

**EAST HARPTREE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2018**

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

	<u>Present:</u> Cllrs Peter King (Chair), Andrew Jones, Pam Carver, Mike Jennings, Paul Waldron, John Darvill and Richard Coombs; also in attendance Alan Butcher (Clerk)	
1802/1	<u>Apologies for absence.</u> Cllr Tim Warren.	
1802/2	<p><u>Public Forum:</u></p> <p>The Chairman will adjourn the meeting for a maximum of 10 minutes to allow public participation. Five members of the public were present.</p> <p>The matter of the vote taken by the Parish Council at the extraordinary meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 was raised and concern expressed about the implications of any removal of the new poles which had been erected for the superfast broadband infrastructure to those parts of the parish which would be served by this infrastructure. Some felt that the vote to object to the new poles did not reflect the consensus in the village about the need for the improved broadband. Cllr Carver explained the basis on which the two votes about the poles had been taken. Cllr Darvill noted that the Parish Council had not been kept informed about the works that were now taking place and that it should be B&amp;NES responsibility to inform parish councils when such works were proposed. Peter Froome noted that the Parish Council had not objected to the proposals for superfast broadband in the village and asked who would pay if the Parish Council objection to the new poles was upheld and a more expensive infrastructure was required. He noted that the new poles were only infilling a gap in the existing infrastructure.</p> <p>Representatives from the village school spoke about the application made to the Parish Council for CIL monies for works to the school buildings.</p> <p>Sally Calverley spoke about the recent “brunch” event which had been held in respect of the Village Strategy initiative. It had been well attended and, in addition, £200 had been raised for the playground refurbishment. Many views and suggestions had been made and were being tabulated in order to identify questions for the survey which was in preparation. The next “brunch” was on 18<sup>th</sup> March.</p>	
1802/3	<p><u>Declarations of Interest:</u></p> <p>i) Cllr Jones in respect of broadband - /05ii)</p>	
1802/4	<p><u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u></p> <p>i) Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record.</p>	

	<p>ii) Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018. The clerk confirmed that two “typos” noted by Cllr Carver had been corrected on the minutes to be signed. Cllr Carver tabled a number of amendments to the published minutes. There was some discussion about these amendments.</p> <p>Cllr Jennings felt that the minutes as published represented what had been discussed at the meeting and proposed that they be signed. A vote was taken with three in favour of the minutes as published, one against and three abstentions. The minutes were then signed as a true record.</p>	
<p>1802/5</p>	<p><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meetings:</u></p> <p>i) The Waldegrave Arms update. Work is proceeding and the planning application for the kitchen extract to be discussed later was noted.</p> <p>ii) Broadband provision including siting of new poles, etc. Cllr Jones left the meeting at this point. The clerk circulated drafts of the two letters to be sent to Truespeed, one concerning the lack of communication with the Parish Council and the other objecting to the new poles in Whitecross Road. All voted in favour of the letter regarding communication. Regarding the second letter five were in favour and one against. Cllr Carver having voted against asked for the reason for her objection to be recorded: that whilst she sympathised with those who objected to the new poles for aesthetic reasons, this was an essential service for the village and the new poles were the only way of ensuring everyone was able to receive the new service.</p> <p>iii) Newton project including a short presentation from Guy Stobart. Guy Stobart and Mary Cookson presented drawings and details of proposals for works to the church to create a community space with modern facilities which would be of continuing use to the school and community as well as retaining its religious functions. Major repair works are required to stonework and roofing to the tower to prevent damp ingress and to address deterioration of the carved stonework and pinnacles. The building has no disabled access and works are proposed to provide disabled access, toilets and a kitchen. The south porch would be improved to provide a meeting space with heating and levelled floors. The north door would be put back into use with a new path and landscaping and a new porch and building attached to the church to provide modern facilities. Works would be undertaken to provide space near the organ for the choir and music storage, etc. Internally some of the pews would be removed or repositioned to provide a more usable space with quiet and study spaces. The proposals were yet to be finalised. Work was being undertaken with Bristol Museum to provide a display and information on the “Harptree Hoard”. A budget had yet to be established but a figure of £1m had been discussed. Discussions were taking place with the church authorities, a Heritage Lottery application was in progress and other sources of funding being investigated.</p> <p>Cllr King asked about continued costs for upkeep of the refurbished building and how this could be sustained. Guy responded that both capital and revenue costs will need to be assessed as part of the project. Councillors thanked Guy and Mary for their presentation.</p>	

	<p>iv) Joint Local Access Forum. Cllr Darvill reported that the chairman of the forum had resigned because of lack of support and facilities from local authorities. He had agreed to be chair of the well-being sub group and was required to prepare a report on this aspect of the forum.</p> <p>v) Notice Board refurbishment. This had been completed and the board re-erected. The clerk noted that the locks were still difficult to open.</p>	
<p>1802/6</p>	<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p>i) Application 18/00380/FUL – Long Close, High Street, East Harptree – Single Storey Extension. Cllr King noted that the pre-application report had supported the proposals. Cllr darvill noted that a large proportion of the building was noted as being “storage space” and he suggested that this could be turned into living space in the future. In particular, he noted the installation of a staircase and velux windows to the attic. Concern was expressed about the use of velux windows which could contribute to light pollution which was against the “Dark Skies” policy. It was agreed unanimously to support the proposals but to include comments about the storage space and velux windows.</p> <p>ii) Application 18/00417/LBA – The Waldegrave Arms, Church Lane, East Harptree – Alterations in respect of kitchen extract. It was agreed unanimously to support the proposals.</p> <p>iii) Application 18/00686/ TCA – The Old Byre, Church Lane, East Harptree – various treeworks. It was agreed unanimously to support the proposals.</p> <p>iv) Application 18/00453/LBA – Coley Court, Coley Road, Coley – Alterations and repairs to wall plates, rotted lintols and gable. It was agreed unanimously to support the proposals.</p> <p>v) Update on Kielder, Church Lane, East Harptree. Cllr Jones advised that details were still awaited from the developer.</p> <p>vi) Update on Pinkers Farm development – Application 18/00610/COND – discharge of conditions 2, 4, 6 and 8.  A letter had been received from Steven Cosh who lived adjacent to the development raising concerns about the demolition and construction management plans currently being considered particularly in respect of the effect of the current proposals on his children. It was agreed to pass the letter onto Cllr Warren to raise with the planning officer. It was generally agreed that the lessons learned from the Kielder development needed to be implemented for this development and it was agreed that a councillor should be appointed to monitor the situation and keep in contact with the planning officer. Cllr Darvill agreed to undertake this role with Cllr Waldron as back up. The route for vehicles accessing the site was discussed and it was generally agreed that the preferred route was via the south via Smitham Hill.  Concern was also expressed about further demand on the sewage system; clerk to write to Wessex Water to raise the matter.</p>	

