

EAST ANSTEY PARISH COUNCIL

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DRAFT MINUTES

These minutes will be agreed at the Parish Council Meeting on 2nd September and might be subject to slight amendment

The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held virtually via Zoom on Wednesday 5th August 2020 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr's D Barber (Chair of Meeting), I Vigus (Chair of Parish Council), R Milton, Ms L Moore, Mrs H Warne and Miss R Warne and R Milton (Chair of West Anstey Parish Meeting).

In attendance: District Cllr E Ley and the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

It was agreed that Cllr Barber would take the chair for this virtual meeting.

175/08/20. To receive apologies. No apologies received.

176/08/20. Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda. Cllr Mrs Warne declared a personal and pecuniary interest in an item of correspondence from Mr Gosling, Whitemoor Equestrian Centre, as her daughter has loaned a horse from Mrs Gosling.

177/08/20. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 8th July 2020 as an accurate record of the meeting. With the addition of Cllr J Griffin to the list of attendees the minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

178/08/20. Matters arising from the minutes, not covered on the agenda. There were no matters arising,

179/08/20. Public Questions. There were no members of the public.

180/08/20. 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 decisions received.

c) Any other planning matters. Cllr Milton is to compose a letter to NDC asking for details of when they will be taking enforcement action at Oaklands Poultry Unit following the Planning Inspector's decision to uphold NDC's decision to refuse permission for five planning applications.

181/08/20. Highways - any highways issues. It was reported that there are two metal /utility covers protruding by about two inches from the road surface near

Blackerton Garage. There was concern that they were particularly dangerous to bicycles. Cllr Ms Moore will report this online and upload photos. The road surface is very rough on either side of the bridge near the kennels and this will be reported by Cllr Milton.

182/08/20. Reports

- a) District Cllr.** Cllr Ley reported that he had spoken to the Planning Officer delegated to make the decision on planning application 70720, regarding the Parish Council's concern that a barn at Melcoe Park Farm is being lived in and the proposed temporary agricultural workers dwelling would be a second dwelling. NDC need tangible proof that the barn is being lived in before it can be considered when making a decision on the application. Cllr Ley asked if the Council had informed NDC that their Open Space Priority had changed.
- b) County Cllr.** No report.

Rex Milton joined the meeting during this item.

c) Anstey Village Hall Committee Meeting 21st July. Cllr Vigus and Cllr Barber attended the meeting on 21st July, which was held via Zoom. At the Anstey Village Hall Committee meeting held on 12th March it was suggested that two members from East Anstey Parish Council, namely Cllr Vigus and Cllr Barber, be co-opted onto the committee, but this does not seem to have been formally agreed. Cllr Vigus said he would not be able to become a member of the committee and if two places are offered then another councillor will be needed. It was felt that the Parish Council needed formal representation on the committee before informing NDC that their Open Space Priority was now the improvements to Anstey Village Hall, as East Anstey parish no longer has its own hall and has no plans for one. It is hoped that if East Anstey Parish Council confirm the improvements to Anstey Village Hall is their Open Space Priority, they might be able to access funding from NDC. This would be to replace the S106 money from Blackerton which NDC has allocated towards the new leisure centre at Barnstaple. There was concern that if the Parish Council does not do this then the S106 funding might be lost completely, The former Chair and Secretary of (West) Anstey Village Hall Committee stepped down, the new officers are still fairly new to their roles and are trying to do their best for the hall while learning fully how the committee should operate. The Clerk said she was willing to talk to the Chair to discuss how to move forward. The meeting discussed the improvement plans. Cllr Yabsley has provided funding from his Locality Budget to pay for the architect's fees to draw up plans for a proposed new bar area. The Chair of the Village Hall Committee has arranged to meet with the architect on 7th August and it was decided that Rex Milton, Cllr Mrs Warne and Cllr Ley would join that meeting.

183/08/20. Finance.

- a) To approve invoices for payment.** It was resolved to make the following payment: Mrs J Larcombe - £88.00 Clerk's salary.
It was agreed that the purchasers of the phone box will pay cash to Cllr Griffin and he will make an online payment into the Council's bank account. This will avoid the need to take a cheque into a bank to deposit.
- b) To agree the payment of the Churchyard Grant.** It was resolved to give East Anstey PCC a grant of £450.00 towards the upkeep of the churchyard.

184/08/20. Play Area

a) Any issues arising from playground inspections. No issues reported. Signs warning the users of the playground equipment about the risks of Covid-19, and the measures they should be taking as a precaution, have been put up in the play area. A sign asking people not to park in front of the entrance gates has been put up.

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

185/08/20. Website accessibility requirement. The Clerk explained that The Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) Accessibility Regulations 2018 requires public sector bodies, which includes parish councils, to ensure reasonable adjustments are made to their websites, so they are accessible to people with various disabilities. From 23 September 2020 all local council websites will have to comply with those regulations. Local councils need to make reasonable adjustments to their websites and operations so people can access information. They are required to include an accessibility statement on their website setting out to what extent they meet the requirements and what alternative arrangements are available. Good practice would also see councils including a plan to narrow the accessibility gap over time. The website standards that councils are expected to meet are the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1. The Clerk has carried out a check using Sitesort to check what changes need to be made. Only information added since 23 September 2018 needs to meet the requirements. It was agreed that the Council would pay the Clerk for additional hours needed to carry out this work.

186/08/20. Correspondence: Mr Gosling, Whitemoor Equestrian Centre, has emailed the Clerk to inform the Council that, possibly, within the week starting 03/08/2020, they will be accepting delivery of stone for use in the construction of the riding arena extension, for which NDC has given planning consent. NDC has also been made aware of the same during a visit by an enforcement officer who was following up a report of an alleged illegal puppy farm and business activities other than equestrian being conducted from the premise of Gosling Stud Limited (in this case a transport business). Mr Gosling said these were all unfounded. They have re-commenced hedge bank construction using material previously stockpiled on site (the EA is also aware of this). If, and or when it is necessary to import further material to complete the project, they will keep the Parish Council informed.

187/08/20. Opportunity to raise any questions on items discussed during the meeting. No questions.

188/08/20. To decide on the date of the next meeting. Anstey Village Hall is re-opening and the committee have provided a risk assessment and instructions on how to use the hall in a Covid-19 safe way. It was agreed to hold the next meeting on Wednesday 2nd September at Anstey Village Hall at 7.30pm.

