

IDEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, 3 December 2014

Present:	Cllr Angie Carter-Woodwark Cllr Anthony French Cllr Tom Hill Cllr Julian Hull Cllr Barry Smith Cllr Derrick White	Chairman Vice Chairman
In Attendance	Cllr Tony Dempster Cllr Beryl Austen Cllr Mike Walters Mrs Ashley Lamb 8 Members of the Public	County Councillor District Councillor District Councillor Parish Clerk

Item (a)	Discussion and Decisions (b)
137/14	<p>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>The Chairman opened the meeting at 1830 and apologies for absence were received from Cllr Dominic Morby.</p>
138/14	<p>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</p> <p>It was agreed unanimously that the minutes of the Main and Part II meetings held on 5 Nov 14 be signed as a true and accurate record.</p>
139/14	<p>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</p> <p>The following interests were declared:</p> <p>Cllr Carter-Woodwark is a member of the Village Hall Committee, is a member of the Parochial Church Council, will be organising the Village Celebration Event in January 2015 and was a founder trustee of the Millennium Green.</p> <p>Cllr French is the Chairman of the Millennium Green Committee</p> <p>Cllr Hill's spouse is a member of the Parochial Church Council</p>
140/14	<p>REPORTS</p> <p>County Councillor – Tony Dempster</p> <p>An update was provided on the progress of the Teign Estuary Trail. Detailed design for the 2.5 mile section from Kingsteignton to Bishopsteignton is now progressing in parallel with work towards the purchase of land along the identified route. This section, which will follow the rail line where possible, is expected to cost around £4.2 million. The County Council is also exploring the route from Bishopsteignton to Teignmouth town centre and onto Dawlish, where there are still a number of potential route options. Options will be considered along with recommendations from Sustrans regarding routes between Dawlish and Teignmouth.</p> <p>The new Traveller Site at Haldon Hill will open on 8 Dec 14. £1.2 million has been spent transforming land outside Exeter into 15 state-of-the-art pitches, ten of which have been snapped up by residents from the existing illegal Traveller camp next door, which is set to be officially closed on Monday, 8 Dec 14. Teignbridge District Council has five remaining spaces kept open should anyone from the neighbouring site change their minds.</p> <p>Cllr Dempster expressed his sadness that Kingsteignton Library had elected to opt out of community pilot to test how they can work in partnership with Devon County Council to expand the services they provide.</p> <p>District Councillor – Cllr Beryl Austen</p> <p>Councillors may be aware that Abbotskerswell Parish Council and the Devon Wildlife Trust made a claim in the Planning Court against Teignbridge alleging that in the Local Plan the Examination Inspector had not adequately protected the habitats used by Greater Horseshoe Bats, a protected species in both domestic and European Law. The judge dismissed the challenge and in effect that means that the Local Plan still has full legal weight in dealing with planning applications. I believe that many of us had hoped that if the challenge were allowed the Local Plan would have to be re-addressed and we could have an opportunity to alter some of the things that have been done which many of our communities had opposed locally. However their initiative was not successful.</p>

Teignbridge Council has revealed that the traveller's camp at Haldon which has been occupied for twelve years is to be closed and cleared on December 8th. On 5th December the new warden site managed by Teign Housing with 15 pitches will be opened. Ten sites are let and five have been retained for any residents on the current site to transfer if needed. This is the first campsite to be built for New Age travellers in Britain and has been paid for by a Government grant to create the new site and clear up the current encampment. Occupants of the campsite will have lease agreements, pay rent, service charges and council tax. Proper sites have been constructed and toilet facilities and amenities provided. Some of the travellers have preferred not to take up the offer and they will be moved away.

Exeter, East Devon and Teignbridge have announced a plan to work closely together to drive forward economic growth, deliver well paid jobs and improve life for residents and businesses across Devon. With a combined population of 380,000 they will seek to work together on joint initiatives while retaining individual identities. Each Council will remain independent with no desire to change municipal boundaries.

