

# BLACK TORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

## Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018

**1 In Attendance:** S.White (Chairman), E. Barnes (Vice Chairman), S. Floyer, M.Down, C.Lock, P. Riches Mills, D.Bates, P.Roberts. M.Taylor. (Parish Clerk),  
Distr. Cllr Phil Hackett.  
Apology received from Cllr. Haywood

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

**3 Open Public Session:** no members of the public attended.

### **4 Approval of minutes and any matters arising.**

The minutes of the previous meeting, were approved unanimously following a proposal from Cllr. Barnes, seconded by Cllr. Roberts.

### **5 Reports.**

#### ***Playing Field.***

Cllr. Down reported that the Songs in the Park raised £155.25.

No outcome yet to the play equipment funding applications.

There will be another clean-up operation soon and the Parish Council offered to provide support and refreshments to the workers.

The adult keep-fit equipment funding application to the People Post Code Lottery has realised £10,000 but the news has not been officially released yet.

The committee members and helpers intend to tackle the drainage problem soon by constructing the french drain.

#### ***Village Hall.***

The Christmas bingo raised approximately £350.

At present there is no chairman or vice chairman. There have been limited enquiries from members of the community regarding joining the committee.

An article to go into the BT Times asking for more community support.

#### ***Finance.***

The accounts had been circulated to all cllrs. prior to this meeting,

Current Account holds £16,149.85 Reserve a/c holds £3,181.

Due to the planned closure of NatWest Bank in Holsworthy later this year and the almost inevitable closure of the other banks, it was agreed to apply for online banking facilities.

The Council gave authority to the Clerk to set up online banking with NatWest with the Clerk to be the sole signatory. Payments by cheques etc. will still require two signatures.

In view of the planned Council projects: overflow carpark, war memorial repair, eventual handover to the parish the care of the public toilets, care of bus shelter and phone box, following a proposal from Cllr. Bates, seconded by Cllr. Floyer and unanimously agreed the precept will be increased from £8979 to £9607 to build up the council's reserves.

Proposal from Cllr. White to increase Clerk's remuneration which has not changed since 2014. This was seconded by Cllr. Bates and agreed unanimously

**6 Town and Parish (TaP) Fund.**The deadline for application for this fund is fast approaching. Agreement has been reached with Sheepwash Parish Council to make a joint application for use of the funds to improve playing field keep- fit equipment.

### **7 Standing Orders.**

The Clerk to circulate information to allow cllrs. to access the latest version of Standing Orders online for further discussion at the next meeting.

### **8 Review of selected policies and procedures.**

- *Publicity and Communications policy.* All communications with the public should initially go via the clerk. Individual cllrs. will not deal with any matters via email or any form of social media without the approval of the full council.  
Cllrs. rejected the suggestion that their personal email addresses be publicised.  
Meetings will continue to be held every two months with the date advertised two months in advance. Meetings in the Methodist School Room and begin at 7.00pm
- *Complaints Procedure.* No adjustments required.
- *Data Protection.* To be reviewed after May when new regulations come into force.

### **9 Planning.**

Legal proceedings are underway regarding The Retreat (aka Hazelnut Farm) for non compliance of planning regulations.

### **10 Progress Reports.**

- a) *Overflow Car park*  
Copies of the revised plans by Arthur Weed were circulated. The car park upgrade and its overflow extent were approved without change. It was unanimously agreed to proceed, subject only to the final specifications and detail, by Mr Weed, being confirmed as correct, by the consulted civil engineer in the parish, Mark Neave. The plans will then be sent for TDC planning approval if this is required. Should these plans then be approved by TDC, or approval not be required, then the project can go to tender without further referral to Council. The next task will then be to seek grant aid.
- b) *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.
- c) *Website development.* The site designer has requested photos of the village to illustrate the site and also a directory of community groups. (Any group wishing to be included, please contact the Clerk.)

### **11 Governance Review.**

TDC to be informed that this council sees no purpose in altering the boundaries of this parish and amalgamating with another council.

**12 Items for inclusion for next meeting.**

- Policies review. TaP, Standing orders, Budget

**13 Date of next meeting.** Wednesday Mar 21st 2018 at 7.00 pm. Methodist School Room.

a&oe