

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 7th December 2022 at East Anstey Primary School at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr's Mrs H Warne (Chair), R Gibson and Miss L Moore.

In attendance: County Cllr J Yabsley and the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

67/12/22. To receive apologies. Apologies were accepted from Cllr's Ms J Gannon, J Griffin, R Milton, Miss R Warne and I Vigus. Apologies were accepted from District Cllr E Ley.

68/12/22. Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda. There were no disclosures.

69/12/22. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2022 as an accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chair.

70/12/22. Matters arising from the minutes, not included on the agenda. There were no matters arising.

71/12/22. Public Questions. No members of the public present.

72/12/22. Planning

a) To make a recommendation on any planning applications received by the council before the meeting. No applications received.

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

c) Any other planning matters. It was reported that Pigginswood Stables has new owners and a touring caravan has been moved onto the site. There is also a post box and washing line.

Cllr Yabsley joined the meeting.

73/12/22. Highways: any highways issues. Gullies are blocked at Black Cat. At Bickham Barton there are large potholes and people are not aware of how deep they are when they are filled with water.

74/12/22. Reports

a) District Cllr. No report.

b) County Cllr. Cllr Yabsley reported that Donna Manson has been appointed as the new DCC Chief Executive. She has been Chief Executive at Scotland's

largest rural authority, The Highland Council. Julian Wooster has been appointed as interim Director of Children's Services (DCS) at Devon County Council, pending a more permanent appointment to this vital role. He recently retired as DCS at Somerset County Council having successfully guided them from an inadequate Ofsted rating to good. The budget for 2023-24 will be quite difficult to set as savings of £23million need to be made.

Cllr Yabsley left the meeting.

75/12/22. Finance:

a) Following the agreement of NALC Pay Scales for 2022-23 to agree to pay the new rate for the Clerk and accept the recommendation that the increase should be backdated to 1st April 2022. It was agreed to pay the Clerk the increased rate for her pay scale and to backdate the increase to 1st April 2022.

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

Mrs J Larcombe - £162.70 Clerk's salary for November and back pay (Payment ref: 2223/22)

HMRC - £6.80 PAYE (Payment ref: 2223/23)

c) To note any receipts since the last meeting and the bank balances. No receipts since the last meeting. The Current Account balance is £3,80777.25 and the Instant Access account - £3,062.22.

d) To consider a request from Exmoor News for a small donation towards their production costs. It was agreed to give a donation of £100.00 (payment ref: 24)

e) To consider a request from Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon for a donation. It was agreed to give a donation of £100.00 (Payment ref: 2223/25).

f) To agree the budget for 2023-24. The Clerk talked through the draft budget for 2023-24 and the difficulties of predicting costs when the inflation rate is so high. A new contractor needs to be found to cut the grass in the playing field and it is not known what that cost will be.

g) To agree the precept for 2023-24. It was agreed to request a precept of £6,500.00.

h) Notification of appointment of external auditor. PKF Littlejohn LLP has been re-appointed as the External Auditor for Town and Parish Councils in Devon.

76/12/22. Play Area

a) Any issues arising from playground inspections. No issues were reported.

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. No further progress as waiting for quotes.

77/12/22. To note the withdrawal of East Anstey Bridleway No. 6 Public Path

Diversion Order 2021 and possibility of alternative route. Cllr Miss Moore declared a personal and pecuniary interest in this item. The current Public Path Diversion Order affecting East Anstey Bridleway No. 6 at Blackerton was made on the grounds that it is in the interests of both the landowners and the public. Based on the initial informal consultation, the indication was that there was

broad support for this. However, there have been numerous objections raised following Order's publication. Given the number of objections that have been received from members of the public, the grounds on which the Order has been made are clearly being challenged. As there are objections to the Diversion Order, it would have to be sent along with all the relevant paperwork, including all representations, to the Planning Inspectorate for determination. It is felt that given the number and nature of the objections, it is unlikely that the Order would be confirmed. Basically, there is high risk that progressing with this Order will incur a significant resource cost but ultimately be unsuccessful. It has been decided by DCC that the most pragmatic way forward is to withdraw the current Public Path Diversion Order and seek an alternative route to progress.

78/12/22. Correspondence. There was no further correspondence.

79/12/22. To agree the date and venue of the next meeting. The next meeting will be held on 1st February 2023 at East Anstey Primary School.

Signed:
Chair

Date: