

# ATHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17 September 2013 at St. Mary's Church Hall, Atherington at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Cllrs W White (Chairman), A Boyce, J Frayne, Ms C Norman and Mrs D Thiele.

**In attendance:** 6 parishioners, Parish Clerk.

**79. Police Report**

None – police not present.

**80. Matters Raised by the Public**

1. Cllr White updated the meeting on the position regarding Torrington Hospital. Public meetings, which had been well attended, had taken place. Due to the large amount of pressure from the general public, further consultations would take place. In the meantime the closed beds would reopen on 1 October.
2. Chris Jones, a Youth Support Worker with Devon Youth Services introduced himself and explained that DCC were planning to make drastic cuts to the service. It was proposed to replace the Open Access provision with a targeted system, which would result in a dramatic reduction in the number of young people receiving support. It was also planned to reduce the number of centres in the county to eight. At the present time there were about eighty. The police had expressed concern over the proposal, which was likely to mean an increase on their workload.  
Cllr Frayne proposed that a strong letter of objection be written to Devon Youth Services and the lead member on DCC for Childrens Services, and offered to draft the letter. This was agreed.  
It was agreed to send a list of North Devon parish clerks to Mr Jones.
3. It was reported that the Safer Atherington Streets petition for a lower speed limit in the village was ongoing, and had been signed by over 80 residents.  
The group had been loaned a speed gun for a week, and speed checks would be conducted at various locations around the village.

Cllr White left the meeting.

**81. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs M Milton, G Weeks and County Councillor R Edgell,

**82. Declarations of Interest**

None.

**83. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 20 August 2013.**

Cllr Frayne proposed that the Minutes of the last meeting be agreed and signed as a true record. Seconded by Cllr Ms Norman. All in agreement.

**84. Matters Arising from the last meeting.**

- Min. 46. The grass at Umberleigh Bridge had not yet been cut.
- Min. 66 It was reported that the entrance to Drunken Pit Lane had not been cleared to deter 4x4 vehicles. The rest of the lane had been cleared, but was now becoming overgrown.
- Min. 67. In the absence of any other proposals, Cllr Boyce would speak to the school governors regarding any equipment that could be purchased by means of the TAP Fund, in conjunction with Brayford Parish Council. It was agreed that this would be discussed further at the November meeting.
- Min. 76.1 The old Minute books had been passed to Cllr Boyce and Mr Riley.
- Min. 76.2 The setting up of a bank account for the Conservation Area Committee was in hand. The clerk reported that he hoped to complete this the following day.

**85. County Council**

Cllr R Edgell not present, having tendered his apologies.

**86. Highways**

It was reported that problems were being experienced with cars being parked alongside the churchyard wall, despite it being clearly marked as a No Parking area.

It was agreed to contact Highways to arrange a site meeting to discuss this and other safety issues.

It was reported that the bollard outside Bonds Farm had again been hit.

Missing 'cats eyes' were reported at Eastacombe corner. This and the damaged bollard to be reported to Highways.

**87. District Council**

None - Cllr White not present.

**88. Neighbourhood Watch**

Nothing to report.

**89. Planning**

**1. Applications:** None received.

**2. Decisions:** None.

**90. Finance**

**1. Payments:**

Clark's Salary & Expenses	£131.60	Cheque No. 613
Atherington Childrens Playing Field – grant	£200.00	Cheque No. 614

The two accounts were approved for payment.

**91. Playing Field**

Draft copies of the Fields in Trust Deed had been circulated to councillors. It was noted that if adopted, there would be nothing to prevent the playing field being developed for other recreational use. Sale of the field would be permitted if it was to be replaced by another playing field.

Cllr Boyce proposed that the Playing Field should apply for fields in Trust (National Playing Field Association) status. Seconded by Cllr Ms Norman. All in agreement.

It was agreed that the parish council would pay the fee for registering the playing field with the Land Registry.

**92. Review of Standing Orders**

Deferred to the next meeting.

**93. Correspondence**

1. Code of Conduct Training. North Devon Council were arranging for two Code of conduct training courses for councillors to be held on 2 October.
2. North Devon Council were arranging another Parish Forum at 7pm on 9 October. Cllr Frayne expressed an interest in attending.
2. Planning & Environment School. Barnstaple Town Council were arranging a Planning and Environment School on Saturday 12 October.
3. Green Infrastructure Survey. A questionnaire had been received from North Devon Council. Cllr Boyce offered to complete and return.
4. Highway Safety Awareness Training. DCC were arranging a course of training sessions for volunteers working in the highway. Details were passes to Safer Atherington Streets.
5. Other periodicals and circulars were noted.

**94. Matters Arising at the Chairman's discretion.**

None.

**95. Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 15 October 2013

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:00pm