1802/7	<p><u>Road Sweeping and Highways:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Highways maintenance sheet. This had been updated to include recent problems. It was noted that works had been undertaken at the junction of Wallace Lane and a deep pit created. It was agreed that this should be covered to prevent access by small children who could fall into the culvert.</li> <li>ii) Traffic issues in High Street. Nothing to report, matter to be removed from agenda.</li> <li>iii) Parking in White Cross Road. Paul Sperring to be asked to sweep the leaves before the annual pancake race event in February 2019.</li> <li>iv) Other matters reported. It was noted that an illuminated speed sign had been placed on the main road which was quite bright for oncoming vehicles. A letter had been received from Nigel Hall about signs which had been placed at the Castle of Comfort expressing concern that this could increase heavy goods traffic down Smitham Hill. It was understood that these signs were “advisory”. Contact to be made with Somerset Highways about the signs.</li> </ul>	
1802/8	<p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u></p> <p><b>CIL monies:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Currently about £8,500 was expected from local developments in 2017/18 of which £3000 had already been received. It was anticipated that approximately £30,000 would be received in total over the next two years or so.</li> <li>ii) Clerk to prepare criteria for applications to be included on the website, this would also include details of how to apply for the funds help under the CVNP.</li> </ul> <p>1802/9 <b>East Harptree</b> Playing Field Refurbishment. Quotes were still awaited for the groundworks. The next committee meeting was on 26<sup>th</sup> February.</p> <p>1802/10 <b>B&amp;NES New Local Plan</b> 2016 – 2036 and the JSP – Consultation on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Cllrs Darvill and Carver had indicated their willingness to attend the briefing.</li> <li>ii) The letter from Richard Daone amending the proposed timetable for consultation until summer 2018 was noted. Information available to date indicated that should a site in East Harptree be selected as part of the process, the Parish Council will need to conduct another PMP type review in April and May.</li> <li>iii) Concern was expressed that information about the new Local Plan process and implications was not being adequately circulated to local residents. Cllr carver proposed an item to be put in the parish Magazine and circulated via the email list. This was agreed with minor changes, Cllr Carver to update and sent to Parish Magazine with copy to the clerk for distribution on the email list.</li> </ul> <p>1802/11 <b>Chew Valley Neighbourhood Plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Parking Policy – response from B&amp;NES. Cllr Jones advised that this had been picked up by the CVNP councils who wished to see the argument continue with B&amp;NES on this important matter.</li> </ul>	

1802/12	<p>ii) Cllr Jones advised that there was much consternation amongst the CVNP councils that B&amp;NES were only paying lip service to the Neighbourhood Plan. A letter was to be drafted to B&amp;NES making this point.</p> <p>iii) Planning applications to be checked to see if, in fact, reference was being made to the CVNP in the officers report.</p> <p><b>East Harptree</b> – Future Strategy for Growth. Sally Claverley reported that communication was a problem and she hoped for a good attendance at the next event on 18<sup>th</sup> March.</p>	
1802/13	<b>Library</b> Provision for East Harptree. Deferred until the next meeting.	
1802/14	<b>Surface Water</b> Flooding. Clerk to resend contact information to Cllr King.	
1802/15	<b>Hearing Loop</b> for meetings, etc. Cllr Coombs was awaiting an amended quote and would advise the clerk once this was received and an order could be placed.	
1802/16	<b>Request from school</b> for assistance with signage at the bottom of the High Street. Stefan Chiffers had advised that these signs could not be fixed to the fingerpost signs but would be advising an alternative scheme.	
1802/17	<b>Meetings</b> attended by Councillors: Theatre Committee Cllr Jennings; CVNP Cllrs Carver and Jones.	
1802/18	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p><b>Parish Council Banking</b> - Cheques to be signed as follows:</p> <p>i) HMRC – Clerk’s &amp; Sweeper Tax. £140.97 – this was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>ii) A J Butcher – salary and expenses. £463.34 – this was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>iii) Dial a Ride Donation £50.00 – this was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p>iv) EH Playing Field – venue hire for 12<sup>th</sup> February - £7.00 – this was agreed and a cheque raised.</p>	
1802/19	<p><u>Matters of Report:</u></p> <p>i) An item in respect of Standing Orders to be included on the agenda for the next meeting.</p> <p>ii) Cllr Waldron advised that the litter picking event would take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April, meet 9am at The Clock.</p>	
1802/20	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u></p> <p>The next scheduled meeting is 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018</p>	

The meeting closed at 10.05pm

Alan Butcher,  
 Parish Clerk,  
 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018  
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