

BLACK TORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 26th September 2017

1 In Attendance: S.White (Chairman), E. Barnes (Vice Chairman), S. Floyer, M.Down, C.Lock, D.Haywood, P. Riches Mills, D.Bates, P.Roberts. M.Taylor. (Parish Clerk), Distr. Cllr Phil Hackett, Devon C.C. B. Parsons. PCSO Emma Tomkies.

2 Declarations of interest relevant to this agenda: Cllr. R.Mills declared an interest in item 7 (Windmilland Cross.)

3 Open Public Session.

Three parties of parishioners attended.

a) Two were concerned about the lack of response from TDC planning department regarding their own or an adjacent property. Both applications had been dismissed.

Cllr. Hackett explained that there is a formal process of complaint.

b) A resident in Hole Lane drew attention to the unreasonable number of signs erected by TDC. At present there are fourteen along approximately one hundred metres of lane. Residents were not consulted, businesses affected and walkers deterred.

PCSO Emma Tomkies reported a handful of crimes in the district but Black Torrington has been crime free for the last three months. Thefts of heating oil are on the increase.

4 Approval of minutes and any matters arising.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously following a proposal made by Cllr. Haywood and seconded by Cllr. Barnes.

5 Reports.

Playing Field Committee.

No report has been submitted for circulation.

The Fun Day was not very profitable due to the rain but a good time was had by all those who attended.

The next event is the Bonfire. Cllrs.were concerned that all health and safety risks are observed.

It was requested that the roadside hedge be reduced in height even further to improve the visibility for those leaving the Village Hall.

Village Hall.

Our share of the fete proceeds have been split between the League of Friends of Blake House Surgery and the PTFA.

A new bench is to be purchased and placed between the shower room doors so that people waiting for entry to the hall have somewhere to sit.

Rosa Rebecca is to perform on 18th November- we will pay her from funds to make it a free event for the community (with a bar- not free!)- Christmas bingo on 22nd December.

Race Night postponed from this year, now scheduled for 3rd March 2018.

Three new radiators for each of the toilets to be installed in October.

Finance.

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

Current Account holds £13,214.20 Reserve a/c holds £3,181.

The certified *Annual Return for Black Torrington Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2017* has been received. *The Notice of Conclusion of Audit* is exhibited on the Parish Council noticeboard for the next fourteen days.

6 Planning.

a) Homeleigh Farm 1/0861/2017/FUL. The council has no objection.

b) Silent Haven 1/0668/2017/FUL previous application has already been dismissed following appeal.

c) Ruby Way Extension. Unbeknown to the Parish Council, DCC carried out another site inspection recently but again deferred making any decision while alternative routes are considered! Cllrs. were concerned about the lack of communication from DCC to the Parish Council.

7 Progress Reports.

a) *Overflow Car park.*

The proposed site has now been surveyed and the results will be used to obtain an up-to-date quotation.

b) *War memorial*

J.Stacey quoted £2185 to repair the posts only. A local resident has generously offered to demolish the damaged concrete and to clear the site around the memorial ready for reconstruction.

c) *Website.*

A grant from the Transparency Fund has been received for the design of a new website, hardware and training. Cllrs. considered the features that the new site should contain. Quotations for the project will be obtained.

Anyone interested in becoming the website administrator should contact any councillor or the Parish Clerk.

d) Councillor Training.

A training session for cllrs. has been arranged for Tuesday 14th November at 6.45pm until 9.00pm. Neighbouring parish councillors will be invited to attend in order to spread the cost.

e) Windmilland Cross.

The waste bin has still not been replaced despite several requests. Another letter will be sent. There have been several recent incidents of rubbish being dumped there.

f) Parish Plans.

The Council agreed to meet on Tuesday 31st October to discuss updating the Parish Plan.

As the meeting had run beyond its allotted time it was agreed that items 10, 11, and 12 would be deferred to the next meeting.

8 Date of next meeting. November 21st 2017 at 7.00 pm in the Methodist School Room.

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