

EAST ANSTEY PARISH COUNCIL

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The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held virtually on Wednesday 2nd December 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Present: Cllr's Mrs H Warne (Chair), R Gibson, J Griffin, R Milton and Miss R Warne.

In attendance: County Cllr J Yabsley, District Cllr E Ley, Rex Milton (Chair of West Anstey Parish Meeting), three members of the public and the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

236/12/20. To receive apologies. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Ms L Moore.

237/12/20. Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda. Cllr Mrs Warne declared a personal interest in item 242/12/20 a) as her daughter has loaned a horse from Mrs Gosling. She stated that she would not take any part in this item because of previous allegations made against her following a discussion of matters regarding this site.

238/12/20. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2020 and the Planning Meeting held on 20th November as accurate records of the meetings. Both sets of minutes were agreed as accurate records of the meetings.

239/12/20. Matters arising from the minutes, not covered on the agenda. There were no matters arising.

240/12/20. Public Questions. There were no questions from members of the public.

241/12/20. Election of Vice-chair. Cllr R Gibson was unanimously elected as Vice-chair. Proposed by Cllr R Milton and seconded by Cllr Miss R Warne.

242/12/20. Planning

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

Cllr Mrs Warne declared a personal interest but stood down from the Chair because of previous allegations made against her following discussions about matters regarding this site. Cllr Gibson took the Chair while the two applications were discussed.

Cllr Yabsley joined the meeting at this point.

72460 Outline application for 1 dwelling (All matters reserved) at Whitemoor Stables, East Anstey.

Cllr Gibson reported that he had had some information delivered to him regarding this application. A supporting statement for a previous application,

made by the previous owners, to support the need for accommodation on the site was accompanied by a letter from the RSPCA stating that the applicants were working with the RSPCA and looking after horses for them that needed 24hour care. Cllr Gibson said he had been given a copy of a letter from the RSPCA stating that it has not had horses at this yard since 2016.

Comment: The applicant has not provided the compelling evidence required to demonstrate the essential operational need for the dwelling to be considered acceptable.

72504 Variation of condition 2 (occupation) attached to planning permission 62948 (continued siting of timber chalet to provide permanent manager's accommodation connected with the equestrian use of the site) to allow for use by staff and visitors at Whitemoor Stables, East Anstey.

Comment: The agricultural tie on the dwelling should be lifted before the variation can be allowed

Cllr Mrs Warne took the Chair again.

b) To note any decisions made on planning applications by NDC. No decisions received.

NDC has declined to determine applications 71990, 71991, 77992, 71993 and 71994 Re-submission of retrospective applications for the construction of concrete pads to site mobile poultry houses at Oaklands Poultry Farm, West Anstey.

c) Any other planning matters. It was noted that application 63426 retrospective application for change of use of land to allow siting of mobile home as temporary agricultural workers dwelling (amended description) at land at Pt Hillands, East Anstey was refused on 21st March 2019. This is part of Oaklands Poultry Farm. The Parish Council will ask for this to be enforced as the mobile home is still on site and is lived in.

243/12/20. Highways - any highways issues. The usual holes in the roads were noted. Broomball Lane, behind East Anstey Church, is in a very bad condition. Cllr Yabsley encouraged everyone to keep reporting potholes online as that is the only way to get roads on a patching schedule.

244/12/20. Reports

a) District Cllr. Some of the recycling team at NDC have tested positive for Covid-19 and three teams are off with Covid or are self-isolating due to someone coming to work with Covid. Waste and recycling collections are expected to be erratic for the next fourteen days.

b) County Cllr. Cllr Yabsley reported that DCC has incurred costs of £45million due to Covid -19. A member of the public told Cllr Yabsley that he had reported a blocked drain at the Tuckers Moor junction and when this was looked at it was decided it needed a gully cleaner vehicle to clear it and the drain remains blocked. Drains inside a 30mph speed limit are usually clear once a year but drains outside of a 30mph speed limit are usually only cleared every three years. The member of the public had been told that highways could not get hold of a vehicle to clear the drain. Cllr Yabsley said the Highways Officer is looking at getting a small gully cleaner vehicle and he will try to progress getting the drain cleared.

c) Anstey Village Hall AGM. The AGM was held via Zoom on 12th November. Cllr Mrs Warne was elected on to the Committee. The minutes will be

circulated.

