

**EAST HARPTREE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2018**

**VENUE AND TIME OF THE MEETING: THE THEATRE, EAST HARPTREE @ 7.45pm**

	<p>The Parish Council meeting was convened at 8.10pm following the Annual Parish Meeting.</p>	
	<p><i>Present:</i> Cllrs Peter King (Chair), Andrew Jones, Pam Carver, Mike Jennings, Paul Waldron, Richard Coombes, John Darvill; also in attendance Cllr Tim Warren and Alan Butcher (Clerk)</p>	
1804/1	<p><i>Apologies for absence.</i> None received.</p>	
1804/2	<p><i>Public Forum:</i></p> <p>The Chairman will also adjourn the meeting for a maximum of 10 minutes to allow public participation on other matters included on the agenda.</p> <p>Chris Head mentioned the sale of the police house in Compton Martin which would mean a diminished police presence in the Chew Valley. He also mentioned the requirement for a Construction Management Plan under the terms of the withdrawal of the TSN for Kielder. It was noted that the site has now moved to the construction phase. It was agreed that the CMP needs to be raised with B&amp;NES.</p> <p>It was reported that the footpath sign in Coombe Lane had been knocked over and that there is also a continuing problem with dog fouling in the area. A dog poo bin was suggested but it was noted that there could be a problem with emptying such bins. It was noted that not all dog owners pick up after their dog and that there is also a problem with bags being hung from trees. It was agreed that this should be taken to the CV Forum meeting as this was a valley wide problem.</p> <p>Sally Calverley updated the meeting on the future strategy and advised that the next “brunch” would be on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. This event was useful as means of communication and suggested that other village groups could be involved in future such events. Environmental and Theatre groups were being formed. Other matters discussed included entering the Village of the Year Competition and “twinning”. She noted that there were 11 channels of communication in the village and suggested that these could be rationalised to provide a greater scope of communication for the whole village. Following input at the brunches a village survey of around 100 people would be carried out by UWE students in May with feedback later in May or early June. Councillors thanked Sally for her work on the project.</p>	
1804/3	<p><i>Declarations of Interest:</i></p> <p>Cllr Jones declared an interest in item 1804/5i) - broadband.</p>	

1804/4	<p><u>Acceptance of the Minutes of previous meetings:</u></p> <p>i) Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record with a change in 1803/8i) – “playground” amended to “play area”.</p>	
1804/5	<p><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meetings:</u></p> <p>i) Broadband provision including siting of new poles and draft correspondence. Cllr Jones left the meeting at this point. Cllr Darvill had circulated a letter which he proposed should be sent in reply to the previous correspondence with Mr Austin clarifying the situation and reasons for the Parish Councils complaint about the Truespeed installation. Cllr Carver asked what outcome the Parish Council had expected from Truespeed in response to the complaint. She suggested that the council could write to Truespeed to clarify their position and advise that it was not the intention that the poles should be removed but that they were complaining about the lack of consultation. There was some debate on the councils next actions and it was also suggested that the council write again to Truespeed who had not responded to any previous letters. Returning to the proposed reply to Mr Austin, after further discussion it was agreed that, whilst some councillors were initially cautious about the proposed reply, the draft should be circulated again following comments from councillors and once finally agreed be sent. This was agreed, all in favour.</p> <p>ii) Newton project – the Steering Committee had held its first meeting and were discussing HLF grants.</p> <p>iii) Joint Local Access Forum – Cllr Darvill was to establish contact with Cllr Riddle and the sub-group was to pro-active in promoting health and well-being with local authorities.</p> <p>iv) School directional signs. Cllr Warren advised that he understood the school would contribute 50% of the cost although the clerk had yet to receive confirmation. Cllr Jones to contact the chairman of West Harptree PC to confirm they had no objection to the signs being located in their Parish. Clerk to contact B&amp;NES to order the signs.</p> <p>v) Surface Water flooding – there was a meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> April which would look at long term solutions rather than the matter being raised as a result of planning applications. It was hoped to discuss liaison with adjoining parishes such as Priddy in considering solutions to water run off from higher ground above East Harptree and also to discuss the culverts at Pinkers Farm. It was noted that photographs and videos of recent flooding are on the village Facebook page.</p> <p>vi) Hearing Loop for Village Hall. This has been fitted.</p> <p>vii) Litter Picking event. Cllr Waldron reported that 17 villagers had attended and a great deal of rubbish picked up. He noted that there was still a problem in some areas where rubbish is thrown out of passing cars.</p>	
1804/6	<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p>i) Application 18/01034/VAR - Kielder, Church Lane, East Harptree. Amended drawings and details. An extension has been granted to allow discussion at this meeting.</p>	

	<p>Councillors agreed to respond with the following comments:</p> <p>1) The application does not contain the Construction Management Plan which forms part of the conditions regarding the Withdrawal of the Temporary Stop Notice as contained in B&amp;NES letter to Simon James Homes dated 3rd November 2017.</p> <p>2) The revised planting scheme contains "common areas" which remain under the ownership of the developer and are to be maintained by him. Councillors noted the comments in this regard by Lucy Corner in her email of 7th April 2018 and shared her concerns about the proposals. Councillors were very concerned about the long term prospects for this arrangement.</p> <p>3) Councillors noted that some of the properties now contain sky lights or rooflights. Policy HD15 - Dark Skies require that blinds are fitted to prevent light spill at night.</p> <p>4) Councillors noted that oak trees are to be planted in the north west corner of the site directly under electrical power lines.</p> <p>ii) Update on Pinkers Farm development – Cllr darvill had prepared and discussed an action plan with planners. The question of access to the site had not been resolved and it was currently proposed that access should be through the village. Cllr Warren to discuss this again with planners and ask that access should be via Smitham Hill as access through the village. A query by a neighbour regarding works adjoining the hedge boundary to be mentioned in the plan.</p>	
<p>1804/7</p>	<p><u>Road Sweeping and Highways:</u></p> <p>i) Highways maintenance sheet – Bad potholes on Coley Straight were reported, these were near the Greendown turning. The white lines along the High Street required repainting and re-alignment.</p> <p>ii) Cllr Jenning noted he was meeting with B&amp;NES about the footpath along the Coombe.</p> <p>iii) The question of the alignment of the footpath beside the new agricultural dwelling at Pinkers farm was raised. Cllr Jennings to mention this at his meeting and ask for details of the line of the footpath to be confirmed.</p>	
<p>1804/8 1804/9</p>	<p><u>Parish Council Matters:</u></p> <p><b>CIL monies.</b> Nothing to report.</p> <p><b>B&amp;NES New Local Plan and HELAA.</b> Cllr Carver had spoken to Richard Daone about the unsatisfactory situation with the confidentiality of information about the sites. After discussion he agreed that details could be discussed with residents if required but must not be circulated.</p> <p>Cllr Carver circulated the draft of a letter that the council had asked her to prepare regarding the Draft HELAA for East Harptree which did not include the “factual information” requested by B&amp;NES and submitted by the Parish Council. All agreed that the letter should be sent to Richard Daone. Cllr Carver also advised that she would circulate the draft article she had written for the May Newsletter by email.</p>	

<p>1804/10 1804/11 1804/12 1804/13 1804/14 1804/15 1804/16 1804/17</p>	<p>At this point, the meeting had run over time and councillors agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting to discuss the outstanding items. The clerk advised that there was only one date available (1<sup>st</sup> May) for such a meeting and, as a result, councillors agreed that items 1804/9 – 17 would be carried forward to the next Parish Council meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May but that an extraordinary meeting would be called to discuss Standing Orders after this date.</p> <p><b>Chew Valley Neighbourhood Plan:</b> i) Parking Policy.</p> <p><b>Chew Valley Area Forum</b></p> <p><b>Standing Orders</b></p> <p><b>Data Protection – GDPR.</b></p> <p><b>Parish Council email list.</b></p> <p><b>Councillors perception of the Parish Council.</b></p> <p><b>Somerset Village of the year competition.</b></p> <p><b>Meetings</b> attended by Councillors</p>	
<p>1804/18  1804/19 1804/20</p>	<p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p><b>Parish Council Banking</b> - Cheques to be signed as follows: i) HMRC – Clerk’s &amp; Sweeper Tax. £140.97. This was agreed and a cheque raised. ii) A J Butcher – salary and expenses. £436.37. This was agreed and a cheque raised. iii) E On electricity for clock - £101.84. This was agreed and a cheque raised. iv) B&amp;NES Community Fund for Play area. £320.00. this was an application made by the Playing Field Committee and supported by the Parish Council. The monies had been received into the Parish Council account. This was agreed and a cheque raised.</p> <p><b>Confirmation of increase</b> in sweepers pay in line with increase in minimum wage. From May 1<sup>st</sup> Paul Speerings pay will increase by £8.45/month net. This was agreed and a letter of authorisation duly signed.</p> <p><b>Draft Accounts</b> prior to audit. These had been distributed at meeting by the Clerk.</p>	
<p>1804/21</p>	<p><u>Matters of Report:</u></p>	
<p>1804/22</p>	<p><u>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</u> The next scheduled meeting is the Annual Parish Council Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018</p>	

The meeting closed at 10.10pm

Alan Butcher,  
Parish Clerk,  
1<sup>st</sup> May 2018  
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