District Councillor – Cllr Mike Walters

Memorandum of Understanding

A strategy exists where TDC should collaborate and partner with East Devon DC and Exeter City Council to share costs to maintain statutory services.

Traditionally, statutory services have been the role of district councils. However, this is simply not enough if we are looking after the wider interests of our people. Increasingly, we are seen as the catalyst for positive change and it is firmly believed, the Memorandum of Understanding is the manifestation of how our council needs to move forward. It is the result of hard economic evidence and a strong working relationship, which has been developed over time, between the leading members and officers of the three most powerful district councils in Devon. Fortunately, we are neighbours and this enables us to move forward with confidence, safe in the knowledge that any investment that can be collectively brought to the area has a higher probability of remaining 'local'.

The MoU it is to be noted that it is not a full blown policy, it is a short document, it is simply an 'understanding', it will not be going to either the Full Council or the Executive. It can be terminated by any party with two weeks' notice. Also, it is not going to be a unitary council by the backdoor. It is three independent councils with a mature relationship working together for a better future for all. It is also suggested that central government is more likely to grant greater resources financially to the larger group.

STRATA

Following the interview process of last week, the outcome of the selection process for the Strata management roles was as follows:

- David Sercombe Business Systems Manager - originally Teignbridge
- Martin Millmow Document Centre Manager - originally East Devon
- Steve Gammon Programme and Resource Manager...originally East Devon
- Adrian Smith Infrastructure and Support Manager...originally Exeter
- Paul Bacon Security and Compliance Manager...originally East Devon

These offers will now be confirmed in writing and it is hoped that the managers will take up their new posts from 1 December.

Other people who went through the process are now considering their options. The posts which report into the management roles that have so far identified. Where there is only one candidate for these roles, there will be no competitive recruitment process and people will be offered the post without a further interview.

Kingsteignton Library

I am in the process of determining whether S106 Agreements or CIL can be brought into play and thereby augmenting the possibility of creating an extension to the Library on site. This will be of benefit to the community and to the library in particular, from the viewpoint of extra space for further development of groups using the library.

At an extraordinary meeting of the Friends it was decided that the library would not apply to be a pilot in the DCC project which will determine the direction that the library service will take. The idea was fully discussed and it was clear that the workload would be too much. However, the service will not suffer in the meantime and DCC will continue to support Kingsteignton, until a decision is made after the pilot survey is completed in the next year.

Penns Mount

Codex has submitted a further application for outline permission and access after they were refused by the committee. Further to this a paper has been submitted to the Executive stating that "Provision of additional green infrastructure in the shape of a hilltop park on Penns Mount has been allocated in the Local Plan". This will have to be made clear at the next planning committee that such a provision is made. Codex plans are such that at the moment this green space is under threat and therefore this should be addressed.

