

**Minutes of East Down Parish Council Meeting
at 8.00 p.m. on Monday 21st January 2013 at East Down Village Hall**

Attendance: Cllrs. Mrs S. Black (Chair), Mr. R. Fry, Mr. M. Mant, Mr. K. Phillips, Mrs S. Price, Mr. R. Tarr, District Councillor Mr J. Tucker, and Mrs M. Done (Clerk).

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

- 1 **Apologies:** Cllr Mrs E. Kempf, County Cllr Ms A. Davis
- 2 **Declarations of interest from members/Dispensation requests.** None

In view of the severe weather it was agreed to take Item 4 County/District Councillors' Reports first.

Part 'A'

4. **District Councillor Tucker reported on:**
 - **Torrige & North Devon Local Plan** – consultation period of six weeks from 31st January. Seminars to be held which Councillors are urged to attend.
 - **Free Home Energy Audits and Grants** for warmer homes. Contact Ian Higgins ND Council,
 - **NDC helping first home purchasers** to obtain deposit. Contact Amy Bingham at NDCouncil.

All these items would be included on the parish website including contact details.

Cllr Tucker then left the meeting.

County Councillor's Report - none

3. **Public Participation.** Mr & Mrs N. Caley.
The Chair then invited Mr & Mrs Caley to address the meeting on their planning application. Mr Caley advised that there was nothing extra to add following the site visit and he was happy to answer any questions that the members had.
7. **Planning Application No 55031.** New build to reinstate corn mill together with conversion of corn mill to form one unit of holiday accommodation at Bugford Cottage, East Down.

Following further study of the plans and supporting letters it was proposed to recommend approval of the application. The vote: five in favour, one against, no abstentions. It was resolved to recommend approval for the following material reasons:
 - Visual improvement
 - Economic benefit to the community
 - Support from the community, shown by 17 letters of support
 - Very small increase of vehicular traffic since this is a two bedroomed holiday unit
5. **The minutes of the Parish Council meeting, 19th November 2012,** proposed, seconded and resolved to accept. Minutes then signed.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes, not on the agenda.**
Highways: Overhanging trees - Highways to be reminded this still needs to be done; date required for surface dressing; check with Cllr Davis on reflective tape for bollards round Wychway.
PWLB. Cllr Mrs S. Price advised after receiving the settlement figures it was not worth paying off this loan.
8. **Financial statement of accounts for the year to date and payments.** Bank balances on 5th December, 2012 Parish Council Account £4379.01 and P3 Account £481.07. Cheque No 000255 for £300 (3rd quarter salary) to Mrs M Done was authorised.
9. **Precept 2013-2014.** Central Government have decided to abolish the Council Tax benefit. It was resolved to accept the ND Council top up grant of £61.53 towards the precept.
- 10 **TAP Fund.** Arlington Parish have agreed to support the joint application for both a strimmer and table tennis table if funds permit; the table tennis table would take priority if there were concerns over safety equipment or problems over funding.
- 11 **Road Closure – Ashelford Cross to Churchill Cross 12th – 20th February 2013.** It was resolved to notify parishioners by email and posters of the road closure and diversion route. The Clerk to contact the

Contractor to advise on the difficulties of the route and to recommend they speak with Cllrs Mant and Phillips before undertaking the work. Clerk to copy Cllr Davis with details.

- 12 Severe weather arrangements.** Cllr Tarr reported on the cost of the gritter and the financial implications with maintenance and insurance. The Clerk to obtain written information on DCC insurance cover for the Snow Warden undertaking these duties. It was resolved that Cllr K. Phillips be paid the recognised 45p per mile remuneration for topping up the grit bins in the parish. It was also resolved to purchase a further two grit bins, one to be sited near Rock Cottage and the other in Bugford.
- 13 Chairman's items:**
Lengthsman – Potholes up through parish from Brockham Bridge past Village Hall to Bugford, and eight inch deep pothole outside Hartland View Farm. Potholes up Churchill and Ashelford not to be included in view of the proposed road works due to start in February.
Play Area – Kentisbury. Invitation to meeting and request for fundraising.
- 14 Paperwork received:**
Highways – Advice on insurance for Snow Warden
Confirmation of receipt of grant and precept application
Parish Precept and grant
SW Highways – Road Closure Ashelford Cross to Churchill Cross notification
Rural Opportunities Bulletin – emailed to members
Admission to Schools – changes
Community News Round-up – emailed to members
ND Council – Parish Council information on North Devon Council website
Request for parish newsletter address (sent Nicola Incedon's)
TAP Fund agreement from Arlington (Clerk's letter in hand)
Rural Services network – MPs' rally for fairer rural funding
Nick Harvey MP – list of surgeries
Magazines and Leaflets
North Devon Connect Winter 2012
Glasdon Litter, dog waste bins, noticeboards etc.
Clerks and Councils Direct January 2013
Junk Mail
South West Water – Water Future. Summarised version of 25 year vision 2015-2040
Members Services Notices now received and forwarded by email.
- 15 It was agreed the next meetings would be on:**
Monday 18th February and Monday 11th March 2013 at 8.00 p.m.
Cllr R. Tarr gave his apologies for the February meeting.

Part 'B' (Confidential Restricted information) None

The meeting closed at 9.50 p.m.