

BLACK TORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 9th March 2016

In Attendance: P. Roberts (Chairman), N.Berkeley J.Nutt, M.Down, B.Garrett, D.Haywood, D.Bates, T.Laws, M.Taylor. (Parish Clerk), Distr. Cllr Phil Hackett, Three members of the public. C.P.S.O. Emma Tomkies.

1 Apologies for absence. C.Lock, (Absence approved.) C.Cllr. B.Parsons.

2 Declarations of interest relevant to this agenda: None.

3 Open Public Session.

- Two representatives of the Village Hall explained that their committee has taken legal advice regarding obtaining a Restriction Order from the Land Registry. If granted, this would ensure that future representatives of the Village Hall would be consulted before the hall could be sold, demolished, developed etc.
- The post box from Windmilland Cross has disappeared.
- The Council was asked to consider the recent consultation document regarding the possibility of North Devon and Torridge Districts becoming the only *designated areas* for future wind turbines. Following a proposal from Cllr. Laws and seconded by Cllr. Garrett, it was agreed to respond that the council objected to the blanket proposal within the document.
- PCSO Emma Tomkies updated the council on the recent thefts from sheds in this area, Torrington and Bradworthy. There has been one arrest and no further incidents have been reported. She was asked to produce a regular report for the BT Times.

4 Approval of minutes.

The minutes were approved and signed. There were no matters arising from those minutes other than those that would be covered in the agenda.

5 Parish Plan Update.

Only 51 out of 230 questionnaires have been returned to date. It was agreed to extend the cut-off date. Drop-off boxes to be replaced in the pub and the church porch. This information will be included in the next BT Times.

7 Website. The updating of the website is ongoing.

8 Planning. No applications received.

9 Air Ambulance Night Landing.

Negotiations are under way with DAAT to establish the probable cost of this facility.

10 Street Lighting.

Concern has been expressed about the environmental effect of 21 street lights within a ¼ mile length of the village street but following the crime report it was agreed to maintain the status quo.

11 Queen's Birthday Celebrations.

A street party will be held on 11th June (the day of the Trooping of the Colours) rather than the Queen's actual birth day as it is hoped by then the weather will be better. Cllr. Garrett will co-ordinate with other organisations in the parish. Further details will be on the website and in the BT Times.

- One hundred commemorative medals will be obtained for distribution to the village school children and other identified and the children of the parish. Any surplus will be available to purchase from the Council

12 Playing Field Committee Report.

Fund raising for the upgrading of the MUGA (multi use games area) is looking encouraging with a possible grant from Tesco and access to funding from Torridge. The recent party fest was a great success and raised £305.

13 Village Hall Report.

Proceeds from the market and a donation have been made to the new charity account set up for the purchase of a defibrillator. It may be possible to eventually purchase two. The Youth Club has been given £500 for the purchase of an overhead projector. This could be used for other events.

14 Financial Statement and approval of payments.

The Financial Update Statement to 22/2/2016 which had been previously circulated to Council was presented and approved.

Current Account holds £6283.48 The Reserve account holds £3177.60

15 P3 report and War Memorial update.

Reasonable quotations for repair work are hard to obtain largely due to the stringent standards required by the War Memorials Trust. The gate has been removed as its leverage is weakening its supporting gate post.

P3 Survey reports on local rights of way have been submitted and payment is awaited. Council approved payment of £25 to cover the workers' costs.

16 Road Warden Scheme.

No volunteers have come forward! Council will request urgent action for the large pot hole in Broad Street.

17 Correspondence.

Electoral Review, Planning Inspectorate

A complaint received regarding the overgrown hedges from the Maltings to the bridge.

18 Date of next meeting. Annual Parish Council Meeting 4th May 7.30pm.

Annual Parish Community Meeting 23rd June 7.00pm Village Hall

