

ATHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20 March 2012 at St. Mary's Church Hall, Atherington at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs W White (Chairman), R Domleo, M Milton, Ms C Norman, J Umpleby and G Weeks.

In attendance: 12 parishioners, County Councillor R Edgell, Parish Clerk.

168. Provision of Community Defibrillator

Emma Marks - Community Engagement Officer, South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust

Mrs Marks outlined the Community Defibrillator Scheme, and the support that was available from the Ambulance Service, in particular the supply of replacement batteries and pads.

She stated that the defibrillator currently cost £1275, plus an additional £550 for a cabinet. Although some funding was available at one time, she did not think that this was now the case, but she would make enquiries. It was agreed that an article should be placed in the Argus.

Cllr Domleo reported that the Rotary shop may be willing to assist with funding. He would make enquiries.

169. NWF traffic through Atherington

Attended by a representative from NWF Agriculture.

Unfortunately the transport manager was unable to attend the meeting, but a representative from NWF agreed to take notes of any concerns from the council and parishioners, and report back at a future meeting.

One of the main concerns raised was that lorries were not keeping to the agreed one way system, whereby

lorries would only leave the depot via Atherington. Vehicles were also travelling through the village outside the agreed hours. It was reported that drivers had been told to adhere to the one way system, but were clearly not doing so. Outside hauliers had also been asked to keep to the agreed route.

It was reported that there were odd occasions when it was necessary for deliveries to be accepted later than

the agreed times. Vehicles sometimes left the depot early in the morning in order to make deliveries on time. This was necessary due to a majority of the vehicles not having sleeper cabs.

It was reported that some drivers behaved badly and showed no respect for the community. This would be addressed.

170. Matters Raised by the Public/Police Report

A written report had been received from the police. During the previous 30 days 12 calls had been received:

3 x Road related; 3 x Failure to pay; 4 x Domestic related; 2 x Suspicious activity.

4 crime complaints had been generated

Community Speed Watch Document detailing training and commitment requirements had been delivered to and briefly discussed with Mr Hart to enable him to update other potential members of the proposed group.

Speed Checks No further checks to date due to operational and staff commitments.

It was agreed that an article should be placed in the Argus seeking volunteers for Community Speedwatch. A meeting would be arranged for all those interested.

PCSO Rick Napier was thanked for progressing the matter so swiftly since he had taken up his new post.

It was reported that the Playing Field Committee were not able to arrange for any mugs for the children to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. It was thought that this was a parish council responsibility. It was thought that there were about 50 children in the parish under the age of 16. Thanks were expressed to Mr & Mrs Boyce for arranging a coffee morning to raise funds for the mugs.

It was agreed that an article should be placed in the Argus in order to gauge the interest in the parish in staging any event to celebrate the Jubilee. It was noted that the Pavilion should be available by June, and could be a possible venue.

171. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Boyce.

172. Declarations of Interest

None.

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173. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 21 February 2012

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

174. Matters Arising from the meetings

None.

175. County Council

Cllr R Edgell reported that DCC would be receiving an additional 2.5% grant from central government as a one-off payment for not increasing the Council Tax. This represented a payment of £8.15m. from this total

£5m would be spent on repairing rural 'C' class roads and below, with an additional £260k for the lengthsman programme, £100k for gully repairs, and £250k for drainage repairs. He would be lobbying for some of this money to be spent in North Devon.

Both the Police and Fire Service would be increasing their share of the Council Tax, although this represented a small proportion of the total.

176. Highways

1. It was reported that the chipping in the lay-by on Easter Hill were spreading into the road and could be a danger to motorists.
2. Drains on Barnstaple Hill needed clearing. It was thought that some would require jetting.
3. The trench alongside the road on Barnstaple Hill had still not been infilled.

177. District Council

Cllr White reported that North Devon Council would not be increasing Council Tax this year.

A meeting would be held on 12 April to which Clerks and Council Chairmen were invited, to discuss the future of Parish Grants.

The Standards Committee would cease to operate after 31 July. Confirmation of the replacement scheme had not yet been received.

178. Neighbourhood Watch

Nothing to report.

179. Planning

1. Applications:

53480 Change of use of agricultural land for summer siting of 3 traditional gypsy style caravans & change of use of barn for winter storage of 3 caravans at land at Higher Fisherton, Umberleigh.

The applicant noted that he was aware of concerns from parishioners, and acknowledged that the main cause appeared to be the wording of the application. He was looking to diversify into tourism and was looking for something that was not available elsewhere in the area. He was willing to change the wording of the proposed venture to include the word 'holiday', and confirmed that visitors would not be permitted to bring dogs with them.

It was resolved to hold a site meeting the following day at 10am before making a recommendation.

2. Decisions

None received.

180. Finance

1. Payments:

1. Clark's salary £125.00

Expenses £ 1.38 £ 126.38 Cheque No. 562

2. Atherington Childrens Playing Field £8052.97 Cheque No. 563

The two accounts were approved for payment.

181. Amenities.

The entry for the Best Kept Village competition had been submitted.

182. Church Hall

Nothing to report.

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183. Playing Field

It was reported that work was progressing, and that the receipt of the VAT refund will prevent any delay.

184. Correspondence

1. Notification had been received that the road between Potems Cross and Welcombe Farm would be closed 28 May until 1 June.

2. South Molton Town Council were proposing to hold a meeting to discuss the South Molton Central Development Area, provided that there was enough interest. It was agreed to respond stating that several councillors would be interested in attending.

Other periodicals and circulars were noted.

185. Matters Arising at the Chairman's discretion.

None.

186. Date of next meeting: 17 April 2012

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:50pm.