

Parish Council Meeting 12th January 2015

Present : Chairman M Simmons, Parish Councillors A Hall, J Larkworthy, R Broome and T Flower.

Also present County Councillor S Barker, District Councillor M Colclough together with 6 parishioners.

Apologies – Cllrs. S Barker, D Smith and I White

Declarations – Members to declare any interests in matters for Discussion.

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting December 8th 2014 – Approved and signed by Chairman

Report from County Councillor – Cllr. Stuart Barker gave apologies.

Report from District Councillor – Cllr. Colclough advised that Teignbridge proposed to freeze Council Tax at the same level for another year. A 2.2% increase in staff salaries agreed in line with National Award (Also applies to Clerk). There has been a continuing squeeze on staff levels which is having an inevitable effect on services.

Report from PCSO – We have not heard from the PCSO for some time. Agreed Clerk should contact him and invite him/her to attend the next PC Meeting.

Planning – 2.1 – Planning Applications

Woodymead, Rectory Road 14/03580/FUL – Replace existing dwelling- The proposed replacement is only slightly larger than the existing building in terms of footprint and will not adversely affect environment or neighbours. No adverse comments.

2.2 Public Toilets at the Jolly Sailor – TDC seek January Transfer, update on outstanding issues- Various outstanding items to be addressed and agreed, faulty light to be repaired, keys to be provided for check of loft area, agreed to go ahead subject to these matters to acquire freehold for £1.00 nominal payment and agreement will be drawn up by TDC.

2.3 Electricity on the Green – Cllr. Larkworthy has emailed Western Power and is awaiting a response. Quotes are being obtained by Cllrs Broome and Larkworthy for the trench work.

2.4 Grass-cutting Schedule – review of Simon Jones' cutting list ongoing. Also wish to cut back overgrown hedge on Canada Hill, try to contact owner of field above but given dangerous nature of this stretch of road, should be a Highways matter. Steep banks off Reynell Road agreed that Simon should add this to his Schedule, possible get a contribution from Teignbridge who are presently supposed to cut the bank but rarely do.

2.5 Phone Box – options for removal or sale – Have now received an offer of £500.00 from an Ogwell Resident and, having confirmed that electricity was disconnected some time ago, he has paid for and removed the Telephone Box, hopefully captured by the Parish Magazine Editor.

2.6 Ogwell Brook – Planning/Enforcement Officers have visited the areas that should have been landscaped by Linden Homes and old piggeries and debris has been removed. Keep an eye on what is taking place but seems that end result will be a Public open space, which, given that a limited amount will be left for upkeep etc. is probably for the best. TDC Enforcement looking at LEAP Play Area as Linden are trying to wriggle out of provision. Possible answer could be a contribution towards updating Dawes Close Play Area, which is not too far away.

2.7 Tree-pruning – Request re Sycamore on Green overhanging Rosemount- Agreed that the Parish Council will cover the cost of a fairly hard prune back, since it belongs to the PC and a Quote of £160.00 has been agreed.

2.8 Shop at new Development – it appears that the possible shop would not be allowed a liquor licence so unlikely to ever become a Corner Shop. Possible Shop at Prickly Ball could be available (presently opens in Summer for Visitors) depending on interest. Proprietor asked to attend next PC meeting for discussions.

3.Paths and Highways –

3.1 –Footpaths and Cycle paths –Cllr Broome continuing with Paths Survey for Devon County Council. He is also to attend a site meeting re the proposed Cycle Path into Newton Abbot.

3.2 Canada Hill School Parking –discussion re resident’s complaint – no reply from Delphine Knott to letter from PC, try to contact PCSO for update on this and other matters.

4.Communications

4.1 Website – Update – Some-one using Twitter to send messages from “Ogwell Parish”. No-one on the PC responsible so whoever is doing this will be asked to stop. All asked to contribute to Web-Site and also items for Newsletter, next edition in Spring.

5. Democracy

5.1 Finance Report - Cheques written and agreed since last Meeting – Teignbridge District Council £81.64 for emptying Dog Bins, Vance Briggs & Co £21.96 - Replacement Ink Cartridge for Clerk’s Printer, Devon County Council £81.80 Meetings at Canada Hill School re Neighbourhood Planning.

As we need to consider next Year’s Budget, details and a Matrix from Teignbridge considered which seems to suggest that an increase of £740.00 would be acceptable – Budget produced by Clerk and agreed as set out:-

Budget for 2015-2016

Office, Clerk and Newsletter **£9,150.00**

Maintenance incl. Churchyard

Toilet Block & Improvements **£10,900.00**

Play Areas **£1,500.00**

S137 & Contingency **£1,190.00**

TOTAL **£22,740.00**

The Budget is based on Last year’s figures, this year’s figures to date and last year’s Budget. Our request for a Precept of £22,740 will be forwarded to Teignbridge by February 6th 2015. Proposed Cllr. Simmons, seconded by Cllr Broome and all present agreed.

5.1a Consideration of increase in Clerk’s pay following National Salary Award 2.2% for 2014-2016 which would amount to £81.00 extra per annum based upon Stipend of £3,696.00 for 30 hours per month. It was agreed by all that this National award should be made.

5.2 Neighbourhood Planning – Another Meeting on 15th January 2015.

5.3 New Parish Councillors – Elizabeth Dyas has been co-opted on to the Parish Council and also Christopher Davis who meets the residency requirements. Both will be given Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Interests Forms for completion at the next Meeting.

6. Any Urgent Matters at the discretion of the Chairman –

1. Letter of Thanks from “Sense and Play” re our donation – read out by the Chairman.

2 Notice Boards – it was agreed that Councillors and Clerk would make a point of tidying up and removing old Notices on a regular basis.

3. Humps on Canada Hill – the perpetual problem that the humps are coming adrift again.

7. Date of next meeting – The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 9th February 2015 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

Chairman
9th February 2015