

ATHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19 November 2013 at St. Mary's Church Hall, Atherington at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs W White (Chairman), A Boyce, J Frayne and Ms C Norman,

In attendance: 7 parishioners, County Councillor R Edgell, PCSO Jerzy Rozputynski, Parish Clerk.

112. Police Report

PCSO Jerzy Rozputynski reported that during the past month one crime had been reported in the parish – non payment of fuel.

During the same period four calls had been logged: 2 road traffic incidents and 2 domestic incidents
Deer poaching was an increased problem. To increase public awareness of the problem a meeting had taken place at Lynton, and another planned at Shirwell that week. It was important that all suspicious incidents were reported to the police.

113. Matters Raised by the Public

it was suggested that the old minute books and records should be deposited at the North Devon Record Office for safe storage, where they would be readily available to the public.
Cllr Boyce proposed that this should be done. All in agreement.

114. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr G Weeks.

115. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Frayne declared an interest in planning application 56523.

116. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 16 October 2013

The Minutes of the last meeting was agreed and signed as a true record.

Thanks were extended to Cllr Frayne for taking the minutes for the Clerk who was on annual leave.

117. Matters Arising from the meetings

None.

118. County Council

Cllr Edgell reported on the good turnout at the public hearing held at Umberleigh into the 'conservation area'. Cllr Edgell was thanked for attending the hearing.

He still had some community funding money available if a suitable project in the parish could be identified. It was noted that no project had been identified for TAP Funding. Cllr Boyce offered to make enquiries with Umberleigh/Brayford schools.

119. Highways

It was reported that the road surface around a SWW manhole cover in the middle of the road at Hightown was cracking.

Drains on Barnstaple Hill were blocked by leaves.

The loose manhole cover at The Sawmills had still not received attention.

Cllr White reported that he had informed Highways of the leaning bollard outside Bonds Farm and a blocked drain at Hazelwood.

It was not known if the lengthsman had visited the parish on 16/17 October, or if anything had been done. Clerk to enquire.

It was noted that a good article had appeared in the Argus on traffic problems in the village during the A377 road closure, which had coincided with the Tarka Line being closed. It appeared that there was no contact between the two organisations.

120. District Council

Cllr White reported on the Flooding Seminar held at Filleigh.

A grant request had been received from Atherington Acorns, but it was noted that the Playing Field Committee had not been consulted over their plans.

121. Neighbourhood Watch

Nothing reported.

122. Planning

1. Applications:

56523 Listed building application for replacement of windows Mole Cottage Atherington
Cllr Frayne declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.

It was resolved to recommend that the application is approved.

2. Decisions

None received.

123. Finance

1. Setting of Budget 2014/2015

The Clerk had prepared a draft budget, which was circulated to councillors.

An amendment was made, increasing 'other Payments' to £210. The amended budget was adopted.

2. Setting of Precept & Grant for 2014/2015

The Clerk reported that the Parish Grant payments from NDC would remain unchanged to smaller parish councils, including Atherington. The maximum amount that could be claimed was £702. This was agreed. There would however be a small drop of £28.93 in the Grant Assistance.

It was resolved not to increase the Precept for 2014/2015, to be kept at £4172.

3. Payments:

1. D Jones & Son – grass cutting	£132.00	Cheque No. 617
2. Clark's Salary & Expenses	£127.40	Cheque No. 618
3. Atherington Children's Playing Field – grant	£200.00	Cheque No. 619

The three accounts were approved for payment.

124. Playing Field

It was reported that Fields in Trust had visited the Playing Field and that it met the criteria for protection under their Deed of Dedication.

It would be necessary for the Playing Field to be registered with the Land Registry.

125. Correspondence

1. Devon Library Services were seeking to reduce costs of operating the mobile libraries by cutting all stops with less than three regular customers. It was proposed that all other stops, including Atherington, would change from a two weekly to a four weekly service. Customers were being consulted until the end of the month. Any changes would take effect from April 2014. It was hoped the changes would save £200,000 annually.
2. Cllr Edgell reported that funding was available from community Council of Devon for repairs to war memorial. Clerk to obtain an application form.
3. Concern was raised that the Healthwatch magazines could be out of date by the time of the council meeting. It was agreed that these should be passed to a councillor.

126. Matters Arising at the Chairman's discretion.

None.

127. Date of next meeting: 21 January 2014

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:05pm.