

Minutes of Woolserly Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 18 June 2024 in Woolserly Sports and Community Hall at 7.30pm.

Chaired by: Councillor M Hill	Clerked by: Mrs S Squire
Present: Councillors D Hancock M Hill S Salvidant during Minute No. 21.3 L Spittles 5 Members of the public	Agenda: - Public Comment Session Apologies Declarations of Personal / Prejudicial Interest Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 21 May 2024 Clerk's Report Reports from County, District & Parish Councillors Planning Finances To consider a response to items raised under the Public Session Correspondence Date and time of next meeting
	Action:
24/25. 21.	Public Comment Session.
24/25. 21.1	<p>Net Zero Campaign. Councillors had been forwarded details for studying ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>The Public Meeting at Clovelly Parish War Memorial Hall had been rescheduled and would now be held on 31 July 2024. Assistance with publicity was requested. There would be 4 speakers with an allocated session of 20-30 minutes each with questions and answers afterwards.</p> <p>It was hoped that Councillors from North Devon Council and North Cornwall would attend.</p> <p>The member of the public had spoken to District Councillor Harding for assistance in arranging a presentation to TDC and it had been suggested that this was a joint presentation with North Devon Council.</p> <p>The Seven Concerned Citizens' letter has 9 action points and it was thought that the District and County Councillors influence would be the strongest.</p> <p>The Parish Council would not comment until all the details were known.</p>
24/25. 21.2	<p>The following comments had been received from a resident:</p> <p>With reference to item 14.2 on the May 2024 agenda of the Woolserly Parish Council meeting - specifically R Heywood - (2) Disputed landownership bordering Woolserly's Manor House, which has been an agenda item for some considerable months.</p> <p>I refer you to the minutes of Woolserly Parish Council meeting held on 19th December 2017 and specifically item 14.0 Traffic Calming Crossings in Woolserly therein. This item was discussed by the Councillors at length and, as noted, the proposal and plans put before them were fully supported by the Parish Council, no dispute of land ownership was raised then, therefore no further time should be wasted on this matter.</p> <p>Councillor Heywood had prepared a draft, with a final draft to follow.</p>
24/25. 21.3	<p>A resident had contacted DCC on 19/3/24 regarding white line marking from Manor Park to the Church and had been advised that it would be checked and a report compiled.</p> <p>They had also contacted DCC about a drain at Cranford Water which was collapsing and had been white lined to show the problem.</p>

Clerk to send poster to LS for putting on Facebook

Clerk to respond to parishioner advising that the Council's full response would follow in due course.