	<p>B3193 After the opening on Monday 3rd November of the B3193, I was asked by Sibelco to present the cheque for £1250 to St Michaels and the pupil, Lilli Shone from the school who accepted the cheque, which will go towards providing further activities in the playground. The cheque was kindly donated by "ABC" the company that took over from "Playline"</p> <p>Newton Abbot Community Transport Association Last week I attended the launch of the new minibus. This has increased the number of the fleet of vehicles and has additional facilities for accommodating wheelchairs. I was invited to attend as I was able to contribute some funding from the Cllrs Community Fund amongst many others who helped in the financing of the minibus.</p> <p>Police Community Support Officer Report IDEFORD POLICE LOGS for the PERIOD 03/11/14 to 02/12/14 Report of motorcyclists using a footpath at Ideford Common. Unfortunately the bikes were unregistered.</p> <p>A380 Road Logs Report of dangerous driving on the carriageway. Report of 2 males walking the carriageway. Picked up and taken to a safe place. 2 vehicle road traffic collision with a vehicle on fire. No injuries. 2 reports of broken down vehicles causing problems. Report of cyclists travelling against the traffic flow. 2 elderly cyclists given words of advice.</p> <p>IDEFORD CRIMES for the PERIOD 03/11/14 to 02/12/14 None</p> <p><i>Standing Orders were suspended to give members of the public an opportunity to ask the County and District Councillors' any questions</i> - no questions were asked.</p> <p><i>Cllr Tony Dempster, Cllr Beryl Austen and Cllr Mike Walters left the meeting at 1845</i></p>
141/14	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES</p> <p>To consider Elector Fund Grant Applications Councillors discussed the ideas and requests for potential Elector Fund Support. Ideas received included a swing for the Millennium Green, new chairs for the Village Hall, a PA system and 2 lightweight tables for the PCC and maintenance works on all the village benches, including those on the Millennium Green.</p> <p>Cllr French explained that additional play equipment would not be permitted on the Green as it is a "Green Space" and the Millennium Commission deeds and covenant state that it cannot be a play area. In light of a survey, results and an outline proposal for an extended play area that has been received from a young parishioner, Councillors agreed to add the matter to the agenda for further discussion at the next meeting.</p> <p>Councillors resolved unanimously to support 3 applications that would share the available allocation: £190 for the PCC to purchase a PA System & 2 lightweight tables £212 for the Village Hall towards the cost of replacing the current chairs £212 for the Parish Council & Millennium Green to refurbish and maintain all the village benches and seating.</p> <p>In line with the application guidelines the Clerk will seek support from a neighbouring Parish and work with individual groups to submit the applications before the closing date deadline.</p> <p>To request funding for a Village Celebration Event The Chairman asked Councillors to consider making a financial contribution towards the cost of holding a "Village Tea Party" on a Sunday 4 Jan 15 to celebrate the 100th Birthday of a Parishioner. The event would be open to all Parishioners and it was also hoped that some money could be raised for MacMillan Cancer Support. The requested sum of £100 was proposed by Cllr Derrick White, seconded by Cllr Barry Smith and agreed unanimously. The Parish Clerk is to provide a MacMillan collection bucket and bunting.</p>
142/14	<p>MATTERS RAISED BY THE CHAIRMAN</p> <p>To approve the Budget & Precept for 2015/16 Having had several weeks to consider the draft budget and precept submission Councillors discussed the proposals for FY 15/16 line by line. Councillors agreed the amount of £150 for the Chairman's Allowance, allocated additional funds to the use and development of the Parish Website if required and agreed to fully fund the insurance for the Millennium Green. This funding would be capped at a maximum figure of £540 and would be reviewed annually or if the use of the Green changed in any way.</p>

	<p>Several Councillors recalled a discussion in previous years whereby the Parish Council had committed not to raise the Precept for a set number of years. The Parish Clerk committed to look at the previous minutes and record of the Council to see what had been said.</p> <p>Due to the lack of clarity of events from previous years and the possible commitment to cap Council Tax for 2 or possibly 3 years Cllr Barry Smith proposed that once again the Precept and Council Tax should remain the same. This was seconded by Cllr Anthony French and agreed unanimously.</p> <p>It was resolved unanimously that the precept submission and proposed budget for FY 15/16 be accepted.</p>
143/14	<p>PARISH MATTERS</p> <p>To discuss planning concerns raised regarding central Ideford Stables</p> <p>Cllr Carter-Woodwork had been approached by a Parishioner regarding potential new stables in the centre or Ideford. Having been associated with both parts of the family concerned for many years, Cllr Carter-Woodwork directed the matter to Teignbridge District Council. Steve Hobbs the Planning Enforcement Officer had visited the site and having spoken with the land owner is content that only the owners' horses are currently being stabled at the property. If there was any change of use or additional building work at the site he would conduct another visit to advise the owner of any potential change of use or planning permission requirements that would need to be applied for.</p> <p>To receive an update and to discuss the Ideford Affordable Housing Next Steps</p> <p>On 13 Nov 14, the Rural Housing Enabler for Devon Communities Together (formerly the Community Council of Devon) met with Smiths Gore, the land agents that manage the Ideford Glebe Land on behalf of the diocese of Exeter. Smiths Gore expressed a willingness to consider disposing of the Glebe Land, provided that market value could be obtained. They were very clear however that they will only move forward with this if the Parish Council is supportive of this plan. Representatives from Teign Housing and Teignbridge District Council were also present at the meeting and gave an update of the work that has been done so far at Broadlands. A rough sketch of 4 affordable homes on this site is being worked on and once the plan is more developed Teign Housing will come to a Parish Council meeting for comments on their proposed plan and design. The need identified in Ideford in 2012 was for 9 affordable homes and it is unlikely that both sites would be developed simultaneously as it might be difficult to allocate that number of affordable homes to local people at one time.</p> <p>In principle and depending on the plan and design of the site Councillors supported the use of the Broadlands for affordable housing. However, due to the fact that it sits in a basin, is prone to flooding and is in an area of the village that is already restricted by parked vehicles, they did not believe that the Glebe land would be suitable. Councillors would potentially support the development of the Glebe land and ideas for use, for example as a car park, may come from the results of the Community Led Plan Questionnaire.</p> <p>It was resolved that the points raised during the discussion should be sent to the Housing Enabler and that the comments regarding the Glebe land should be communicated to the Diocese Land Agents. Proposed by Cllr Derrick White, seconded by Cllr Barry Smith and agreed unanimously.</p> <p>To receive an update on the Vodafone Rural Open Sure Signal (ROSS) Project</p> <p>Based on our application, Ideford has been shortlisted for the Vodafone ROSS programme, (to bring reliable Vodafone 3G coverage to the village of Ideford. On Monday, 8 Dec 14 a technical team will visit the Village to carry out assessments to ensure the OSS will be effective. We may periodically see engineers surveying our local area as there are still a few critical assessments which have to be carried out.</p> <p>The technical team will conduct broadband speed checks to ensure Open Sure Signal technology will perform optimally in the village, analyse their future plans for the spread of coverage from their planned network upgrades and investment to ensure Rural Open Sure Signal is the best solution for Ideford and survey our community and identify potential sites for the OSS units to ensure their locations are most effective in providing widespread coverage.</p> <p>In siting a ROSS it would need a power supply (circa £30 pa in electricity costs - that could be funded by the Council) and Vodafone will install and cover all costs for a dedicated Broadband line. The ROSS could be sited on a building such as the Village Hall or even a private house.</p> <p>Councillors were asked to consider potential sites for the units and to speak with Parishioners about this project. It was resolved that Cllr Smith would act as the "Champion" for the ROSS project.</p> <p>To receive an update following the 27 Nov 14 Teignbridge Association of Local Councils Meeting</p> <p>Cllr John Hart, the Leader of Devon County Council highlighted that over the past four years, the County Council's funding has been cut by 27% as a result of a Government squeeze on local government spending. In 2015/16, a saving of £50m is required as a result of the Government's latest Comprehensive Spending Review. This will be followed by a further saving of at least £34m in 2016/17. It is highly likely that cuts will continue until 2020.</p>

