

EAST ANSTEY PARISH COUNCIL

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The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 29th November 2017 at Allways End Methodist 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, fourteen members of the public and the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe

105/11/17. To receive apologies. Apologies were accepted from Cllr R Milton. Apologies were received from County Cllr J Yabsley.
Cllr Mrs S Stanley has resigned from the Council because she has moved away from the area.

106/11/17. Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda. There were no disclosures.

107/11/17. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 1st November as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

108/11/17. Matters arising from the minutes, not covered on the agenda. There were no matters arising.

Cllr Gibson joined the meeting.

109/11/17. Public Question Time. A parishioner complained about what he considered to be a planning free for all. Firstly he brought up the number of mobile homes springing up in the parish. There is now one at Hillands even though a decision has not been made on the planning application to site one at the poultry unit. The parishioner also complained that the planning applications for the erection of mobile poultry houses and concrete pads were retrospective. He reported a gateway had been opened up onto the road just below Tuckers Moor Cross and tonnes of earth are being delivered to the Whitemoor Equestrian Centre. It was questioned whether there is a licence for the work. A trailer parked on the side of the road outside of the equestrian centre has also upset parishioners.

Blackerton residents reported their site visit to the poultry unit at Hillands did not allay their fears. Reference was made to the differences in information supplied for the various planning application for this site. As more applications have been made, more information has been supplied but it was felt that it didn't stack up.

The prevailing wind is directly in line with Blackerton which doesn't agree with what has been written in a report with the application. A parishioner said the

prevailing wind for Exmoor is westerly.

The site is believed to be in a nitrate vulnerable zone and there will be dirty water run off when the concrete pads are cleaned. Chicken muck from the grazing area and the concrete pads will get into the River Yeo which is only 70 metres away at its nearest point..

There are already 28,000 free range hens in the parish. If there is a disease outbreak there is the potential for everyone to lose their businesses and their employees their jobs.

There was concern about the control of flies, rodents and vermin and also noise when the chickens are loaded onto lorries at night. It is thought the lorries will have to stay on the road to be loaded.

It was questioned whether the farm that was reported to be taking the chicken manure has adequate capacity to take it all.

This is farming on an industrial scale and there will be a visual impact.

110/11/17. Planning

a) To make a recommendation on any planning applications received by the council before the meeting.

64059: Retrospective application for siting of four concrete pads & erection of two mobile poultry houses with two feed silos (pads 1 - 4) at Oaklands Poultry Farm (pt Hillands), East Anstey, EX36 3PH.

64060: Retrospective application for siting of four concrete pads & erection of two mobile poultry houses with two feed silos (pads 5 - 8) at Oaklands Poultry Farm (pt Hillands), East Anstey, EX36 3PH.

64061: Retrospective application for siting of four concrete pads & erection of two mobile poultry houses with two feed silos (pads 9 – 12) at Oaklands Poultry Farm (pt Hillands), East Anstey, EX36 3PH.

64062: Retrospective application for siting of four concrete pads & erection of two mobile poultry houses with two feed silos (pads 13 - 16) at Oaklands Poultry Farm (pt hillands), East Anstey, EX36 3PH.

64063: Retrospective application for siting of four concrete pads & erection of two mobile poultry houses with two feed silos (pads 17 - 20) at Oaklands Poultry Farm (pt Hillands), East Anstey, EX36 3PH.

Applicant: Mr L Chappell.

Comment: East Anstey Parish Council strongly recommend refusal for all five applications for the following reasons:

- BY virtue of the separation distance between the mobile poultry houses and the neighbouring properties at Blackerton, the distance between one mobile poultry house and the nearest residential curtilage has been measured at 89.5 metres, the development of this site will result in an unacceptable level of environmental nuisance because of flies, odour, rodents and noise from night time loading of chicken which will take place on a regular basis. This is contrary to Policy DVS 3 Amenity Considerations.
- The prevailing wind is westerly and residents at Blackerton will be subjected to an unacceptable level of odour on a regular basis when the houses are cleaned out. The development site is likely to be subject to climatic inversion.
- Pollution of the River Yeo from run off from the cleaning of the pads and from the grazing area. At the nearest point the River Yeo is estimated to be only 70 metres from the development.