	<p>Councillor Hancock advised that he and Councillor S Hill had walked around the village in March where a number of issues had been identified and reported. A reply had been received that these do not fall into the current guidelines for road markings to be done and other areas would be prioritized. The resident would contact DCC again in an effort to get the work done.</p>	
24/25. 21.4	<p>A resident spoke about the potholes at Dipple, having been told they do not fall into the guidelines. The resident felt that the work which was being carried out was poor and considered that instead of patching, the road should be resurfaced. The resident was once again advised that Highways issues was not in the Parish Council's remit.</p>	
24/25. 21.5	<p>Enforcement issue at Higher Town Farm. The resident was advised that the issue was still being determined by the Planning Inspector.</p>	
24/25. 21.6	<p>Enforcement issue at Rainbows End Animal Rescue Centre. The resident was advised that this was an item on the Agenda to be discussed later in the meeting.</p>	
24/25. 22.	<p>Apologies. Councillor B Beech, District / Councillor S Harding, Councillor R Heywood, Councillor S Hill.</p>	
24/25. 23.	<p>Declaration of Personal / Prejudicial Interest for items on the Agenda. None.</p>	
24/25. 24.	<p>Minutes.</p>	
24/25. 24.1	<p>Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 21 May 2024 to be approved and signed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Councillor Salvident. Seconded by Councillor Hancock and unanimously agreed.</p>	
24/25. 25.	<p>Clerk's Report:</p>	
24/25. 25.1	<p>Stagecoach – no reply had been received regarding a bus mounting the verge at Manor Park causing damage. A copy of the original email and a follow up had been sent by post to Stagecoach requesting a reply.</p>	
24/25. 25.2	<p>Fence at South Park. Westward Housing Association had returned enquiries made to advise that a job has been raised for a contractor to give a price to renew the fence. At the time, it was not known when the work will be done, but an assurance was given that this was in hand. As an update, it was noticed that the work had been done.</p>	
24/25. 25.3	<p>Alleged unauthorised building at Cranford. A reply had been received from TDC's Enforcement Officer and circulated to Councillors for information which advised there was no further information to give. As a result of this, a reply had been sent pointing out that the alleged enforcement had been reported in January when the building had been an A frame, now it was almost a fully furnished house.</p>	
24/25. 25.4	<p>Payments made. Confirmation has been received from Community First that the insurance has been renewed.</p>	
24/25. 25.5	<p>Woolsery Road Issues. A reply has been received from DCC Highways and circulated to Councillors giving various reasons why the work identified did not fit the criteria at present. The Clerk to ask the Neighbourhood Highways Officer (NHO) how close the Parish was for the work to be done.</p>	<p>Clerk to ask NHO the position.</p>
24/25. 25.6	<p>County Councillor Wilton-Love. The Parish Council's good wishes had been sent to DCC for passing on.</p>	
24/25.	<p>Airband. A reply had been sent as directed.</p>	

25.7		
24/25. 25.8	SWW First Time Sewerage Application. The Parish Council had reminded TDC that SWW had advised a Public Consultation would take place before a decision was made, for passing on to the relevant officer. A reply had been received asking if the Clerk would like her contact details to be passed to SWW and this was confirmed.	
24/25. 25.9	Has been in communication with a resident regarding potholes outside their property as a result of volume of water / flooding outside their property which they reported and where Highways have said no works are to be done. As a result the Clerk has contacted the Neighbourhood Highways Officer asking for a site visit and explanation, rather than the standard reply, is given. This had been received and relayed to the parishioner.	
24/25. 25.10	Westcountry Rivers Trust. The Clerk had been given the contact details of the Bucks Mills volunteer for future pollution incidents to be reported. Enquiries were made about the frequency of monitoring and the reply is that once a month is the usual monitoring requirement and if problems occur, then more are done. The volunteer monitors one spot after all the streams have joined together and this is done in different weather conditions. The volunteer feels that their contact details are known by the Clerk who can then report any concerns about the stream.	Clerk to ask for a second back up in the event of an emergency when the Clerk is not at her desk.
24/25. 25.11	Sent response to Councillor Harding's letter with input from Parish Councillors. The letter was also sent to TDC Monitoring Officer from whom a reply had been received regarding the issues of no reply from TDC mentioned in the letter. A reply to be sent advising it was not this which was felt to be relevant, rather the tone of Councillor Harding's letter.	Clerk
24/25. 26.	Reports.	
24/25. 26.1	County Councillor J Wilton-Love. Not present.	
24/25. 26.2	District Councillors. Not present.	
24/25. 26.3	Parish Councillors.	
	M Hill. He had seen a good quality play area at Welcombe and was making further enquiries. Standing orders were lifted to enable a member of the public to speak. They advised that the Welcombe play area had been taken over by the Village Hall and a relative would be able to advise further. It was noted that an area in Woolsery was not big enough and too close to properties, as previously discussed at the meeting when a specific time had been set aside to give parishioners the opportunity to speak about the plans. Standing orders were reinstated.	
	B Beech. Not present. (1) Community Speed Watch. (2) Parking problems in Manor Park.	
	D Hancock. (1) Dog Bins. These had not been moved. (2) Grit bin outside school, lid broken. (3) Street lights. These were now all off at the correct times. (4) Delivered letter to property in Manor Park regarding overgrown hedge.	DH/MH to move Clerk to report Clerk to suggest it

