

Draft minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting.

EAST HARPTREE PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2017**

VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: THE THEATRE, EAST HARPTREE @ 7.30pm

	<p><i>Present:</i> Cllrs Andrew Jones (Chair), Mike Jennings, Paul Waldron, Richard Coombs, John Darvill, Pam Carver; also in attendance Alan Butcher (Clerk)</p>	
1712E/1	<p><i>Apologies for absence.</i> Cllrs Peter King and Tim Warren.</p>	
1712E/2	<p><i>Public Forum:</i> The Chairman will adjourn the meeting for a maximum of 20 minutes to allow public participation. Five members of the public were present. It was agreed to move this item down the agenda to 1712E/5</p>	
1712E/3	<p><i>Declarations of Interest:</i></p> <p>None.</p>	
1712E/4	<p><i>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</i></p> <p>Motion to postpone the acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on 21st November 2017 until the meeting to be held on 19th December 2017. This was agreed unanimously.</p>	
1712E/5	<p>Response to BANES new Local Plan 2016 – 2036 including the Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment for East Harptree and other Planning Policy Matters.</p> <p>Cllr Carver gave a resume of the reasons why the Parish Council has been asked for a response to B&NES New Local Plan – Options and Issues consultation. She advised that this was the first of a two part consultation requiring the Parish Council to look at three options for the apportionment of the proposed additional provision of 700 homes in rural areas beyond that envisaged in the previous Local Plan. She explained the reason why the Parish Councils response the the HELAA review was still confidential although the sites were now shown in the consultation documents. She confirmed that, in the future, if any of the sites in East Harptree were chosen, B&NES would come back to the Parish Council for a further response. She advised that the existing sites already approved at Pinkers Farm and Water Street had been part of the previous process but were not included in the new process. Cllr Jones advised that there was no requirement to make a decision on any East Harptree sites at this stage, this was a consultation about Options and a final decision as to the parish Council response would be made at the meeting on 19th December.</p> <p>The recent Rural Audit conducted by B&NES had changed East Harptree’s status from “limited” to “moderate” following a reclassification of the shop from community to convenience. There was much discussion about this and it was agreed to contest the reclassification with B&NES.</p>	

	<p>The chairman adjourned the meeting at this point and asked for public participation on the proposed Options and the status of East Harptree.</p> <p>A number of issues associated with the forthcoming process were raised which included the capacity of the local school and other primary schools in the Chew Valley with concern being expressed about the provision of a new school for the area and the future of the smaller local schools.</p> <p>The capacity of services was mentioned and it was suggested that the sewage facilities are at capacity already before any further developments come on line. It was suggested that given the proposed sites in East Harptree the number of new homes built in the village could be in excess of those already planned.</p> <p>It was suggested that there should be some form of strategic plan for the future growth of the village and that there needed to be an increase in diversity which could be achieved by “appropriate” future developments in East Harptree. The CVNP had indicated housing needs for 2/3 bedroom homes. It was possible that a new East Harptree housing needs survey was needed.</p> <p>The meeting re-convened with councillors reviewing the three options put forward by B&NES. It was felt that the choice of the options depended very much on the status of the village. It was suggested that the Parish Council could respond with a fourth option indicating that a decision could not be made as there was insufficient information available.</p> <p>There was some discussion about whether more homes were desirable in East Harptree but it was noted that this depended very much on the status given to the village by B&NES.</p> <p>There was also some discussion about the need to review the CVNP due to the revised situation with the New Local Plan. It was agreed that this should be an option given that resources could be found to conduct an early review.</p> <p>Councillors agreed that the response to the consultation should be finalised on 19th December. In the meantime Cllrs Jones and Carver would contact B&NES regarding the classification of the community shop with the hope of clarifying its status before 19th December. It was also agreed to send more information on the consultation via the email list.</p>	
1712E/6	<u>Matters of Urgent Report:</u>	
1712E/7	<u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next scheduled meeting is 19 th December 2017.	

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 14th December 2017
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