

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WEST DOWN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT WEST DOWN PARISH HALL ON 3rd APRIL 2019.

Present: Cllr C King (Chairman), DCllr M Wilkinson, Cllrs S Ayre, R Drew, F Hookway, K Oades, S Squire and R Watts.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:30pm with apologies from CCllr A Davis and PCSO P Grantham.

3913. Police Report.

- a. The following crimes occurred during the last month at Mullacott Industrial Estate: 2 x theft ,1 x theft of leisure batteries from caravan, 1x theft of conveyance other than motor vehicle (caravan).
- b. Some of the businesses at Mullacott Industrial Estate are looking into the installation of CCTV.
- c. With continued levels of crime at Mullacott Industrial Estate, an increase of Police patrols may be a deterrent.

3914. Minutes of the last meeting. The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed after a manual amendment by DCllr Wilkinson.

3915. Matters Arising.

- a. 3902a. Cllr Ayre has received a response from David Hoare regarding a visit from Peter Heaton-Jones MP. A formal notification from the clerk will be made after the election.
- b. 3902e. The tree stump at Pines Dean has not been removed and is still moving closer to the road. Cllr Hookway to forward photos on to council.
- c. 3902f. NDC has replaced the missing bin in the car park.
- d. 3906a. The Village Forum will be held on 4th April.
- e. 3907a. The coming elections will be held on the 2nd May with results on the 3rd May. The next meeting of West Down Parish Council will be held on the 8th May. The Chair, thanked all councillors for their time and efforts serving on our council for the last two years.
- f. 3912a. Mr Jamie Pearce is assessing if he will repair the rotting wooden posts along the stream from Roborough Bridge.

3916. CCllr Report. CCllr Davis reported on the following: - nil.

- a. Cllr Watts reported that he had repaired the damage to Pulland Bridge. The Chair thanked Cllr Watts for this.

3917. DCllr Report. DCllr Wilkinson reported the following:

- a. DCllr Wilkinson was enthusiastic about the plans for a new North Devon Leisure Centre in Barnstaple, which will create a sports complex for all in the area. This, along with plans for the development of the Ilfracombe Water Centre, will be assets for the community as

well as promoting economic growth in the area. Funding is not yet in place for either of these plans and so funding for travellers at the Barnstaple site has not been finalised.

b. Cllr Hookway has reported that some bins are not being collected around the village, even though the problem has been reported. DCllr Wilkinson will chase this up.

c. Cllr Squire enquired if the school field would fall in to the open space category with regards to the s.106 money? DCllr Wilkinson was unsure and suggested contacting the Grants Department with any queries.

d. With regard to a Neighbourhood Plan, he has received knowledgeable correspondence from Mr Sprason, a 'second home' owner in the village, about conservation aspects to the village.

e. Cllr Drew picked up litter along Stang Lane and deposited the bag at the litter bin in one of the Foxhunter bus shelters. He reported that the litter bin had still not been emptied. It was further reported that the bin had been emptied since he last looked.

f. The Chair thanked DCllr Wilkinson for all the support he has given to West Down during his tenure as District Councillor and wished him the best of luck for the election on 2nd May.

3918. Dog Bins

a. The clerk reported that he has received notification that as of 28th March, J and J Bins will cease trading and will no longer undertake the collection of waste from dog bins. North Devon Council has no alternative plan and is advising that people pick up after their dogs and dispose of the waste at home or in public litter bins. It was agreed to advertise this on the West Down website.

b. There are currently 5 dog bins within the village. Cllrs Ayre and Oades have kindly volunteered to empty and cover all bins, attaching a sign advising not to use until further notice.

3919. s.106 Money.

a. The clerk is to clarify the situation with the Monitoring Officer regarding the Code of Conduct and Register of Interests, for councillors in connection with s.106 money

b. DCllr Wilkinson has advised that s.106 money will be held by NDC and that applications for funds should be made within a maximum of 5 years. He also advised that Parish Council deliberation for funding should take place in closed session i.e. not with members of the public in attendance

3920. Footpaths.

a. Following a report that fly-tipping had occurred along Austin's Hay footpath, Cllr Watts was able to report that this has now been cleared up by the culprit.

b. On completion of the P3 Survey, West Down Parish Council has received a P3 Grant of £500, which will not be enough to cover basic maintenance for the coming year. Councillors are advised to spend wisely.

3921. Planning Decisions. Nil.

3922. Planning Applications.

- a. 66504 – Demolition of existing building further to destructive fire and construction of dwelling at Butterhills, West Down. - Unanimous approval.

3923. Correspondence.

a. The clerk reported a split and fallen tree by Pulland Bridge, to the North Devon website. They considered that the tree is on private land and is therefore the landowner's responsibility to make safe. Devon County Council will enforce this if they think the tree is a danger to the public. At the moment, the NDC Parks Officer does not think that the tree poses a threat to vehicles or persons passing by, so no action will be taken. The Parish Council does not know who the landowner is.

b. The Chair read out a formal letter of resignation on medical grounds, from the Clerk. David Lewis was appointed Clerk in August 1996 and was recognised and thanked by the Chair for his constant efficiency and continuity in this post for this time period. The chair will start the process of finding a replacement.

3924. Finance.

a. Bank Statements:

(1) West Down Parish Council wef 31 st March	£1,047.46 reconciled to £627.46.
(2) 30 Day Notice Account wef 31 st March	£4,804.40

b. Petty Cash - £nil.

c. Cheques

(1) BACs receipt – DCC – P3 Grant Fund	- £500.00
(2) C/n 609 to DALC – Annual subscription	- £154.65

d. End of Year Accounts – The following were presented and agreed:

- (1) Parish Council Account – Year end 31st March 2019.
(2) Out-Turn – Year end 31st March 2019.

e. Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 – Reviewed, approved, completed and signed.

3925. Any Other Business.

- a. Parking opposite Dean Lane continues to be a problem as parked cars obstruct turning from the junction. It was felt that there was little more the Parish Council could do about this, as the police do not recognise the issues. It has been recommended that residents contact the police if they have concerns.
- b. Cllr Watts reported that residents parking at the old Longhouse are obstructing the footpath to the church. Resident to be contacted and asked to move car.
- c. The Chair has asked for salt sacks, which were distributed around the village during the icy periods, to be returned to storage in readiness for next year.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9:35 pm.