



MINUTES OF DODDISCOMBSLEIGH'S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday 13th November 2014 at 7.30pm in Doddiscombsleigh Primary School

Present: Cllrs N Cupper (Chairman), V Brook, E Brook, J Le Marchant, M Porter, B Prest and S Stanley

In attendance: County Cllr J Brook & 8 members of the public

Locum Clerk: Suzanna Hughes

Open Forum

Tony Porter (not present at the meeting) wished to thank Ed and Vic Brook for cutting the hedges. However, the hedges along Tick Lane were still in need of cutting back and he requested that the Parish Council writes to the landowners on either side of the lane. Cllr E Brook confirmed that he would be cutting these.

Kevin Bridgeman expressed concerns about a planning application which has just been posted on Teignbridge District Council's website to demolish a bungalow and replace it with two detached dwellings at Half Acre, Doddiscombsleigh. His concerns related, in particular, to the impact the development would have on the highway. It was agreed that the application would be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting once the plans had been received and it had been advertised on a published agenda.

John Ponti thanked everyone who helped with the fireworks. From the profit, £350 is going to be put aside for next year, £200 has been given to Acorn Community Support, £50 to the school and £50 to the Church.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 7.54pm.

11/2014.01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- District Cllr S Purser

11/2014.02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

11/2014.03 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations.

11/2014.04 RATIFICATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9 October 2014 were approved by those present and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

11/2014.05 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Purser was unable to attend the meeting but sent a written report informing members that STRATA, the company set up jointly with Exeter and East Devon to provide IT services, went live on 1 November. Contracts are being let for alterations to the waste bulking station and also to lease a new fleet of refuse vehicles to provide for the revisions to the service from next year, probably May/June time. Locally, he urges everyone to complete the DCC highways consultation especially with regard to grit bins.

11/2014.06 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Jerry Brook reported that he is opposed to the proposals to cut the highways budget as set out in the consultation. With regard to the Boundary Commission's Electoral Review of Devon County Council, which amongst other things, was recommending a reduction in the number of councillors from 62 to 60, Cllr Brook stated that he would be happy to see the number of councillors reduced to 55. He reminded members that he still has some of his locality budget available if there are any village projects which need financial support. *[The Chairman informed members that Devon Air Ambulance will be looking for support in the New Year to help with the cost of purchasing some beacons to allow them to land at night].*

11/2014.07 DELEGATE REPORTS

No reports.

11/2014.08 PLANNING

8.1 New planning applications/appeals:

8.1.1 14/02969/NPA - Spanish Lake Farm, Doddiscombsleigh

Application for Prior Approval under Part 3 Class MB (a) and paragraph N of the GPDO for change of use of a barn from agricultural use to a dwelling

The majority of members had no objections to this application.

8.2 Decisions:

8.2.1 14/02924/CAN – Shippen Barton Barn, Shippen Barton, Doddiscombsleigh

Felling of three trees, pruning of one tree

Members noted that TDC have no objections to these works being carried out.

8.2.2 14/03091/CAN - Shippen Barton Barn, Shippen Barton, Doddiscombsleigh

Pruning of one walnut tree

Members noted that TDC have no objections to these works being carried out.

8.2.3 14/00050/REF – Little Leigh Farm, Doddiscombsleigh

Appeal against TDC's decision refusing permission for change of use from agricultural building to dwellinghouse

Members noted that the appeal has been dismissed.

11/2014.09 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Chairman reported that the Steering Group had met since the last Parish Council meeting and they have learnt that if landowners wish to put forward pieces of land for potential development they should contact Graham Davey, Rural Housing Enabler at Teignbridge District Council.

Cllr Stanley reported that she had attended a training session to help understand 'Devon Home Choice' and the process of bidding for properties. She considered that it would be useful for parishioners to be aware of this process and would therefore write a paragraph in January's parish magazine giving more information.

11/2014.10 'SMARTEN UP DODDI SCHEME' (SUDS)

The Chairman reported that there was nothing further to report at this stage.

11/2014.11 HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS

The Chairman advised that a pothole survey has been completed and sent to Devon County Council. 43 potholes/defects have been reported.

11/2104.12 CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 Members received correspondence from The Local Government Boundary Commission for England informing them that they have formally commenced an electoral review of Devon County Council. The electoral review will recommend new electoral arrangements for Devon County Council, in particular the total number of councillors elected to the council, the number of divisions, the number of councillors representing each division, division boundaries and names of divisions. For more information visit www.lgbce.org.uk.

12.2 The Chairman announced that there will be a Charity Table Top Sale at The Nobody Inn on 8 December, 2.30 - 7.00pm, in aid of Acorn Community Support.

11/2014.13 ITEMS REQUIRING URGENT ATTENTION

[Members were reminded that they have not received the statutory notice of this business to be transacted and should therefore recognise that any decision made may be taken to be unlawful if challenged in the future]

Cllr Stanley informed members that she had been doing some research into permitted development rights following the dismissed appeal at Little Leigh Farm.

After a discussion, it was agreed that the clerk should write to TDC's Business Manager (Planning), Nick Davies, voicing the Parish Council's concerns about some recent planning decisions refusing permission for the conversion of agricultural buildings to residential dwellings despite the government's legislation relating to permitted development rights and seeking his comment.

11/2014.14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the date of the next meeting will be Thursday 4 December 2014 at 7.30pm in Doddiscombsleigh Primary School.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Signed.....