

EAST ANSTEY PARISH COUNCIL

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The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 4th May 2022 at East Anstey Primary School at 7.30pm

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

In attendance: County Cllr J Yabsley, 5 members of the public and the Clerk,
Mrs J Larcombe.

01/05/22. Election of Officers

a) Chair. Cllr Mrs H Warne was proposed by Cllr R Milton and seconded by Cllr J Griffin. Cllr Mrs Warne was unanimously elected as Chair and signed the Acceptance of Office form.

b) Vice-chair. Cllr R Gibson was proposed by Cllr Ms L Moore and seconded by Cllr J Griffin. Cllr Gibson was unanimously elected as Vice-chair.

02/05/22. To receive apologies. Apologies were accepted from Cllr's Ms J Gannon and Miss R Warne. Apologies were received from District Cllr E Ley.

03/05/22. Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda. Cllr Mrs H Warne declared a personal interest in item 07/05/22a), planning application 75200, because of her friendship with an owner of a neighbouring property and complaints that had been made about her because of this.

04/05/22. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 6th April 2022 as an accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

05/05/22. Matters arising from the minutes, not included on the agenda. There were no matters arising.

06/05/22. Public Questions. Two members of the public who introduced themselves as members of the PCC asked the Parish Council to support their suggestion of providing a planter and floral display by the village sign at Hawkswell Cross to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee. Cllr Mrs Warne suggested donating funds left over from the Platinum Jubilee celebrations towards the cost. The Council agreed to support the request. Cllr Mrs Warne will liaise with the members of the public to organise this.

07/05/22. Planning

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

Cllr Mrs Warne declared a personal interest.

75200 Application for a lawful development certificate for a proposed temporary siting of caravan for use as a dependent relative's ancillary accommodation. Location: Pigginswood Farm, East Anstey. The Clerk explained that the Parish Council was not a consultee for this application. NDC Planning will determine with their legal team as to whether it is appropriate for the caravan to be sited there. The use must be ancillary to the main dwelling and it cannot have both a bathroom and a kitchen. Only a family member will be able to live in the caravan. There was some concern about how this use could be monitored and enforced.

Cty Cllr Yabsley joined the meeting.

Cllr Yabsley told Councillors that Maria Bailey has left NDC for a second time and a new Service Manager, Development Management, will have to be recruited. The Building Control Manager gave 4 months' notice that he would be leaving but no one has applied for the job. There are quite a lot of new people in the planning department.

It was noted that one of the conditions for the building of the dwelling at Pigginswood, the construction of a driveway, had not been complied with and the Clerk was asked to take this up with Planning Enforcement.

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

c) Any other planning matters. It was noted that some of the sheds at Oaklands Poultry Farm had been removed.

Cllr Yabsley told Councillors that there is a shortage of planning officers at NDC. A lot of time has been spent preparing for an appeal against refusal of an application for a development on the site of a former power station at Yelland. There is the potential for costs of £100,000 to be awarded against NDC in addition to NDC's own costs of £50,000.

08/05/22. Highways: any highways issues. Cllr Yabsley said the highways budget was tight but there had not been any cuts, unlike other departments, despite a three year diminishing budget from the Government. An extra £1million had been taken from reserves. There is a capital budget of £33/34million. More money is having to be spent on A and B roads. Normally 70% of the budget is spent on minor roads but this year some of this will have to be used on A and B roads. There is no additional funding from the Government for the repair of potholes and some minor roads are at risk of being downgraded to Public Rights of Way/Green lanes. There is money in the 'Doing What Matters Fund' but it is difficult and very onerous to access it. Just to stand still the highways department needs £75million annually but have only got around £60million. They would need £80million to make improvements. Members are fighting with senior members to allocate more money locally. With more people able to work from home the number of people moving to North Devon from the South East of England is creating issues. Cllr Yabsley noted that the District's budget is better than the County budget. The amount each County Cllr is given for their Locality Budget has been reduced. A member of the public commented on the poor quality of pothole repairs and this and an issue with using hot tar was discussed.

Cllr Yabsley left the meeting.

09/05/22. Reports

- a) **District Cllr.** No report.
- b) **County Cllr.** Covered under item 09/05/22.

10/05/22. Finance:

- a) **To approve invoices for payment.** It was resolved to make the following payments:
Mrs J Larcombe- £105.50 Clerk's salary and expenses for April (Payment ref: 2223/04)
Cllr Mrs Warne declared a personal and pecuniary interest in the next payment.
Cllr Heather Warne - £21.00 Temporary Event Notice for Platinum Jubilee event (Payment ref: 2223/05)
Mark James - £180.00 assault course for Platinum Jubilee event (Payment ref: 2223/06)
Since the last meeting the following payment had been made (see item 11/05/22 b):
Blackdown Buildings Ltd - £2,778.00 Field shelter for village green (Payment ref: 2223/07)
- b) **Receipts since the last meeting and bank balances.** Since the last meeting £2,924.00 has been received from NDC, the first half of the 2022-23 precept.
Current account balance: £5952.39
Instant Access account balance: £3054.79
- c) **To agree the Churchyard Grant for 2022-23.** It was resolved to pay a grant of £450.00 for 2022-23 (Payment ref: 2223/08).

11/05/22. Play Area

- a) **Any issues arising from playground inspections.** No issues reported. It was noted that the goal posts have been erected on the field.
- b) **To agree who will carry out inspections until the next meeting.** Cllr Griffin will carry out the inspections until the next meeting.
- c) **Agreement to purchase shelter for playing field.** Although the quote from Blackdown Buildings was more than £1,500 Councillors had agreed by email to accept the quote. A decision had been made between meetings to try and get the shelter in place before the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.
- d) **Acceptance of grass cutting quote 2022.** No further quotes could be obtained and the contract for 2022-23 has been awarded to Ridd & Son.

Cllr Gibson said he was concerned about the amount of litter in the roadside verges. A member of the public suggested holding a village litter pick. Areas for picking up litter would need to be identified and NDC could be asked if they would provide litter picking packs. This could be advertised at the Jubilee event and interested people signed up. A village litter pick will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

- 12/05/22. Report from the Anstey Jubilee Garden Party Working Group.** Final arrangements and the timetable for the event were discussed. The event on 3rd June will start at noon and will continue until late 12:00pm YFC 'It's a Knockout'.
2:00pm Dog show with 7 classes. (Cllr Ms Moore to get rosettes and put in an expense claim)

3:00pm children's races followed by Tug of War.

A Temporary Event Notice has been applied for and there will be a bar, barbeque, teas and coffee.

Children's King and Queen/crowns fancy dress

Raffle.

Permission has been given for the adjoining field to be used for car parking.

A generator will be hired from Travis Perkins.

All money will be pooled with the YFC and the funds raised will be shared between paying for the planter and plants and Devon Air Ambulance.

The working party will meet again on 24th May at 6pm to make final arrangements.

13/05/22. To agree to adopt the LGA Model Councillor Code of Conduct. It was agreed to adopt the new Code of Conduct.

14/05/22. Correspondence. It was agreed to check whether the person who purchased the phone box still wanted it because it still hadn't been removed. There is someone else interested in purchasing it.

15/02/22. To agree the date and venue of the next meeting. 1st June 2022 if the school is available. NB: this was later changed to 8th June 2022 because of half term and organising the Jubilee event.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed:
Chair

Date.