votes in favour. 1 abstention. Cllr Leaver was welcomed to the meeting.

Cllrs Clayton and Leaver signed their Acceptance of Office forms and took their place on the council.

45. Police Report

PCSO Paul Grantham reported that during the past month six crimes had been reported in Bishops Tawton: 2 domestic incidents; 1 criminal damage to building; 1 harassment; 1 nuisance log;

Calls regarding dogs not being kept under control was a widespread complaint. Dog owners were requested to keep their pets on leads at all times when in public places.

Several complaints had been received about cars causing obstructions by parking on pavements, especially opposite the halls. He had placed friendly notices on the cars, which although having some effect were being ignored by others. Having tried the friendly approach it may be necessary to take action, which was something that he had tried to avoid. He enquired if there was anything that the parish council may be able to do. It was noted that the council had considered placing planters on the pavement to solve the problem, but it was considered that several would be needed.

It was agreed to contact Highways to enquire if bollards, or similar could be installed

It was reported that cars parking close to the junction near the telephone kiosk were also causing a problem by reducing visibility, although a white line indicated that parking was prohibited.

It was agreed to contact Highways to enquire if something could be done at this point.

46. Questions from the Public

It was reported that laminated signs had been placed in the churchyard, asking owners to keep their dogs under control. The PCC had decided that it was inappropriate to ban dogs from the churchyard. Fears were expressed that future flood defence work in Barnstaple could have a detrimental effect on parts of Bishops Tawton.

The build-up of ivy on the bridge to be reported to Highways.

Damaged dog bin at Park Villas to be reported to J+J bins.

The hedges of the Playing Field were in need of cutting – Mr Harding to be asked to cut them.

Several benches in the village, together with notice board in The Square were in need of repair. Cllr Ms Barber to contact Mr Snell.

Cllr Leaver offered to inspect the play equipment which were reported to be in need of attention.

It was noted that the grass verges would next be cut in October.

47. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 27 June 2013.

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

48. Matters Arising from meeting held on 27 June 2013

None.

49. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hambly declared an interest in planning application 55887.

50. Reports

1. District Councillor

Cllr Luggar reported that a Supermarket Levy, equivalent to 8.5% of business rates' had been approved by Council, and was being considered by Executive. Other councils in Devon had expressed an interest in the proposal.

As part of the draft Local Plan NDC were asking ward members for details of Green Open Spaces to included.

He had been in touch with the department at the Environment Agency that submits recommendations for planning applications. He was hopeful that someone, if required, would attend the September meeting. It was considered helpful for questions to be invited prior to the meeting, to ensure the answer could be researched if necessary. This was agreed.

Cllr Leaver proposed that a Community Flood Plan be compiled prior to the next meeting. This to be completed by the Flood sub-committee. It was agreed that those on the sub-committee should include Cllrs Verney, Leaver, Hambly and Clayton, and Mr C Morrison. Cllr Hambly to arrange a suitable time for a meeting.

2. County Councillor

Cllr Edgell reported that Julie Pepworth had taken over from David Wines as Highways officer for Bishops Tawton.

At the County Council held that day it had been reported that although savings of £100m had been achieved during the past four years, another £100m savings would have to be made over the next four years. This would be difficult as everything was getting very tight financially. It would not be possible in the future to continue doing everything that was being done at present.

Those affected by flooding in Bishops Tawton would receive new and improved flood boards. A new flood wall to replace that washed away was being investigated.

51. Planning

1. Applications

55887 Listed building application for works to strengthen the building Threshing Barn at Hall Bishops Tawton

Cllr Hambly declared an interest, and took no part in the discussion.

The Chair was taken by Cllr Ms McKernan.

It was resolved to recommend approval.

CP/DCC/3548/2013 Proposed log cabin to provide additional school teaching space at Bishops Tawton C P School, School Lane, Bishops Tawton

It was resolved to recommend approval.

2. Decisions – Approval:

55838 Extension to dwelling at Fern Cottage Easter Street Bishops Tawton

52. Call for sites.

Since the last meeting one further site had been put forward by the landowner as a possible site for a small development, the site being at West Brae.

It was agreed to hold a public consultation day in the Village Hall in September, which would also include the provision for Open Space. It was suggested holding the event on the weekend of 14/15 September, provided that the hall was available. Also to include on the Facebook page the previous week.

53. Conservation Area Consultation

Cllr Hambly reported that he had attended the event organized by North Devon Council. The event had been poorly attended by the public, with only 16 parishioners attending. He did not consider that anything controversial was being proposed. It was noted that the public consultation would close on 2 August.

54. Dog Fouling - Update

It was reported that the problem still persisted, both in the churchyard, and Playing Field. Cllr Hambly had obtained quotes for 2 A4 signs, which would cost £40 + VAT. He would discuss the matter with the dog warding before proceeding further.

55. Website

To be discussed at the next meeting.

56. Mr John Taylor

The Chairman read letter from Mr Taylor in which he explained why he had found it necessary to tender his resignation from the council.

57. Finance

1. Payments:

1. Repairs to Park Villas bus shelter	£325.40	Cheque No. 855
2. J & J Bins – emptying dog bins	£ 52.00	Cheque No. 856

The two accounts were approved for payment.

58. Correspondence

1. A Letter had been received from Mr Taylor requesting that the council keep residents updated on work to alleviate flooding in the village.

It was agreed that the minutes of the flooding sub-committee would be published on the notice boards and website.

Mr Taylor also advised the council that it would be necessary to appoint a new Snow Warden, and that there was 2.5 tonnes salt stored at the top of mount Pleasant.

It was agreed to request the Salting Plan from Mr Taylor before proceeding.

2. A request had been received from the Landkey Festival to borrow staging for the event which was being held on 14 September.

It was noted that the staging was stored at Tawstock, to whom the request should be made.

3. A letter had been received from North Devon Council reminding parish councils that the TAP fund was continuing for 2013/14.

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

Flooding; Website; Dog Fouling; Election of Chairman; Appointments to Committees and Outside Organisations; Call for Sites; Green Infrastructure

60. Date of next meeting: Thursday 26 September 2013

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:25pm

Signed
Chairman

Date