

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WEST DOWN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD AT WEST DOWN PARISH HALL ON 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2016**

Present: Cllr C King (Chairman), CCllr A Davis, Cllrs S Ayre, R Drew, F Hookway, S Squire and R Watts.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30pm with apologies for absence received from DCllr P Barker, DCllr M Wilkinson, PCSO P Grantham and Cllr K Oades.

3567. Police Report. – PCSO P Grantham sent a written report as follows:

- a. There have been 6 reported crimes over the last month including one of deer poaching.

3568. Solar Park Working Group Report. – Karen Bryant sent a written report as follows:

- a. The group apologise for not able to send a representative for this Parish Council meeting.
- b. The PTFA are in the process of submitting a grant request for a projector .
- c. The next meeting is on 25<sup>th</sup> January when requests from the Gardening Club,WI and Parish Hall Committee may also have been submitted.

3569. Minutes of the Last Meeting.

- a. The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

3570. Matters Arising.

- a. 3557a. DAPC has granted £880 for a laptop and accessories.
- b. 3557b. The damaged 'West Down' sign at Ilfracombe Hill has now been straightened out as much as possible.
- c. 3557d. The Chair again asked for a volunteer to apply to become an Associate Governor of the West Berry Federation.
- d. 3559c. Clerk to apply for a DCllr grant for a new dog bin to replace the decaying one by the school.
- e. 3560b. The new landowners incorporating FP12 do not want members of the public straying onto their private land and have requested that the footpath is clearly marked. Cllr Squire to check the footpath.
- f. 3563c. Planning application 61967 - Conversion of golf club house to form three units of holiday accommodation - Willingcott Valley. Representation has been received from Mr Lewin objecting against the unanimous approval given to this application and urging reconsideration. Advice has been sought and it has been decided not to reconsider as the application was rightly considered on the evidence that was presented at the time.

3571. CCllrs Report. CCllr Davis sent a written report on the following:

- a. A pile of 'sweepings' from clearing drains and gullies has been left by the stile at the bottom of Ilfracombe Hill. This poses the question of what to do with what is left now the Parish Lengthsmen scheme ceased operating. CCllr Davis suggested paying someone and

recommended the person who does it for Marwood and Pilton.

b. There are two online consultations for completion; one from DCC regarding priorities of where to spend money and the other is about Exmoor.

3572. DCllrs Report. A written report was received from DCllr P Barker on the following:

a. The Local Plan examination is in its final week after which the inspector will consider all the findings.

b. West Down area has not been chosen as one of the trial areas for the new proposals for recycling, which should start next June.

3573 Footpaths.

a. Councillors were reminded to walk and inspect their respective FPs in order to report findings to allow the annual footpath survey to be completed.

3574. Finance.

a. Bank Statements

(1) West Down Parish Council	wef 30 <sup>th</sup> November	£4013.35 – reconciled.
(2) 30 Day Notice Account	wef 30 <sup>th</sup> November	£24173.51.

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

c. Cheques

(1) BACS payment received from DALC for laptop and accessories - £880.00

(2) Cheque No 539 to Poppy Appeal – Remembrance Wreath (replacing c/c 538)  
- £16.00

(3) Cheque No 540 to G Hookway for grass cutting and bus shelter cleaning 2016  
- £1846.09.

d. Forecast Budget 2017/18.

(1) The present balances were considered and the Parish Council was satisfied with the level of balances held.

(2) A proposed annual grant of £800 to the West Down Village Green Field Association was discussed and approved by a majority decision.

(3) The forecast budget for 2017/18 was presented, discussed and approved. Contributions from balance were set at £2531.00.

e. Precept/Parish Grant 2017/18.

(1) It was agreed to set the Precept at £7150, a 10% increase from last year by a majority decision.

(2) It was agreed the Parish Grant application be made out to the maximum of £670.00 and the support grant of £182.00.

f. Grass Cutting and Bus Shelter Cleaning 2017.

(1) Cllrs Hookway and Squire declared an interest and did not vote.

(2) The sole tender from Mr G Hookway for £1538.41 + VAT was approved. This remains the same as his tender for the last 2 years.

3575. Self Help Village Clean. Cllr Ayre discussed having another village clean and will fix some dates for the future.

3576. Planning Decisions. The following applications have been approved:

a. 61930 - Extension & alterations to dwelling - Woodlands Cottage.

b. 62062 - Agricultural works prior notification for creation of access to steel framed barn for use of rearing young bullocks - Easterground Barn. – Prior approval not required.

c. 61988 - Variation of condition 5 (occupancy restriction) attached to planning permission 7310 (approval of details proposed 24 holiday lodges) to allow 12 months occupancy instead of 10 - Ducks Cottage 26 Willingcott Valley.

d. 62026 - Approval of details in respect of discharge of condition 3 (landscaping scheme) attached to planning permission 61297 - Letter Box, Mullacott Cross.

e. 62016 - Variation of conditions (10 month occupancy restriction) attached to planning consent 2/85/949/66/3 (proposed alteration of condition c attached to 2/75/42/6/3, condition 2 attached to 2/79/2428/66/3 & condition 3 attached to 2/84/1102/66/3 to extend occupation period to 15th March - 15th January) to allow 12 month occupancy. - 32 Lower Willingcott, Willingcott Valley.

3577. Planning Applications.

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. – Unanimous approval.

b. 62189 - Reserved matters application for erection of one dwelling (outline planning permission 61615) - Garden of 1 Eaton Place. Cllr Squire declared an interest and left the room. - Unanimous approval.

c. 59630 - Change of use of land to facilitate improvements & expansion of touring & camping park (amended plans) (amended plans & additional information) (further amended plans) - Hidden Valley Park. – Unanimous approval.

3578. Correspondence.

a. Devon Senior Voice – Autumn edition.

3579. Any Other Business. - nil

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.10 pm by wishing all present a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.