

## **BLACK TORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018**

**In Attendance:** S.White (Chairman), E. Barnes (Vice Chairman), S. Floyer, M.Down, C.Lock, P. Riches Mills, M.Taylor. (Parish Clerk), D. Haywood  
Distr. Cllr Phil Hackett. CC Cllr.Barry Parsons.

**1 To Elect a Chairman:** It was resolved for Cllr White to be the Chairman.

**2 To Elect a Vice Chairman:** It was resolved for Cllr Barnes to be the Vice Chairman.

**3 Apologies** received from D.Bates, P.Roberts due to family issues.

**4 Declarations of interest relevant to this agenda:** No declarations.

**5 Open Public Session:** Four members of the public attended to raise their concerns about the infestation of rats in the village.

A representative of Devon Pest Control visited the village and found evidence that the rats are widespread

TDC has declined to pay for the eradication but Cllr. Hackett agreed to pursue the matter as a member of the Health and Wellbeing Committee..

**6 Approval of minutes and any matters arising.**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously.

- The Council has been trying to ascertain whether VAT payments can be avoided on playground and keep-fit equipment which is to be installed on the playing field. HMRC states that there can be no refund while the NALC ( National Association of Local Councils) clearly states that refunds are made available. The Chairman continues to try to get further clarification.
- The new website should be up and running by mid May. Cllr. Haywood would like local organisations to send her details for inclusion.
- The phone box is soon to be repainted.
- An advertising manager for the BT Times is still sought.
- A new agreement for the siting of the shed on the War Memorial land, is to be drawn up.

**7 Playing Field Committee**

Quotes are being obtained for the the playground equipment. TaP funding has been received towards the project and applications have been made for further funding.

The Annual Fun day will be on June 9<sup>th</sup> when the new Adult Keep-fit equipment due to be installed the week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> May will be officially opened. This project has been funded by the People's Post Code Lottery. Fund raising will continue for the children's playground equipment.



Cllr. Lock thanked the Committee for their permission to land a helicopter on the field for his daughter's wedding.

The PFC was requested to ensure that it presents a financial report to the next PC meeting.

### **8 Village Hall Committee.**

The Hall Committee and the Fete Committee have merged but still operate as two for some matters.

A key safe has been installed to make access to the hall easier. The code will be changed regularly.

At the recent AGM several new members were co-opted.

After years of service to the Hall, Vera Bryant has resigned and Sally Hill is now the bookings secretary. The diary is on the website.

Wifi is to be installed and Dist.Cllr. Hackett encouraged Cllr. Floyer to contact him for possible funding.

### **9 Planning.**

The recent planning applications were considered for

BT Reservoir, 1/0069  
Hole Station, 1/0222  
The Chestnuts, 1/0254  
Chilla House, 1/0286  
Beara Lodge, 1/0259  
Long Cross Hs. 1/0321  
Fishleigh Farm. 1/0059

Hazelnut Farm. 1/0050

Councillors queried why this application is going to appeal once again when it was previously rejected and the owners were given a date to leave at which point they changed the name of the property from The Retreat to Hazelnut Farm and submitted another application. The Council questioned how often a rejected appeal can be ignored.

### **10 Finance.**

The accounts had been circulated to all cllrs. prior to this meeting. At the end of April the Current Account holds £17,163.62 Reserve a/c holds £3,181. The end of year accounts are not yet ready to be presented to the auditors.

### **11 Rat Population.**

(See item 4 above)

### **12 Chilla Noticeboard.**

Cllr. Mills holds the key. It was agreed that the noticeboard is in an unsuitable place. An item to be inserted in the BT Times asking for the views of local residents some of whom do not receive a regular delivery of the magazine largely because there are no deliverers.



Volunteer deliverers would be welcome.

**13. Ongoing Matters**

- Overflow carpark. No progress has been made on this matter due to the slow response of the architect.
- War Memorial. Notification received that the Memorial Cross is now a Grade 2 listed monument. Clarification to be sought regarding the effect this will have on planned repairs. Difficulties in finding someone who is able to give definitive reply.
- Website development. Copies of policies and procedures plus the minutes for the last twelve months to be sent to the designer for inclusion in the site.

**Clerk's Resignation.**

The Chairman thanked the clerk on behalf of the Council for his service over the last five years.

**14 Date of next meeting.** Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 7.00 pm. Methodist School Room.

a&oe

*J. White*  
27/6/18