	<p>The Clerk had received a reply from a family owner advising it would be attended to after the nesting season.</p>	<p>is tied back as a temp measure</p>
	<p>S Harding. Not present.</p>	
	<p>R Heywood. Not present. (1) Bus Shelter at East Park. Deferred. (2) Disputed landownership bordering Woolsery’s Manor House. The debate continues. (3) Occupation of field next to the Potting Shed. Councillor Heywood had requested that Councillor Spittles report back on the correspondence with MXB to queries raised:</p> <p>The telegraph pole to the rear of the shop that is potentially hazardous, near the roadside. Due to building works and the removal of a building and hedge, the pole is now situated in a relatively open area which many have commented poses a hazard to passing vehicles. It is not clear that the planning department or highways have ever agreed to the current lay-out.</p> <p>The pipe discharging onto the highway from the Manor, on Copper Hill. Highways have reported that there is no current reason why the pipe cannot be connected.</p> <p>The sunken trench crossing the road towards the sub-station at the Manor This was dug by Western Power so we need to make a request for them to make it good.</p> <p>Sympathetic planting of the borders so as to not affect the visibility for road users Parishioners have expressed their concerns about visibility over the last 2 summers and the PC has requested that a simple adjustment to the planting regime be made to alleviate this although nothing was done. This area was the responsibility of highways and kept trimmed by the parish council for decades. According to the highway plans, on completion of the works, this area was meant to be planted to grass and kept trimmed. This needs further clarification from Highways.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
	<p>S Hill. Not present. Village Planters. These had been replanted.</p> <p>Defibrillator at Woolsery Sports and Community Hall. Pads and battery had been received.</p>	
	<p>S Salvidant (1) Received representations regarding overgrown vegetation. The resident has been advised of how this can be reported direct to DCC Highways. The corners and bends had been cut but in general the width of the road had been reduced by up to 1 metre either side. (2) People are parking overnight in Bucks Mills car park. The Clerk to ask TDC about a limiter bar across the entrance. (3) Metal gate on cliff path. The Clerk to ask TDC to remove it until such time as there is an emergency. (4) Beach hut query. Councillor M Hill is obtaining a contact name to follow up.</p>	<p>Clerk Clerk MH</p>

	<p>L Spittles</p> <p>(1) Enforcement at Rainbow's End Rescue Centre. It is understood that it is still running as a Rescue Centre. The Clerk to obtain an update from TDC Enforcement.</p> <p>(2) Hedges were being cut in the early hours of the morning, disturbing residents. It was questioned how the operatives could clearly see what needed to be done.</p>	Clerk Clerk						
24/25. 27.	Planning							
24/25. 27.1	<p>1/0438/2024/FUL – Demolition of agricultural buildings and erection of 1 dwelling house with associated works in lieu of Class Q permission (1/0545/2022/AGMB & 1/0540/2022/AGMB) – agricultural buildings and land at Grid Reference 233576 119938, Woolserly.</p> <p>The deadline date for the Parish Council's response is 14/6/24 and the planning officer has agreed to grant an extension to allow the application to be considered at this meeting.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Hill to respond: Woolserly Parish Council wishes to reiterate its previous comments but we wish to ensure that the requirements for the ecological survey are enforced due to the proximity of streams, barn owls and bats. We are also concerned about the amount of Class Q permission which are not recognizing the need for affordable housing or the impact on roads. Seconded by Councillor Hancock and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>1/0395/2024/FUL – Erection of vehicle storage building (resubmission of 1/0059/2024/FUL) – Land at Cross Farm, Woolserly. The deadline date for the Parish Council's response is 21/6/24.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Spittles that Woolserly Parish Council's response was 'no comment'. Seconded by Councillor Hancock and unanimously agreed.</p>	Clerk						
24/25. 27.2	Planning Correspondence: Decisions, Enforcement & Appeals. None.							
24/25. 28.	Finances.							
24/25. 28.1	<p><u>Payments to be authorised:</u></p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Spittles to approve and authorize. Seconded by Councillor Salvident and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>a. Sue Squire:</p> <table> <tr> <td>June 2024 salary</td> <td>£511.13</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenses (broadband/photocopying/mileage)</td> <td>£ 24.50</td> <td>£535.63</td> </tr> </table> <p>b. HMRC PAYE £127.60</p> <p>c. Community Heartbeat. Replacement pads and battery for Defibrillator at Woolserly Sports and Community Hall £426.60</p> <p>d. <u>Income and Bank Account Balances:</u> NatWest Current Account as at 18/6/24: £3,284.51 NatWest Savings Account as at 18/6/24: £20,286.01 Interest of £24.95 had been earned the previous month.</p>	June 2024 salary	£511.13		Expenses (broadband/photocopying/mileage)	£ 24.50	£535.63	Clerk
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24/25. 28.2	2023/24 Audit. The audit paperwork had been collected from Westcotts Accountants. No issues were raised with everything being in order.	Clerk						