	<p>DCC will only be able to afford to do mandatory things and all discretionary/non mandatory services are under review.</p> <p>Care homes and day care have closed; there has been a reorganisation of Youth Services and Transport Services, Waste Services and Highways Services will be next for review. Supported rural bus routes are costly and will be reviewed for usage and need. Civic Pride, Self-Help and Community help would seem the way ahead. Training can be provided, patching, drainage, chainsaw, P3 etc. DCC must make local decisions and this is why local consultation is so important.</p> <p>TDC speakers - Cllr Stuart Barker, Assets & Resources, Lesley Tucker, CFO, Steve Hodder, Corporate Services. Cllr Barker outlined declining Revenue Support Grant £4M reducing to £2.4M and by 2020 - £600K (-84%). If they TDC make savings, essential services will go. Looking at doing things more efficiently and at working with other Councils (Strata IT Services will save £1.7M over 10 years). Also considering other MOUs and possibly sharing planning and economic development services with Exeter and East Devon.</p> <p>Savings and efficiencies continue especially in the area of waste collection & management. TDC car parking fees will not increase during the next financial year, Rural Aid Grants will continue (but not for big councils) and the Council Tax Support Grant stays the same (although as TDC prospers the amount from central government gets lower). Should DCC make cuts to rural transport support, TDC will not be able step in.</p> <p>To receive an update and request for funding for the Community Led Plan.</p> <p>The last CLP Steering Group Meeting was held on Monday, 24 Nov 14 and work has begun formulating the potential questions that could be included in the questionnaire. The draft questionnaire will be shared with Devon Communities Together for their comment and opinion prior to printing and distribution to all households in the Parish early in 2015.</p> <p>It was resolved unanimously that an initial £250 be allocated to the CLP SG for printing and administration costs. Receipts and invoices should be given to the Parish Clerk who will keep a running total of all CLP expenditure.</p> <p>To receive a request for contribution to Parish Clerk training costs.</p> <p>Having almost completed the Introduction to Local Council Administration the Parish Clerk would like to undertake the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) qualification. Successful completion of this 2 year course would be essential if Ideford Parish Council wished to use the General Power of Competence or if they wished to apply for Quality Council Status. The cost of registration is £250. To date the Clerk has self-funded £422.49 on training and reference documentation and would like to request a contribution towards the cost of the CiLCA course.</p> <p>Cllr Anthony French proposed that the Parish Council fund the full £250 cost of registration, this was seconded by Cllr Julian Hull and agreed unanimously. The Clerk thanked Councillors for their support.</p>																				
<p>144/14</p>	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p> <p>Standing Orders were suspended</p> <p>A Parishioner notified the Council that the path leading from Larcombe Bridge to Hestow was currently blocked by a fallen tree and there was also another tree that may soon come down. It was resolved that the Parish Clerk contact the land owner to discuss the best way forward.</p> <p>A Parishioner commented on the state of the steep step down and exposed pipe work at the Olchard end of Watery Lane. It was resolved that the P3 Co-ordinator contact the DCC Warden to look at this area and possible rectification.</p> <p>It was brought to the Council's attention that no minutes had been posted on the Parish Website since June 2014. The Clerk apologised for this error and would look into it immediately.</p> <p>Standing Orders were re-instated</p>																				
<p>145/14</p>	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>Approved - Decision Notice: 14/02614/FUL – Tower House, Ideford – Miss M Reddaway</p> <p>Single storey extension and decking.</p>																				
<p>146/14</p>	<p>CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCE – Covered by the Chairman from notes provided.</p> <p>Balance of Accounts as at 30 Nov 14</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Parish Current Account</td> <td>£7281.36</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cheques for signature</td> <td>£ 616.00</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Remaining Cash at Bank</td> <td>£6665.36</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Cheques for Payment</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Proposed: Cllr Hill</td> <td>Seconded: Cllr Hull</td> <td>Agreed: Unanimously</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ideford Millennium Green – Insurance Contribution</td> <td>Cheque 000444</td> <td>£425.00</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Parish Current Account	£7281.36			Cheques for signature	£ 616.00			Remaining Cash at Bank	£6665.36			Proposed: Cllr Hill	Seconded: Cllr Hull	Agreed: Unanimously		Ideford Millennium Green – Insurance Contribution	Cheque 000444	£425.00	
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	Information Commissioners Office – Registration	Cheque	000445	£ 35.00
	Mr David Wright – Grass Cutting for FY 14/15	Cheque	000446	£156.00
	Request nomination of a Councillor to oversee Finance Function			
	The Clerk requested the nomination of a Councillor to conduct random spot checks or ask questions especially relating to Council Finances. This will form part of our internal audit, governance and accountability and help to mitigate any risk of financial issues. The Councillors present felt that Councillor Morby would be best placed to oversee this area of the Parish Clerks work.			
147/14	DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Ideford Parish Council Meeting, Wednesday 4 February 2015 at 6.30pm			

The Chairman closed the meeting at 2028

Signed: *Angie Carter-Woodwark*

Dated: **7 Jan 15**

Cllr Angie Carter-Woodwark