

BLACK TORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 10th January 2017

Present: P.Roberts, C.Lock, M.Down, D.Haywood, D.Bates. P.Riches Mills, M.Taylor.
(Parish Clerk) (N Berkeley resigned.)

1 In attendance: Distr. Cllr Phil Hackett, C.Cllr. Barry Parsons

2 Apologies for absence. n/a.

3 Co-option of new councillors.

Ms. Emma Barnes and Mr. Steve White were co-opted onto the council following a proposal by Cllr. Roberts seconded by Cllr. Lock.

3 Declarations of interest relevant to this agenda: None.

4 Open Public Session.

Six members of the public attended.

5 Approval of minutes and matters arising from those minutes.

The minutes were approved and signed.

Details of the Youth Club insurance to be sent to the council's insurers to enquire if it is possible to incorporate into the council insurance to save the Youth Club money.

6. Devon County Councillor Barry Parsons explained that the Devon Council Tax preliminary assessment indicates a significant and inevitable increase in order to fund adult social care. Cllrs. expressed their doubts that the funds raised might not be ring-fenced.

7. Playing Field.

The annual Black Torrington Fireworks event was very well supported with a record number of people. The new DAAT landing lights were switched on for the first time. Unfortunately the Christmas Song event was not well supported.

8 Planning.

The proposed development at Long Cross was discussed. Cllrs. were concerned that there is no provision for affordable housing in the plan and decided to object to the plan unless appropriate changes are made.

Planning applications to be listed on future agenda.

9 Village Hall Report.

The Christmas Bingo was a successful fund raiser and the committee is looking for further ways of raising funds.

The Committee was thanked for the cheque of £2548 towards the cost of the DAAT landing lights installation.

In future the Village Hall report will be sent to the Clerk for distribution by email to cllrs prior to the meeting.

10 Financial Statement and approval of payments.

The Financial Update Statement to 16th Jan 2017 which had been circulated previously to cllrs. was presented and approved.

Current Account holds £6832.01 Reserve Account holds £3178.81 Total £10010.82

Following a proposal made by Cllr. Haywood, seconded by Cllr. Lock and unanimously agreed, it was decided to immediately pay £1000 to the Playing Field Committee to help with the cost of grass cutting

11 Budget

The main project for the immediate future is the provision of the overflow carpark adjacent to the Village Hall. Both the Council and the Village Hall Committee are in agreement that this should go ahead.

Three companies will be asked to draw up plans and specifications for the work.

Any grant application would require the Council to make a substantial contribution towards the project. To this end it was proposed to ring fence £4500 of the council's budget.

As reported at the last Parish Council meeting the Leader Five Application for a grant of £39000 submitted by Cllr. P. Hackett on behalf of the Parish Council was approved by Torridge District Council at the outline stage.

The Parish Council will manage the project to submit the full application.

Fresh estimates will be sought for the work to achieve maximum value for money.

The full application to be submitted in the next few months.

This was unanimously approved.

Cllr. Haywood to circulate a draft budget to all cllrs.

12 Ongoing Matters.

Cllr. White who is already on the Village Hall Committee, agreed to take responsibility for the P3 (footpaths) scheme.

Cllr. Down offered to follow up the progress on the Parish Plan and website.

War Memorial repair to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

13 Correspondence.

When information is sent from the Clerk by email, where appropriate, a deadline will be stated. If any decision is made, it will be circulated as soon as possible.

14 Dates of future meetings. All meetings at the Methodist School Room.

Tuesday March 14th 2017.