245/12/20. Finance

a) To approve invoices for payment. It was resolved to make the following payment: Mrs J Larcombe – £90.40 Clerk's salary

An invoice for £1,100 for grass cutting at the village green was received from MJ Cable two days after the last meeting. As Mr Cable was pressing for payment and a quote for that amount had been accepted by the Parish Council the Clerk reported that the payment had been made.

b) To note the payment for the planning application for Anstey Village Hall and the receipt of 50% of the cost from West Anstey Parish Meeting.

As agreed at the Parish Council meeting held on 14th October 2020 (item 215/10/20 c) the planning application fee of £256.00 was paid by East Anstey Parish Council. The clerk made a card payment and has been refunded by the Parish Council. A cheque for £128.00 has been received from West Anstey Parish Meeting as their 50% share of the cost.

c) To discuss the quotes for solar panels on Anstey Village Hall and using the grant from NDC. The initial quotes obtained were for a 6 Kwh installation which is domestic and not adequate for the hall. New quotes have been obtained for 11/12 Kwh systems. The cost will be £2,618 more than the grant awarded by NDC. If batteries are added to the system to store the electricity generated it will increase the cost by a further £6000/£7000. The cost of batteries is likely to reduce over the next few years and in the meantime the electricity could be used to heat water and also storage heaters if additional grant funding is obtained to purchase them. The solar panels will need the heating system to be carbon neutral. Instead of applying for £1,000 from Cllr Yabsley's Locality Grant Fund to paint the exterior of the hall and new markings on the car park it was decided that the Parish Council would make an application for £1,000 towards the additional cost of the solar panels. Cllr Yabsley agreed with the change of plan. Cllr Ley said he still had £100 in his grant budget and agreed that the Parish Council could apply for that funding towards the additional cost. It was suggested that the remaining cost be shared between East Anstey Parish Council, West Anstey Parish Meeting and West Anstey Village Hall Committee. It was agreed that East Anstey would pay a third of the additional cost – proposed by Cllr Mrs Warne and seconded by Cllr Miss Warne.

Rex Milton is meeting with electricians to obtain quotes for a new heating system for the hall and these quotes will be used to make an application in the second round of NDC's Climate and Environment Grant Funding.

The Parish Council will continue to look for grant funding for the play area. People should say if there are any other schemes in East Anstey that the Parish Council should look for funding towards.

d) To discuss the budget and agree the Precept for 2021-22. The Clerk presented a draft budget for 2021-22. Information provided included the 2020-21 budget, actual receipts and payments for 2020-21 to date and predicted at the end of 2020-21. Councillors did not feel it would be appropriate to increase the Parish Council's share of the Council Tax and wanted to keep the Band D rate at the same amount as 2020-21. NDC will inform the Clerk of the tax base for 2021-22 before the next meeting. The amount of the precept will be confirmed when this is received.

246/12/20. Play Area

a) Any issues arising from playground inspections. Nothing to report. The goal posts and springie still need to be removed and a decision needs to be made about the future of the multiplay piece of equipment. This will be added to the agenda for the February meeting.

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

247/12/20. Update on co-option of a councillor to fill the vacancy on the Parish

Council. The vacancy and opportunity for co-option will be well publicised in the New Year and it is hoped that someone can be co-opted at the February meeting.

248/12/20. Correspondence. A letter had been received from Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon asking for a donation towards their work to provide advice and support for residents in the parish. It was agreed to make a donation of £75.00.

An email had been received from the Exmoor Society asking the Parish Council to consider becoming members. As only a small part of the parish is in the National Park it was felt that it would be better to highlight membership to individuals.

249/12/20. To agree the date of the next meeting. It was agreed to hold a short meeting on 6th January 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom.