

BISHOPS TAWTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 28 February 2013 at Bishops Tawton Village Hall at 7:30pm

Present: Cllrs J Taylor (Chairman), Ms S Barber, K Barron, C Bell, R Hambly, J Lewis, and C Verney.

In attendance: Cllrs R Edgell (DCC), G Lane (NDC), D Luggar (NDC), - all from item 131. PCSO Hannah Denton, 11 members of the public, Parish Clerk.

116. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ms S McKernan,

117. Police Report

PCSO Hannah Denton reported that during the past month 2 cannabis warnings had been issued and that there had been an accident involving two vehicles. Although none had been reported in Bishops Tawton, there was an increase in the number of burglaries in the area.

118. Questions from the Public/Reports

It was reported that the Playing Field hedge needed cutting. It was noted that, apart from light hand trimming, this could only be done between September and February. As only brambles were involved, this could be done.

Cllr Verney agreed to arrange for the damaged panel on the slide to be repaired.

119. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 24 January 2013.

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

120. Matters Arising from meeting held on 24 January 2013

1. A response had been received from NDC regarding the proposed car park in the village.
2. Mrs Harding reported that she was in the process of preparing a report of the recent flooding, which should be ready in time for the next meeting.

121. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Taylor declared an interest in item 131.

122. District Councillor's Report

None.

123. County Councillor's Report

None.

124. Planning

1. Applications

55181 Extension to dwelling, loft conversion & raised decking at 11 Mount Pleasant Bishops Tawton

It was resolved to recommend approval.

55187 Erection of garage with playroom, Daisy Cottage Sentry Lane, Bishops Tawton

It was resolved to recommend approval.

55166 Siting of polytunnel, Easter Mill Easter Street Bishops Tawton

It was resolved to recommend approval.

2. Adjoining Parish Applications

52842 Erection of a building measuring 5,398 sq.m (class a1), creation of new access & associated car parking, petrol filling station, servicing provision & landscaping (further amended plans & additional information) at Evans Transport Braunton Road Barnstaple

It was resolved to recommend refusal on the grounds that another large store in Barnstaple cannot be justified.

54958 Outline application for erection of 24 dwellings at land between Birch Road and Denes Road Landkey

It was resolved to recommend refusal due to the lack of information, and the effect that the development would have on the Venn Stream, increasing the risk of flooding at Bishops Tawton.

3. Decisions None received.

125. School Visit

Cllr Ms Barber reported that she had met the head teacher. The school was to undertake a new Travel Plan. One of the reasons for parking problems was that the school gates were only open for 15 minutes in the morning. During this time parents were responsible for settling their children in the classroom, ready for lessons. It was agreed to seek clarification from DCC, stating that 15 minutes was not long enough.

It had been reported that the school staff were trying to be considerate when parking their cars.

It was noted that the police had issued tickets for inappropriate parking.

126. Active Villages Project

Cllr Ms Barber reported that she and Cllr Luggar had met Louise Harris, and had had a useful meeting, and was hopeful that courses could be run in the Methodist Chapel.

127. Parking Problems in Bishops Tawton

Already covered earlier in meeting.

128. Parish Assets

Known assets included: Play Equipment; Village Hall; Playing Field; Bench; Projector.

Thanks were extended to councillors for contributions towards the cost of the projector.

Parishioners expressed their appreciation for the use of the projector at meetings, so enabling them to view planning applications etc. It was agreed that it should be added to the council's insurance policy. It was agreed that the projector would be made available for church use.

Cllr Taylor agreed to prepare a hire contract. A fee of £15 was agreed.

129. Flooding

Mrs Harding requested any contributions, including photographs, giving details of flooding. These would be compiled into a report or retained for further information.

Cllr Taylor proposed that Mrs Harding be advanced £100 to cover printing costs etc. Receipts to be provided.

Cllr Verney reported that he had been making enquiries regarding the pumping station, and had been informed that it had been 'working properly' at the time of the flood. He expected to be contacted again the following day.

It was reported that NDC had originally refused planning permission for Overbridge House, but permission had been granted at Appeal.

It was agreed to hold an open day at the Village Hall on 23 March, 12 noon – 7pm.

Cllrs Luggar, Lane and Edgell joined the meeting.

130. Conduct of NDDC

Cllr Taylor declared an interest and left the meeting whilst the item was discussed.

The Chair was taken by Cllr Hambley.

Cllr Bell circulated a draft letter he had produced detailing events regarding enforcement action against Cllr Taylor for the erection of a Summer House, and the subsequent Appeal. He considered that NDC had wasted a great deal of money on the case, especially in times when everyone was being asked to make savings. He apologized to councillors for not giving them sight of the letter before the meeting, explaining that he had only completed it that afternoon.

Cllr Bell proposed that the open letter be sent to NDC, District Councillors, the MP and parish councils. Seconded by Cllr Verney.

Cllr Hambly proposed an amendment, removing a paragraph relating to ‘another legal challenge’. Seconded by Cllr Ms Barber.

A vote was taken at which the amendment was defeated four votes to two.

131. Parish Development Boundary

Cllr Bell reported on a draft plan detailing a revised development boundary. He stressed that the areas identified, at river Bend and behind Park Villas did not drain into the Venn Stream, so would not increase the risk of flooding in the village.

It was agreed that a public meeting would be required before any decisions made. It was agreed that land in the flood plain could be used as a car park.

Cllr Bell proposed that the draft plan be submitted. Seconded by Cllr Hambley. All in favour.

132. Finance

1. Payments:

1. J & J Bins – emptying dog bins	£ 52.00	Cheque No. 770
2. Edf Energy	£ 48.50	Cheque No. 771
3. Mrs L Harding	£100.00	Cheque No. 772

The three accounts were approved for payment.

134. Correspondence

1. A letter had been received from Devon Biodiversity Records Centre requesting details of ownership of Bishops Tawton Saltmarsh County Wildlife Site. It was believed to be either the owner of Pill Farm or Pill House.

2. NDC advised the process for ordering copies of Planning Files.

Various other circulars were noted.

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

Flooding; Parish Assets; Local Plan.

136. Date of next meeting: Thursday 28 March 2013

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.