	The Certificate of Exemption to be submitted to the external auditor P K F Littlejohn by 1 July 2024.	
24/25.29.	To consider a response to items raised under the Public Session.	
24/25.29.1	Net Zero. This item will be further considered after the Public Meeting on 31 July 2024.	
24/25.30.	Correspondence received. Emails from various agencies had been forwarded to Councillors.	
24/25.30.1	DCC Transportation Planning Officer. Email – Public Engagement regarding enhancements to bus-rail integration at Barnstaple Railway Station. A consultation is running until 26/6/24. The proposals involve changes to the bus stop arrangements, so that all buses would stop directly outside the main station entrance and provision of a new bus-only access onto Sticklepath Terrace, enabling buses to avoid queues on Station Road. <i>Noted.</i>	
24/25.30.2	Safety of Lithium ion Batteries and e-bikes and scooters. Email from Ron Bailey, researcher for Lord (Don) Foster who has been campaigning on this issue in the House of Lords. Mr Bailey is also the parliamentary advisor to Electrical Safety First, a UK Charity dedicated to reducing the deaths and injuries caused by electricity. The email was forwarded to Councillors on 24/5/24 which asked for support of the campaign.	Clerk to send letter of support
24/25.30.3	Winkleigh Parish Council - Collaborative Working with other Councils. The Councillor who originally contacted Parishes is moving from the area and another Councillor will be taking the initiative forward and plans to be in contact in due course.	
24/25.30.4	North Devon Record Office (South West Heritage Trust). Letter of thanks for the annual grant of £50.00.	
24/25.30.5	State of the Road Petition. Sir Geoffrey Cox MP KC presented this to the House of Commons on 8/5/24.	
24/25.30.6	Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal update. Email received and circulated to Councillors on 4/6/24 which advised that any decision about the establishment of the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority (CCA) which is legally required to assume responsibility for new funds and powers transferred by Government from Whitehall to Devon and Torbay, has been deferred until after the General Election as there is now insufficient time before the Election to submit for Parliamentary approval the Statutory Instrument required to set up the Devon and Torbay CCA.	
24/25.30.7	Village Schools Partnership. Letter regarding the School Field, circulated to Councillors on 13/6/24. Councillor M Hill had spoken to a former Parish Councillor with historical knowledge who had advised that the land was originally owned by DCC and is now virtually in private hands. To be included on the July Agenda for a fuller discussion when more Councillors are present.	July Agenda
24/25.31.	Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday, 16 July 2024 at Bucks Cross Village Hall at 7.30pm. The meeting ended at 8.32pm.	

Summary of Decisions:

- **Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 21 May 2024**
- **Planning**
- **Payments**

These Minutes are agreed by those present as being a true record.

Signed:
Chair of Woolsery Parish Council.

Date: