

WEST DOWN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting held via Zoom on
Wednesday 5th August 2020 commencing at 7:30pm.

Present. Cllrs. C King (Chair), S Ayre (Vice Chair), R Drew, M Reeves, T Verney, S Squire,
K Oades, and D Cllr. M Wilkinson.

Apologies. C Cllr. A Davis, Cllr. R Watts.

4165. Public Speaking.
None.

4166. Police Report.
There was no Newsletter available at the date of the meeting.
Crime Figures for June
Antisocial Behaviour x 1 Cheglinch
Antisocial Behaviour and Drugs x 1 Trimstone Picnic Area.

4167. Minutes of the last meeting.
The July Minutes were approved and signed.

4168. Matters Arising.
a. 4149. Nick Stratton was unable to speak last month but was informed of the discussion and was happy with the outcome. However, a letter has been received from him saying that it has happened again and that nothing seems to have changed. Loose cows were turned into his garden by passers-by and he turned them out again. DCllr Malcolm Wilkinson forwarded his email to Mr Jeremy Mann, who has advised that he will sort it out.
b. 4150. The criminal activities that are happening around the village have been posted on the West Down Facebook page and people have responded well and are now being more vigilant. It is hoped that this helps to catch the people involved and that they know that is known about.
c. 4152b. New village sign is ongoing.
d. 4152c. Dog fouling, new signs have now been put up around the village.
e. 4152e. Another letter has been sent to Mrs Ellis and to Mr Swan and no further response has been received.
f. 4158. Climate and Environment Grant. Cllr Mike Reeves has been speaking with Terry King, Chair of the Parish Hall Committee and has found a battery system that can be charged from the Solar Panels. The battery has a large capacity 13.5kw hour and costs £8874.00. Mole Energy have supplied a detailed report and it is potentially able to save £600 - £700 per year. It is worth pursuing. The District Council have £20k grant available, repeated for 3 years. The application needs to be in by the end of August and has to be done by the Parish Council. Match funding is unlikely to be from the Parish Hall but there are other grants available to match with. This system has the capability of running a car charging point in the future. It has been unanimously approved to apply and Cllr Mike Reeves has agreed to do the necessary paperwork alongside the Parish Hall Chair, Terry King.
g. 4152a. Acorn/Lower Broad Park. After the Extraordinary Meeting on Thursday 30th July, Cllr Sue Ayre has drafted a summary of the points raised and circulated it to all councillors, DCllr Malcom Wilkinson has sent it on to the head of the District Council to make him aware and it will be interesting to hear the answers. So much has happened since the meeting and a lot more information has been received. The working party are going to discuss with the District Councillors to get answers. It is

decided that it should be ensured that the right people get the information. The issue of plot 18 is to be looked into as it seems that that plot has been purchased by the developers although they are claiming the site is unviable. The residents on the site have to declare a personal interest. The councillors agree unanimously that the working party should continue. DCllr Malcolm Wilkinson would like to be kept informed and feels very strongly that Acorn need to be held accountable. It was also agreed to post a thank you to the village, for their support at the Extraordinary Meeting, on the West Down Facebook page. Thanks to Cllr Sue Ayre for all her hard work on this issue. There is still more information to add.

h. 4152d. Police Advocate. Cllr Sue Ayre had contacted them again but is still waiting for a response.

4169. Report from County Councillor.

No report received at the date of the meeting.

4170. Report from District Councillor.

Problems in Woolacombe have caused them to decide to close a car park in West Road to increase the width of the pedestrian pavement and have received funds from the police crime commissioner to pay two marshals who are walking around Woolacombe to ensure social distancing is adhered to. Happily, it seems to be working. Incidence of the Corona virus in the South West has been low and North Devon in particular. The lockdown has really helped. The hardest hit areas for unemployment in Devon are in the area, Ilfracombe, Lynton & Lynmouth, Barnstaple, and Combe Martin. With global warming ongoing a carbon neutral aspiration is set for 2030. A consultation document on Dog Fouling on the North Devon Website is worth completing. Woolacombe has become one of the top 20 beaches in the world! This is great for North Devon.

4171. Footpaths.

The sign at Lower Aylescott still needs putting back up.

A finger post at the end of Easterground Lane has grown over. Cllr Keith Oades has offered to clear.

No other issues reported.

4172. J Snooks Internal Audit Report.

Has recommended the council review the Health and Safety and Risk Assessment separately, Cllr Keith Oades to advise. It is necessary to check and confirm compliance with GDPR rules, Cllr Sue Ayre to advise. It is also necessary to implement a system of application for grants, Cllr Mike Reeves to devise a form/check list for ease of submission. Clerk to review and update the Asset Register in line with the Practitioners Guide. Online banking is to be looked into.

4173. Planning - Decisions from NDC.

- a. 71533. Greenways Cottage West Down. Erection of dwelling and garage with landscaping and formation of new access. Approved.

4174. Planning Applications

- a. 71814 – The Old Vicarage – erection of garden store.
Unanimous Approval.
- b. 71753 – Easterground. Conversion of redundant barn to a dwelling together with demolition of adjacent pole barn.
Approved by a majority of 7/8 with 1 abstention for personal interest.

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- c. Applications received after publishing of this agenda.
70712 - Foxhunter Appeal.
To confirm objection again.

4175. Correspondence.
None received.

4176. Finance.

a) Bank Statements.			
(1) Current Acc.	As at 30 th July 2020.	£ 4,063.28	reconciled.
(2) 30 Day Notice Account.	As at 30 th June 2020.	£ 4,807.58	reconciled.
(3) Petty Cash.	As at 30 th June 2020.	£ 22.20	reconciled.
b) Cheques.			
652 GeoXphere Ltd	Parish Online	£ 36.00	
653 Alwaysthere	Grass Cutting Contract	£ 367.50	
654 NDC	Clerk Salary & Car Park	£ 983.58	
655 V Hunt	Printing supplies	£ 72.23	

Unresolved Questions.
None.


4178. Items to be added to next meeting Agenda.

- a. Acorn Developments.
- b. Village Sign.
- c. Salary Review.
- d. Health and Safety Policy.
- f. Asset Register.
- g. Code of Conduct.
- h. Online Banking.
- i. Mr Milton, Cycle Crossing.
- j. Tarka Trail extension.
- k. Salt/Grit Order.

4179. Any other business.

- a. A smiley face has been drawn on the bus stop window that needs removing.
Cllr Sue Ayre.
- b. If and when the Parish Council meets in person, it will be necessary to use the main hall to abide by Covid-19 rules.
- c. Cllr Sue Ayre thanked everyone for their support and help with Acorn. The working party is to meet again.
- d. Acorn, Plot 9 is under offer and the local plan needs to be looked at.

The meeting was closed at 21:27.


2/9/20