

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WEST DOWN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD AT WEST DOWN PARISH HALL ON 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2017**

Present: Cllr C King (Chairman), CCllr A Davis, 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 for absence received from DCllr P Barker and PCSO P Grantham.

3603. Police Report. – Nil.

3604. Solar Park Working Group Report. – Nil.

3605. Minutes of the Last Meeting. - The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

3606. Matters Arising.

a. 3594e. It is disappointing to see that litter is still being discarded.

b. 3594f. People are still depositing bags of dog excrement in the litter bin by Pulland Bridge despite a sign being placed on the bin identifying the dog excrement bin on the Triangle. The purchase of another dog bin was discussed.

c. 3594g. Unfortunately, no reply was received from Mr Wallis to attend a meeting to find out what he can and cannot do. Clerk to try again.

3607. CCllrs Report. CCllr Davis reported on the following:

a. Council Tax rise.

b. New Healthy Lifestyle Service - A free service commissioned by Devon County Council. For more information, visit [www.onesmallstep.org.uk](http://www.onesmallstep.org.uk).

c. An extra £2.5M to be invested in rural roads and drainage.

d. The following issues were raised by Councillors:-

(i). Cllr King expressed her discontent concerning the expense involved for changing the NHS logo at a time when the NHS is so underfunded.

(ii). There is a lot of water on the road to Higher Aylescott.

(iii). The road by the farms at Cheglinch is too muddy.

(iv) There are 2 dead badgers on the road by Cheglinch Cross.

3608. DCllrs Report. DCllr Wilkinson reported on the following:

a. Council Tax rise.

b. The helipad for the Air Ambulance at Woolacombe football field.

c. The amount for DCllrs to give as grants will remain at £1000 for the forthcoming year.

- d. There will be an Acute Services Review at the Lantern Centre in Ilfracombe on 7<sup>th</sup> March.
- e. Fullabrook CIC are seeking new Trustees to replace those that have left. This is an ideal opportunity to represent the interests of West Down for any future funding projects.

DCllr Barker sent a written report on the following:

- f. A supplier for super-fast broadband has now been appointed for areas not already covered.
- g. Following the closure of the theatres, the Council have not yet had the keys back from the administrators, however they have managed to negotiate the purchase of all the fixtures and fittings.
- h. She is on the panel that awards funding for Leader 5 grants and is available to help if any funding is required.

3609. Footpaths.

- a. The Clerk has completed and sent off the Annual P3 Survey
- b. Mr Hookway sent a quote to re-do the muddy path along Austins Hay. Cllrs Hookway and Squire declared an interest and left the room. Although the quote was unanimously agreed, it was decided that the Clerk should ask Mr Hookway if he would re-submit a quote to include either a layer of hardcore or a membrane under the plainings, so that the mud will not re-surface and the path have to be re-done in a few years time.

3610. Planning Decisions. The following decision has been made:

- a. 62159 - Application for consent for works to trees covered by a tree preservation order in respect of various crown reductions, crown thinning & crown lifting operations - Badgers Drift – Approved.

3611. Planning Applications.

- a. 62518 - Erection of a dwelling - land at Pipcott. Cllr Watts declared an interest and left the room. – Unanimous approval.
- b. 62546 - Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to one dwelling house (class Q(A)(B)) - Easterground Barn. Cllr Squire declared an interest and left the room. – Majority approval, 1 abstention. Concerns over provision for the resident barn owls and in order to prevent excess mud on road, the access road should be constructed prior to the building work starting.
- c. 62558 - Change of use of land to include creation of equestrian area - Easter Ground Cottage. – Unanimous approval.
- d. 62628 - Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 57987 conversion of redundant farm buildings to 3 dwellings including demolition of outbuilding and erection of new dwelling to allow for change of design to barn conversion - Churchill House. – Unanimous approval.

3612. Correspondence.

- a. Clerks and Councils Direct – March edition.
- b. Devon Senior Voice – Spring edition.

3613. Finance.

a. Bank Statements

(1) West Down Parish Council	wef 28 <sup>th</sup> February	£14310.30 – reconciled.
(2) 30 Day Notice Account	wef 28 <sup>th</sup> February	£9197.62

- b. Petty Cash expenditure since last meeting - £nil.

c. Cheques

(1) C/n 546 to Ashford Parish Council- New Councillor training	- £27.00
(2) C/n 547 to WDPCMC - Solar Park Farm grant	- £12000.00

3614. Any Other Business.

- a. It was agreed to purchase another 'dog bin' for the area around Pulland Bridge.
- b. The railing posts along the stream by Roborough have rotted through again and need replacing.
- c. Clerk to invite a representative of the North Devon Voluntary Services to a future meeting to explain services available to the elderly.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.