

ATHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: Cllrs W White (Chairman), A Boyce, Ms C Norman.

In attendance: 7 parishioners, County Councillor R Edgell, PCSO Rick Napier, Parish Clerk.

Before the meeting started those present stood for a minute's silence in memory of Mrs Rita Rose and Cllr Joe Umpleby, both of whom had passed away since the previous meeting

113. Police Report

PCSO Rick Napier reported that since the previous meeting 4 incidents had been logged: 1 road related incident – horse on road; 1 concern for welfare; 1 assault; 1 breach of bail.

No crime had been reported.

There had been a slight increase in the number of thefts from sheds and outbuildings, and quad bikes often with keys left in the ignition.

Cyclists and pedestrians were urged to wear light and reflective clothing during the hours of darkness.

114. Matters Raised by the Public

None.

115. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr G Weeks.

116. Declarations of Interest

None.

117. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 16 October 2012

Min 102 was amended to read: 'the government was providing funding to DCC *in the hope* that there would be no increase in the Council Tax'.

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

118. Matters Arising from the meetings

Min 97.2. It was reported that surveyors had inspected the problems following the defects being reported on line.

Min. 101. The Clerk reported that the VAT reclaim had been received.

Min. 111 It was reported that NWF supported the parish's request for a 20mph speed limit.

119. County Council

Cllr Edgell reported that parishes in the Snow Warden scheme would have the bulk salt replaced if more than one tonne had been used. Grit bins would be filled as usual, and bags of salt placed in the normal locations.

The Leader of DCC was currently touring the county to listen to what was considered to be considered priorities. He would be at Filleigh Village Hall on 3 December, at 6.30pm.

120. Highways

It was reported that work on Rectory Hill was undertaken when the road was covered with mud and water. Cllr Edgell suggested that this was probably temporary work carried out as a safety measure, and would receive further attention at a later date.

It was thought important that work was carried out to stop water running across the road on Barnstaple Hill before winter weather causes ice to form across the road.

The public was urged to report all defects on the DCC website.

It was reported that a successful meeting had been held with NWF at Wixland. All previous issues had been followed up. NWF would be contacting contractors, stressing the importance of all vehicles observing the agreed one way system. The next meeting was planned for Monday 13 February.

121. District Council

Cllr White reported on the proposed changes to the Parish Grant. There would be no change to the present system for 2013/2014. For each of the following three years parishes with a population over 500 would see a reduction in the grant. Parishes with a population of under 500, which included Atherington, would not be affected.

122. Neighbourhood Watch

Nothing to report.

123. Planning

1. Applications:

54774 Retrospective temporary change of use from garage to distribution warehouse for a two year period, Umberleigh Garage.

It was resolved to recommend approval

54793 Siting of timber cabin for use as temporary agricultural workers dwelling at Apple Tree Farm, High Bickington.

Concern was raised over the viability of the venture.

It was resolved to request the planning department to fully scrutinize the figures in advance of making the appropriate decision.

2. Decisions

None received.

124. Finance

1. Dispensation for Parish Councillors to set Precept

Councillors present signed the form requesting dispensation allowing the budget and precept to be discussed.

This was agreed.

2. Setting of Precept & Grant for 2013/2014

It was resolved to request the maximum grant of £728

It was resolved not to increase the Precept for 2013/2014. Precept to remain at £4172.

3. Setting of Budget 2013/2014

The Clerk had prepared a draft budget, which was circulated. It was agreed to adopt the draft budget without change.

4. Review of cheque signatories

It was resolved that all councillors should be cheque signatories.

5. Receipts:

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|-------------------------|----------|
| 1. HMRC Repayment | £2187.25 |
| 2. DCC Councillor Grant | £ 600.00 |

Cllr Edgell was thanked for his grant towards the village defibrillator.

6. Payments:

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|------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Clark's Salary & Expenses | £128.00 |
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The account was approved for payment.

125. Amenities.

It was reported that funding for the defibrillator for Umberleigh was now in place, but that it had not yet been ordered. Funding had been provided by the parish councils and the DCC TAP fund. The cost totalled £1925 which included a seven year maintenance scheme.

Funding for the Atherington had now reached £1392: donations £350; Coffee Morning £242; District Councillor grant £200; County Councillor grant £600. This total would be increased by donations being Gift Aided. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Boyce and those involved in the coffee morning.

126. Playing Field

It was reported that a number of successful events had been held at the Pavilion. It was hoped to balance the books by the end of the year.

Outstanding work included the cycle track and car park. A fire alarm system was due to be installed.

Fields in Trust had advised that should the Playing Field be registered, there would not be a problem in the future if there was a wish to install new facilities. It would also be possible to sell the Playing Field provided a new one of equal or larger size were provided.

It was agreed to hold a public meeting in the Spring.

127. Correspondence

No additional correspondence received.

128. Co-option of Parish Councillor

It was agreed that application for co-option should be sent to the Parish Clerk.

129. Matters Arising at the Chairman's discretion.

It was reported that Cllr Milton considered that Mr Robert Domleo's contribution to the parish should be recognised. It was agreed that he had done a great deal for Atherington during the time that he was parish councillor.

130. Date of next meeting: 15 January 2013

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.