

# EAST ANSTEY PARISH COUNCIL

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## The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 at Allways End Methodist Hall at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Cllr's I Vigus (Chair), D Barber, R Gibson, J Griffin, Mrs H Warne and Miss R Warne.

**In attendance:** District Cllr E Ley, thirteen members of the public and the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

### **01/05/18. Election of Officers:**

**a) Chair.** Cllr Ian Vigus was unanimously elected as Chair.

Proposed by Cllr Mrs H Warne and seconded by Cllr Miss R Warne.

**b) Vice-chair.** Cllr David Barber was unanimously elected as Vice-chair.

Proposed by Cllr I Vigus and seconded by Cllr J Griffin.

**02/05/18. To receive apologies.** Apologies were accepted from Cllr R Milton.

**03/05/18. Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda.** There were no disclosures.

**04/05/18. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2018 as an accurate record of the meeting.** The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

**05/05/18. Matters arising from the minutes, not covered on the agenda.** There were no matters arising.

**06/05/18. Public Questions.** A parishioner asked whether enquiries had been made regarding whether it would be possible to receive any funding towards the purchase of Allways End Methodist Hall from the Batsworthy Cross Wind Farm Community Grant Fund. This will be dealt with under the next item.

**07/05/18. To discuss and agree the way forward regarding community facilities.** Cllr Barber reported that he had made enquiries about applying to the Batsworthy Cross Wind Farm Community Grant Fund for a grant towards the purchase of Allways End Methodist Hall. He had been advised that under the regulations for awarding grants it wouldn't qualify but if an application was made it would be considered and there would be no limit on the amount. If any application is made for a substantial amount the applicant needs to show that all the additional funding required is in place to prove the financial viability of the application. The Batsworthy Fund is receiving lots of application for funding towards the maintenance of village halls. There is no additional funding in place towards the purchase of the hall and therefore an application will not be made. The Methodist Circuit has been advised that the Parish Council will not be

seeking funding to purchase the hall and it will be put on the market. If any other groups or people in the parish want to try and raise the money they can speak to the Methodist Circuit.

There was some confusion among members of the public regarding the Parish Council's decision at the last meeting regarding a future community hall. It was confirmed that the only decision made was that the Methodist Circuit would be asked if they could give the Council time to find out if funding would be available from the Batsworthy Cross Wind Farm Community Grant Fund towards the cost of purchasing the hall.

Cllr Barber reported he had met with Charles Gillett's executors to discuss purchasing part of the field adjacent to the Village Green. It is hoped that the Parish Council will be able to at least purchase enough land for an air ambulance night landing site. It was agreed the Parish Council need to take this opportunity to purchase the land if at all possible.

The Parish Council has received a letter from the Head of the Exmoor Link Federation, which includes East Anstey Primary School, supporting the idea of building a community facility and car park on the Village Green if it is enlarged. At the moment the Parish Council cannot do anything. If the land adjacent to the Village Green goes to auction a member of the parish said they would consider trying to purchase the land and if they were successful would be willing to help with land for an air ambulance night landing site.

#### **08/05/18. Planning**

- a) To make a recommendation on any planning applications received by the council before the meeting.** No applications received.
- b) To note any decisions made on planning applications by NDC.** No decision notices received.
- c) Update on the NDC Planning Meeting date for applications for Oaklands Poultry Farm, pt Hillands, East Anstey.** No further update as to when the application will be discussed by the NDC Planning Committee. It was recognised that the material consideration for opposing the applications are the close proximity to dwellings at Blackerton and the potential to impact on the viability of the affordable housing scheme for Blackerton.
- d) Any other planning matters.** No other planning matters.

#### **09/05/18. Highways**

- a) To note, for reporting to DCC/SCC, any highways problems and to note works that have been carried out.** The usual issues remain. Broomball Lane is in a terrible condition. There are plans for the road from Rhyll Cross to Barton Cross to be resurfaced but the drains are still blocked even though the drains on the main road have been unblocked. The manhole over the drain near the bottom of the lane to Lower Radnidge Farm has dropped further and there is now a 4" drop.
- b) Any other highways issues.** No other highways issues.

