

LANDKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Old School Centre on Wednesday 5th June 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: - Chairman Councillor Halliday
Councillors Beer, Mrs Hommell, Lane, Lovell, Mrs Morton and Prowse

Also Present: M. Isaac Parish Clerk.

Apologies:- NDC Councillor Luggar

42. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 8th May 2019 were approved as correct a record and signed by the Chairman.

a) There were no matters arising from the previous meeting

43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest announced.

44. QUESTIONS TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

A Parishioner asked why the provision of a mirror in the hedge/road verge for emerging vehicles from Denes Road onto Birch Road to enable people to see on coming vehicles had been refused by DCC.

It was reported that DCC had refused the request on health and safety grounds

45. REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

In the absence of Councillor Edgell there was no DCC report

46. REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor Lane stated that there were no NDC issues to report

47. COMMUNITY SHIELD AWARD 2019

The Chairman presented the Community Shield award for 2019 to Chris Williams for his services to the Village.

48. COMMUNITY AND ALLOTMENT LAND, BIRCH ROAD - UPDATE

The Clerk reported the receipt of an e mail from the Parish Council's Solicitor giving a breakdown of the legal costs to date and to be incurred.

Councillor Halliday reported that 3 Councillors had met Ian Smith, Devonshire Homes on site to discuss the access into the Community land area and clarify the transfer of the two parcels of land. It was agreed that Devonshire Homes would fence the Community Building land to 'fill-in'

the gaps between any sound and presentable existing walls and remove the external walls of the barn structures. The proposed fence would be timber posts with two horizontal rails, to a height of 1200mm (4'ft) and would be installed at Devonshire Homes' cost, upon exit from that area.

The provision of vehicular access into the site would with the provision of a gate be an extra £300

The allotment land would also need to be fenced. This would be at the cost of the Parish Council. Devonshire Homes had indicated that they would be prepared to provide a fence of 1200mm high timber post and two rail fencing with stock-proof mesh on the outer face. The fencing would run on two sides of the allotment area – utilising the existing hedge for the third side and the existing c/b timber fencing for the fourth side. A single 900mm wide timber field style gate to be included with a latch, adjacent to an agreed entry point. The total length would be 77.7m. The cost of this had been estimated at £1460.00 (VAT is zero rated).

Councillor Beer stated that he would get an alternative quote from Graham Lane to fence the allotment land.

It was also stated that access to the MUGA etc from the estate would be possible in September/October

49. FENCING

See minute 48 above

50. NDC CONTRACT FOR EMPTYING DOG BINS

The Clerk outlined NDC contract details to provide a service to empty dog bins within the district.

It was agreed that contract from NDC to empty the Parish Council's dog bins be accepted and signed and that the 2 dog bins be emptied once a week

51. COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW: REPRESENTATIONS RE REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

The Council expressed concern that following the recent Parish Council Boundary review when 2 sites in Landkey Parish earmarked for large scale development were transferred to Barnstaple the considerable increase in the population of the Parish over a number of years due to major developments in the village had not been taken into account and Parish Council was inexplicably reduced from 9 Councillors to 7.

It was stated that Landkey was the largest Parish outside the main Town/Parish Council's in North Devon. It was noted that there were a number of Parish Council's in North Devon that had more than 7 Councillors and a lesser population.

It was further stated that the Parish Council had no problem recruiting people to serve on the Parish Council and when a vacancy occurred there was always a number of people wishing to be co-opted

It was agreed that NDC be formally requested to consider increasing the number of Councillors on the Parish Council by 2 to re-establish the number to 9 which has historically always been the case since the Parish Council was first formed.

52. POLICE

There were no issues to report.

53. HIGHWAY MATTERS

The following issues were raised:

It was reported that the 30 mph sign in Blakeshill Road was obscured by the hedge

54. PLAYING FIELDS

The Clerk reported that the following the recent works the contractor had reported that the Spring Rockers were beyond repair and needed replacing.

A quote of £1,965.60 (incl VAT) had been received from TK Play to replace the 2 spring rockers.

It was agreed that the quote from TK Play be accepted subject to s106 funds being available to fund the purchase of the 2 spring rockers

The Clerk reported that the shackles on the swings in Bakery Way needed replacing. This would be funded by ND Homes.

55. MILLENNIUM GREEN

It was asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to loan the PA system for a dog show in September and if it would agree to the container being located on the Community land when the land has been transferred.

The Council agreed to loan the Trust the PA system for the Dog Show in September and in principle give authorisation for the container to be located on the Community land once the land has been transferred

It was also agreed to loan the tables to the Castle Inn for a charity event

56. OLD SCHOOL CENTRE

Councillor Beer reported that the broken window had been fixed. It was stated that the toilet door needed repairing

The Clerk reported that following the recent Ecology report it had been discovered that there were slow worms on the site. As a protected species an additional report was required to be submitted with the planning application. The Chairman had authorised the additional reptile mitigation strategy report to enable the planning application to be submitted at an additional costs of £75

57. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER

There were no issues to report.

58. NEW BUSINESS CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported the following correspondence:

- a) An E Mail from NDC regarding s106 open space priorities.

The existing priorities were confirmed with the addition of new play equipment:

- Community/Village Hall
- Creation of a hardstanding events area, Millennium Green and footpath works – subject to confirmation from the Millennium Green Trustees

- b) A letter from Alfie Hommell regarding the provision of a Skate park

It was agreed that the request be noted and considered when the Community land has been transferred to the Parish Council

Councillor Mrs Hommell declared an interest in the above matter

- c) Planning Training. Councillors Beer and Mrs Hommell reported on their planning training course

59. FINANCE

RESOLVED:

a) Payments

The following payments were approved: -

M. Isaac	Clerk's Expenses	£	13.10
S.Pollard	Payment to Mr McCarthy (Grass Cutting)	£	25.00
J. Snooks	Internal Audit Fee	£	200.00
Fremington PC	Planning Training	£	60.00
C. Waldron	Quarterly Web site maintenance fee	£	33.00
Camel Glass	OSC Window repair	£	189.36

(b) Audit 2018/19

(i) Annual Return 2018/19 (General): -

The Council noted the issues raised by the Auditor in her letter to the Clerk.

(ii) Audited Receipts and Payments Account 2018/19:-

The Council noted that the Auditor had advised the Council to ratify the Receipts and Payments Account 2018/19”

(iii) Annual Return (Specific)–

The Council noted that the Auditor had confirmed that all the relevant sections of the return had been completed and advised Councillors that, if they saw fit, they should adopt the Return and that it should be completed and signed by the Chairperson/Clerk (Responsible Financial Officer) as necessary.

RESOLVED that:

The Annual Return 2018/19, Receipt and Payments Account 2018/19 and Bank reconciliation

60 PLANNING MATTERS

a) To consider the following application:

65448 Outline application (with all matters reserved except access) for up to 820 dwellings, up to 0.28 HA Neighbourhood Hub, up to 1.9 HA Employment uses, primary school, community sports provision & network open spaces together with highways & other infrastructure works (amended plans), land at Westacott, North of A36, Landkey

The Council noted a letter from Barwood Land.

It was considered that without the relevant plans and due to the numerous PDF documents it was unable to consider the application.

It was agreed to invite the NDC Planning Officer to the next Council meeting to outline the relevant details

61. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT NEXT MEETING

There were no issues raised

62. NEXT MEETING

It was noted and agreed that the next Parish Council meeting would be held in the **OLD SCHOOL CENTRE** on Wednesday 3rd July 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

Chairman

Meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.