

EAST ANSTEY PARISH COUNCIL

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The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 5th February 2020 at Anstey Village Hall, Yeo Mill at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr I Vigus (Chair), D Barber, R Gibson, J Griffin, R Milton, Ms L Moore, Mrs H Warne and Miss R Warne. R Milton (Chair of West Anstey Parish Meeting) and D Mair (Clerk of West Anstey Parish Meeting).

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

128/02/20. To receive apologies. Apologies were received from County Cllr J Yabsley . It was noted that Cllr Yabsley had not attended a meeting for several months.

129/02/20. Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda. There were no disclosures.

130/02/20. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2020 as an accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

131/02/20. Matters arising from the minutes, not covered on the agenda. There were no matters arising.

132/02/20. Welcome to members of the Anstey Village Hall Committee and a chance for discussion between the committee and East Anstey Parish Council towards working together in the future. The meeting moved out of Standing Orders for this item, to allow general discussion.

It was clarified that the Hall Committee would like the hall to be known as Anstey Village Hall but it is registered with the Charity Commission as West Anstey Village Hall.

The hall should serve the community and curtilage and West Anstey Parish Meeting has no more call on the hall than East Anstey Parish Council. Some members of the committee are from East Anstey. East Anstey parish no longer has a hall and meeting places in the parish for public meetings are limited but the committee has welcomed East Anstey Parish Council and want them to use their hall.

The hall is expensive to run and the main income is from hiring out the hall and the committee would like to increase the use of the hall and attract more users. They are trying to make the hall more user friendly and would like to make improvements to the hall including updating the heating system (which is not always efficient), creating a bigger bar area and undertaking some small external projects. A full list of improvement projects will be sent to Jill Larcombe, East Anstey Parish Council Clerk, and David Mair, West Anstey Parish Meeting Clerk, for circulation.

An architect has looked at the hall to see how a bar area could be created and it has been suggested the Committee Room could become the bar as the committee do not want to make the project too expensive. Rex Milton suggested that if the two communities were working together something grander could be looked at. A suggestion was building an extension over the patio area and creating another patio area. When West Anstey hall was built for the Millennium it was ahead of its time. In the mean-time other, more modern village halls such as Bishops Nympton have been built and now improvements need to be made to West Anstey Village Hall Committee to take it ahead again. Both communities are small and when applying for funding it would be helpful to work together. 50% of people attending the coffee morning are from East Anstey and further afield. West Anstey Village Hall Committee, West Anstey Parish Meeting and East Anstey Parrish Council could make a joint application for major improvements to the hall. The hall has land and some play equipment could also be added.

Whatever the final decision is about possibly joining together the two parishes it will not affect the ownership of the hall. The Parish Council would not have a say in the decisions of the Village Hall Committee.

East Anstey Parish Council owns the Village Green and investment is needed to purchase replacement play equipment and there needs to be a balanced discussion around who applies to which funding source. Representatives of East Anstey Parish Council and West Anstey Parish Meeting need to work with the Committee. An invitation was made to them to attend the next West Anstey Village Hall Committee meeting, which will be held on 12th March at 7.30pm.

Standing Orders were resumed.

133/02/20. Guidance on grouping parishes. Information from NDC was circulated prior to the meeting. To take this forward an expression of interest would need to be made to NDC and there would need to be a consultation in both parishes. There was a warning from District Cllr Ley not to over complicate the situation. The parish boundaries would stay the same, it would just be the Parish Council and Parish Meeting that would merge. It could take until the next elections in 2023 to complete the process.

Ahead of any grouping the Parish Council will need to look at the improvement of its community assets. If it becomes part of a group the playing field might not be a priority of the new council.

134/02/20. To discuss holding a 2020 fund raising event, format to be agreed. It was suggested a community event could be held to mark the installation of new equipment at the play area. The Council will work towards holding an evening barbeque with music on Friday 17th July starting at 6pm.

135/02/20. Public Questions. There were no questions from members of the public.

136/02/20. Planning

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

71045 Part retrospective conversion & extension of a redundant and empty rural building to form dwelling at Smallacombe Farm, West Anstey, South Molton.

Comment: East Anstey Parish Council has no objections to the granting of approval.

b) To note any decisions made on planning applications by NDC.

No decisions received.

c) Update, if any, on the decision from the Planning Inspectorate for the appeals against NDC's refusal for applications 64059, 64060, 64061, 64062 and 64063, Oaklands Poultry Farm. No update.

d) Housing Needs Survey – to discuss an email from the Developer's agent regarding the survey going ahead. Following a discussion on whether or not the HNS should go ahead now the Council unanimously decided that it wanted a decision to be made on the planning appeals before the HNS was undertaken. The Council are concerned that undertaking a HNS now might be misinterpreted by the inspector responsible for making a decision on the appeals.

e) Meeting regarding tipping of spoil at Whitemoor Equestrian Centre.

This meeting has not taken place. A report will be made at the next meeting if a meeting takes place.

f) Any other planning matters. It was noted that an application for a Vehicle Operators Licence at Whitemoor Equestrian Centre has been withdrawn.

137/02/20. Highways

a) To note, for reporting to DCC/SCC, any highways problems and to note works that have been carried out. A highways vehicle has been seen surveying and marking up the road past the kennels.

A pothole was reported close to Bickham Barton.

b) Any other highways issues. County Cllr Yabsley has advised the clerk that he will be out with the Highways Officer soon looking at roads in the parish and to advise him of any problems.

138/02/20. To receive the following reports:

a) District Cllr. Cllr Ley reported that very little was happening of interest to East Anstey parish.

b) County Cllr. No report.

139/ 02/20. Finance. It was resolved to make the following payments:

West Anstey Village Hall Committee - £12.00 hire of hall to include £1 underpayment from January (Chq no 321).

Mrs J Larcombe - £104.00 Clerk's salary & expenses (Chq no 323)

Cllr Barber, Cllr Mrs H Warne and Cllr Miss R Warne have signed the form from Unity Trust Bank to become signatories.

The defibrillator has now been installed at East Anstey Primary School.

It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Warne would organise a refresher training session on using the defibrillator. She will try to arrange the training for a time at which school staff can attend. There has been one false alarm.

140/02/20. Play Area

a) Any points to note from the weekly inspections. No points to note.

b) To agree who will carry out inspections for the next month. Cllr Griffin will carry out the inspections and will check the condition of the swings.

c) Update on applying for funding/quotes for the replacement of play equipment. It was agreed that the clerk could be paid for any additional hours worked to apply for funding. The clerk and Cllr Mrs Warne will meet to discuss

taking the project forward.

c) To discuss quotes for cutting the grass at the Village Green. Three quotes were received and considered. It was agreed to accept the quote from Mr M Cable which was for an annual cost of £1,100.00.

e) Any other matters arising. Cllr Vigus will try to organise the purchase of new gates for the Village Green.

141/02/20. To note any update on a possible Devon Air Ambulance Night Landing Site. Cllr Barber will continue to pursue this.

142/20/20. Opportunity to raise any questions on items discussed during the meeting. Cllr Ley said the S106 money from Blackerton was being used, along with other unused S106 funding, by NDC towards building the new leisure centre at Barnstaple but it had been minuted that if a parish whose S106 funding had been used for this project became in need NDC would do their best to help. A significant project would be the best leverage and if such a project came forward Cllr Ley will do his best to retrieve the money.

143/02/20. Correspondence received by the Parish Council. There was no further correspondence.

144/03/20. Date of the next meeting: The net meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th March 2020 at Anstey Village Hall.