

BLACK TORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 20th August 2014

1 In Attendance: Cllrs. Adams, Down, Nutt, O'Donoghue, Wright, Bray, Riches Mills, Roberts (Chair), Cllr. Tabor (TDC) M.Taylor. (Parish Clerk),

2 Apologies for absence: Cllr. Harrington. Cllrs. were reminded about the rules concerning absences.

3 Declarations of interest relevant to this agenda: None.

4 Open Session.

- Mr. Philip Hackett, PC Secretary Sheepwash PC, spoke about the new round of TaP funding and ways the two PCs could work together again. It was agreed the two Councils would submit their application for the funds to be used for village enhancements.
- Cllr. Tabor informed Council that the Local Plan has been presented for consultation. Comments need to be submitted this coming month prior to the plan adoption in 2015.
- She warned that budgets are being severely tightened and that funding for projects will be severely restricted. Consequently there have been several voluntary redundancies within TDC.
- There have been several complaints concerning littering following recycling collections in both Black Torrington and Sheepwash. Cllrs. Tabor to address the matter with TDC.
- Cllr. Nutt has received requests to re-activate the Neighbourhood Watch scheme. Council agreed for an article to be placed in the next BT Times to gauge interest in the scheme and it's coordination.

5 Approval of Minutes of the meeting of 28th May.

These had been circulated previously and were taken as read and approved unanimously.

6 Matters arising from the previous minutes.

- **Allotments:** Four responses received. To be re-advertised in BT Times for any further interest and any available land.
- **Bus Shelter cleaning:** No response. Cllrs. volunteered to clean from time to time. **Parish Plan** received. Copies to be made available for councillors.
- **Whiteleigh Meadow:** Final details received of insurance cover established. No further action required.
- **Community Notice Board:** chosen three panel model to be sited at right hand side of main entrance to Playing Field.
- **Village Hall insurance** has been negotiated separately from the Parish Council Insurance.

7 Asset Register.

Cllrs. Roberts and Down to undertake a survey of the Council's assets.

8 Town and Parish (TaP) Fund.

Black Torrington is due to receive £466 from the fund of which £300 will go towards work to divert rain water from the Village Hall car park and the remainder on bulbs and flowers for the village roadsides.

9 Planning. Change of use at The Retreat, Highampton (1/0677/2014/FUL) - Council sent objections.

Cllr. Tabor left to attend a PC meeting elsewhere.

10 Playing Field Committee Report.

Recent fete and evening entertainment was a success.

Fun Day planned for September 6th.

Damaged gateway will not be repaired until decision is reached on Village Hall car park extension. This gate has been closed off for several years.

The relationship between the PF Committee and the Parish Council has been clarified and finalised by the Charity Commission. The Parish Council is unequivocally the trustee of the Playing Field.

The Chairman proposed that the Playing Field Committee be thanked for its input and cooperation in finally resolving this outstanding issue and for its stewardship of this important community asset.

DCC Cllr. Barry Parsons was welcomed to the meeting and he explained that it may become necessary for the Council to increase the precept to raise sufficient funds for its intended projects.

11 Village Hall Report.

The report and quotations for work to rectify the water ingress to the car park and from there into the Hall had been circulated previously. Cllr. Parsons undertook to provide £1500 which is half the quoted cost for this work. The majority of the Council gave support to the VH committee to proceed with these essential drainage improvements.

The report and plan for the further refurbishment of the car park and its proposed extension was approved in principle as it already had been by the Playing Field Committee.

12 Correspondence:

- Provision of dog waste bin at Windmilland Cross.
- Environment School- Barnstaple. 11th October.
- Long House Project.
- War Memorial Maintenance. £100 payment approved for 2014/15. In future correspondence it will be circulated on its receipt to Cllrs. by email.

13 Financial Statement and approval of payments.

The Financial Update Statement to 14/8/2014 which had been previously circulated to members was presented and approved.

Current Account holds £6,018.14

Business Reserve Account holds £175.38

Council unanimously agreed to transfer £3000 to the Reserve account.

Payments were approved for:

PLUSS (BT Times printing) £184.84

Clerk's expenses. £30.10

14 Items for consideration at the next meeting provisionally agreed for Wednesday November 19th 2014

- Budget.
- Asset Register.