#### **10/05/18. To receive the following reports:**

- a) District Cllr.** Cllr Ley reported that the next possible Planning Committee meeting that the Oaklands Poultry Farm could be considered at would be 15<sup>th</sup> June but that could be subject to change. He reminded the Parish Council that

they could apply to his Community Grant Fund for funding up to £1,000. He referred to the discussion on the community hall and said he had seen a couple of parishes who had been in a similar situation. Bishops Nympton had been in a similar situation twenty years ago and had found it was a waste of time chasing the unachievable as they couldn't get funding for a hall without a carpark. They had lost thousands trying to achieve the unachievable. The barn at Woodburn Cross now has two chimneys. Planning enforcement is weak and the owners have to be given the chance to apply for permission. Two of the enforcement officers have recently left NDC allegedly because of their frustration with the long drawn out enforcement process.

**b) County Cllr.** No report. Cllr Ley suggested the Parish Council should consider getting involved in the highways scheme for Town and Parish Councils.

**c) Village Fete Working Party.** Cllr Barber reported that planning for the fete was in hand and he will be talking to individual people about helping on the day. He will report to the next meeting, ahead of the fete on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **11/05/18. Finance:**

**a) To approve invoices for payment.** It was resolved to make the following payments: Mrs J Larcombe - £165.00 April & May salary & expenses (Chq no 274)

South Molton & Ringsash Methodist Circuit - £138.00 hire of the hall and electricity from April 2017 – March 2018 and £30.00 contribution towards the electricity for the defibrillator May 2018 – April 2017. It was agreed to pay the invoice for the hire of the hall and electricity and to pay three months electricity for the defibrillator, total £145.50 (Chq no 272).

**b) To approve the renewal of the annual insurance.** It was agreed to renew the annual insurance with Zurich - £3327.98 (Chq no 273)

**c) Accounts for 2017-18.** The accounts were noted. The full documents for approval will be presented at the next meeting.

**d) To agree the Churchyard grant for 2018-19.** It was agreed to give a grant of £450.00 (Chq no 271).

**e) To agree the purchase of merchandise inscribed with numbers for the defibrillator to give to parishioners.** Cllr Mrs Warne has received the DIRT Scheme phone number from the Community Heartbeat Trust (01398 505565) and it was agreed that she will order the key rings from Total Merchandise. These will have the phone number and the code for the defibrillator cabinet. There will be one more dummy run to test the DIRTS Scheme before it goes live.

**f) Financial Regulations.** It was agreed to adopt the NALC Model Financial regulations personalised for East Anstey Parish Council.

#### **12/05/18. Play Area**

**a) Any points to note from the weekly inspections.** There were no points to note from the report. Councillors will look at the play area to see what work needs to be carried out and a working party will be arranged.

**b) To agree who will carry out inspections for the next month.** Cllr Griffin will carry out the inspections for the next month.

**c) Any other matters arising.** No other matters arising.

**13/05/18. Preparations for the new General Data Protection Regulations.** The Clerk advised that changes to the draft legislation mean that Parish Councils will no longer be required to have a Data Protection Officer. She is preparing privacy

notices and a Data Protection Policy using templates included in the NALC Toolkit for GDPR.

**14/05/18. Opportunity to raise any questions on items discussed during the meeting.**

East Anstey PCC are still trying to raise money to replace the Church electrics and gutters and asked how to make an application to the Batsworthy Cross Wind Farm Community Grant Fund. They were directed to the website and encouraged to make an application.

There was a request for a referendum to make the decision on the options for a future community hall. There is no point in having a referendum at present as the Parish Council do not own enough land to go forward.

**15/05/18. Correspondence received by the Parish Council.** There was no further correspondence.

**16/05/18. Date of the next meeting.** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th June 2018 at Allways End Methodist Hall at 7.30pm.