- The site is believed to be in a NVZ zone.
- This development is on an industrial scale and would result in significant visual intrusion and would result in an unacceptable harmful impact on the open countryside and nearby moorland.
- There is no area within the development to load poultry to take to the processing plant and it is understood loading will be onto lorries parked on a narrow single track road.

b) To note any decisions made on planning applications by NDC. There were no decisions.

c) Any other planning matters. A letter will be sent to Peter Heaton-Jones MP raising the parish's concerns about the current planning system.

111/11/17. Parish Council Vacancy. A vacancy has been created by Cllr Mrs Stanley's resignation. The Parish Council can now co-opt someone to fill the vacancy and this will be advertised on the notice boards and website. Anyone interested will be asked to write to/email the Clerk saying why they are interested in becoming a councillor and what skills they can bring to the role. If there is more than one applicant there will be a paper ballot at the next meeting on 3rd January.

112/11/17. Highways

a) To note, for reporting to DCC/SCC, any highways problems and to note works that have been carried out. Potholes were reported in the road opposite Pigginswood. There is mud on the road between Woodburn Cross and Counties Meet due to the soil being taken into the Whitemoor Equestrian Centre. A check will be made to see if there is a licence from the Environment Agency for this soil to be moved.

b) Any other highways issues. There are still some bags of salt stored at Dave Lee's yard that can be used if road conditions in the parish are icy or there is snow. The Clerk will find out if DCC will give the Council some more bags.

113/11/17. To receive the following reports:

a) District Cllr. Cllr Ley reported there is a vacancy on the panel for the Batsworthy Cross Community Grant Fund. He advised the Council that it would be better to just apply for a large grant towards a community facility in the future and not make a small application for play equipment at this point. .

b) County Cllr. No report.

114/11/17. Finance:

a) To approve invoices for payment. It was resolved to make the following payments:

Mr J Hill - £975.00 grass cutting & strimming Village Green (Chq no 265)

Mrs J Larcombe - £85.90 Clerk's salary & expenses (Chq no 266)

b) To plan the budget for 2018-19 and agree the Precept. A draft budget for 2018-19 was discussed by the Council. The Parish Grant has been reduced by 50% to £226.00 and the Council Tax Support Grant has been reduced to £61.33 from £85.92. It was agreed to request a precept of £3,000, the same as 2017-18. NDC have not given the Clerk the Council Tax Base figure so the Band D rate could not be calculated at this point. NDC supply this figure after the Parish Council has indicated what their precept is likely to be.

115/11/17. Play Area

a) Any points to note from the weekly inspections. Cllr Griffin reported the litter bin can now be emptied.

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

c) Update on funding application for play equipment. Following Cllr Ley's advice an application for most of the funding will be made to Awards for All.

d) Any other matters arising. There were no matters arising.

116/11/17. Update on VETS scheme for the defibrillator. Cllr Mrs Warne has contacted the Community Heartbeat Trust to arrange another training session for the volunteers who have agreed to be part of the VETS scheme.

117/11/17. Update on proposed conversion of phone box to display notices and posters. When the Vets Scheme has been set up Cllr Mrs Warne will deal with the conversion.

118/11/17. Batsworthy Cross Wind Farm Community Fund – Panel Vacancy. Once details about applying have been received Cllr Barber will complete the forms and apply.

119/11/17. Opportunity to raise any questions on items discussed during the meeting. It was decided to hold the 2018 Village Fete on Saturday June 21st.

120/11/17. Correspondence received by the Parish Council. There was no further correspondence.

121/11/17. Date of the next meeting. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd January 2018 at 7.30pm at Allways End Methodist Hall.