

EAST ANSTEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Mrs H Warne
Stable Lodge
East Anstey
Tiverton
EX16 9JL
Tel 01398 341483
email hmetivier1@btinternet.com

Clerk: Mrs Jill Larcombe
6 The Old School
Chapel Street
Tiverton
EX16 6ND
Tel 01884 252647
email eastansteypc@yahoo.co.uk

The minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 6th September 2023 at East Anstey Primary School at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr's Mrs H Warne (Chair), Ms J Gannon, R Milton (also District Cllr) and Cllr Miss L Moore.

In attendance: Two members of the public and Mrs J Larcombe (Clerk).

30/09/23. To receive apologies. Apologies were accepted from Cllr Gibson.

31/09/23. Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda. Cllr Milton disclosed a non registerable interest in planning applications 77426, 77440 and 77513 as ward councillor. Cllr Miss Moore disclosed a pecuniary interest in planning application 77426 as owner of the property.

32/09/23. To agree the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th July 2023 as an accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair.

33/09/23. Matters arising from the minutes, not included on the agenda. There were no matters arising.

34/09/23. Public Questions. There is a McMillan Coffee Morning and book sale on 30th September at Anstey Community Hall.
A member of the public told the meeting that he owns a couple of pieces of land at Oldways End, both of which are outside the development limit and he is wondering what to do with them. One piece is in Devon and on the other is in Somerset. He wondered what the community's thoughts would be about housing. Cllr Milton said he had recently had a conversation with Malcolm Prowse, Leader of the Independent Group of NDC Councillors. Last year NDC met its housing target and stopped looking at sites for housing development. A fortnight ago Torridge District Council decided to bin their Local Plan which is a joint plan with NDC. A new plan will need to be produced and this could take several years. There is a likelihood that in the near future there will be a call for housing sites and these are likely to be smaller sites than in the current plan. NDC has a difficult meeting later this week but Cllr Milton is unable to attend. He said so much has been targeted by Government but not always in the right places to add value to communities. Any development would have commensurate gain to the parish. A new NDC Local Plan could bring a change from a local plan that is against rural housing to one that enables it. Opportunities are likely to be there in the future. The levelling up agenda is looking to open up permitted development. Cllr Miss Gannon disclosed a registerable interest as Chair of the Exmoor National Park Rural Housing Network.

The Clerk advised the member of the public that Somerset Council is talking to Town and Parish Council about affordable housing in parishes.

35/09/23. Planning

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

77426 Retrospective application for extension to garage at The Annexe, The Classroom, Blackerton Cross, East Anstey.

Cllr Miss Moore disclosed a pecuniary interest and left the room while the application was discussed.

Comment: East Anstey Parish Council has no objections.

77440 To enclose a section of the existing covered parking area to form an office to include shower and WC facilities at Parkfield Farm, East Anstey.

Comment: East Anstey Parish Council has no objections.

77513 Part retrospective application for conversion of redundant agricultural building to dwelling with private amenity space, parking and associated works (following Class Q approval 60886) at Barn at Hillands Farm, West Anstey.

Grid Ref: 285447; 124298.

Comment: East Anstey Parish Council has no objections.

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

decisions. Cllr Milton reported that the planning department is in utter turmoil. At least half of the team are from agencies. Planning Officers are working from home at least half of the week and if you talk to them then they probably haven't been to the site to have a look. Even as a District Councillor he cannot get a direct line phone number for a planning officer if he needs to speak to them.

c) Any other planning matters. No other planning matters.

36/09/23. Highways: Any highways issues. The usual issues were reported. The surface of Broomball Lane continues to be in a terrible condition. Potholes were reported at Woodburn. Repairs are due to be made this month to the road surface at Black Cat which has been in an awful condition for several months.

37/09/23. Reports

a) District Cllr. Cllr Milton reported he had attended some NDC training sessions. Policy documents are being produced on rural housing and rural services. The lack of dentists and healthcare was noted.

Small and micro businesses can apply to the Rural England Prosperity Fund, through North Devon Plus, for grants of up to 40% towards projects that benefit the community.

b) County Cllr. No report.

38/09/23. Finance:

a) To approve invoices for payment. It was resolved to make the following payments: Mr D Passmore £210.00 Grass cutting - 2 cuts of playing field in August (Payment ref: 2324/17)

Mrs J Larcombe - £173.50 Clerk's salary for July & August plus expenses (Payment ref: 2324/18)

H M Revenue & Customs - £40.00 PAYE (Payment ref: 2324/19)

Karen Ward - £50.00 internal audit (Payment ref: 2324/20)

Since the last meeting a payment of £65.00 has been made to Exmoor Creative LLP for hosting the website and the domain annual charge. A payment of £210.00 was made to Daniel Passmore for two cuts of the grass in July Funds will be transferred between the current account and instant access account to leave £1,000 in the current account.

b) To note any receipts since the last meeting and the bank balances. There have been no receipts since the last meeting. The Current account balance is £1,018.00 and Instant Access account balance is £6,518.93.

Anstey Young Farmers have agreed to donate £500 towards the upkeep of the defibrillator. It was noted that the door of the cabinet is becoming loose.

39/09/23. Play Area

a) Any issues arising from playground inspections. No points to note.

b) To agree who will carry out inspections until the next meeting. Cllr Mrs Warne will carry out the inspections.

c) Progress with applying for funding for new play equipment. The Batsworthy Wind Farm Community Fund has been closed temporarily and is expected to reopen in the Autumn although no date has been given. The criteria for applications is being reviewed.

The Council is planning to make some alterations to the entrance to the playing field and was hoping to obtain grant funding. This will be looked at again in November.

40/09/23. To discuss how the vacancies on the Parish Council can be filled. There are 3 vacancies on the Parish Council. These vacancies could be advertised in the In Touch parish magazine, on the website and on the notice board. East Anstey Primary School could be asked to put something in their newsletter.

41/09/23. Correspondence. There was no further correspondence.

It was reported that Exmoor National Park have decided to sell East Anstey Common as they want to concentrate on their core estate. The agents will be Savilles. The SSSIs and access rights will be retained. It was reported that there have been a series of interesting valuations. It might be sold as an off setting exercise for carbon emissions.

42/09/23. Date of the next meeting. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 29th November 2023. It was decided to delay the meeting from early November to set the budget for 2024-25 and set the precept.

Signed:
Chair

Date: