

EAST ANSTEY PARISH COUNCIL

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The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 7th July 2021 in the Main Hall, Anstey Village Hall at 7.30pm

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

In attendance: County Cllr J Yabsley, Mr R Milton (Chair of West Anstey Parish Meeting), 5 members of the public and the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

29/07/21. To receive apologies. Apologies were accepted from Cllr I Vigus and Cllr Miss R Warne. Apologies were received from District Cllr E Ley.

30/07/21. Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda. Cllr Miss Moore declared a personal and pecuniary interest for item 36/07/21 as she would like the bridleway diverted away from her property.

31/07/21. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd June 2021 as an accurate record of the meeting. With a small amendment the minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

32/07/21. Matters arising from the minutes, not covered on the agenda. There were no matters arising.

33/07/21. Public Questions. There were no questions.

Cllr Gibson joined the meeting during this item.

34/07/21. 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 decision notices received.

c) Any other planning matters. It was noted that Maria Bailey, the new Head of Planning at NDC, is now in post.

Cllr Yabsley joined the meeting.

35/07/21. Highways: any highways issues. It was reported that the surface of Broomball Lane is in a terrible condition.

36/07/21. Proposed diversion of Bridleway No. 6, East Anstey – Re-consultation. Mr Vaughan Stevens, owner of the land which Bridleway No 6 crosses, and the land which the proposed diversion crosses, attended the meeting to put forward his

views and to try and get agreement for a diversion route. He explained that the bridleway was part of the Two Moors Way and was walked by people other than the residents of Blackerton. This includes the people holidaying at Zeacombe Caravan Site on the opposite side of the B3227 who would find that the proposed, more direct route would be better for them. Prior to the meeting the Parish Council had received four emails objecting to the proposed diversion and another email explaining the need for the diversion. One resident was concerned that they hadn't been consulted when the Parish Council had discussed the proposed diversion the first time. Mr Howell, Public Rights of Way Officer is reported to have said the current route is unsuitable for a number of reasons and Devon County Council are prepared to waive the fee. Reasons for the need to move the bridleway include the way that residents with dogs are using the field which the bridleway crosses as a play area for their dog/s and as a dog toilet. Often the dog poo is not picked up and this can cause health risks for the livestock who have to graze the field. It also spoils the grass for hay and silage. Removing public access would also make Blackerton more secure. Concerns raised about the new proposed route include that it would remove direct countryside access for those who live at Blackerton, a reason some had bought their property. It was said that this has been listed as a selling point on the property particulars of the three properties that have been sold at Blackerton in the last year. Children use the bridleway to play, access the woods and walk to meet friends in East Anstey. Guests staying at the holiday cottage mostly have dogs and one of the reasons that leads them to book is the access to dog walks from the property. It was claimed that there has been a public footpath/bridleway coming through Blackerton for at least the last 60 years. according to OS maps, and probably much longer. If the proposal goes ahead, the only way to access the bridleway will be to walk up the shared driveway where there is no footway and then to walk on the verge beside the main road, which children wouldn't be able to do on their own. It was pointed out that children shouldn't be unaccompanied on the bridleway and it wasn't for them to play on as horses could be on the path and there are often livestock in the fields. Mrs Ward said there was quite a simple solution, which she has discussed with Highways and this is to move the bridleway as proposed but also to create a new section, via an order known as a Creation Order that would retain access from Blackerton onto the new route. This would mean no more foot traffic past the Classroom building but continued access along the rest of the route for residents. Cllr Milton said the Parish Council needed to look at the most sustainable and usable route, He also noted that often moving public access increases property value. It was noted that it will take some time to get a diversion agreed and it was expected that it will come back to the Parish Council again. The Parish Council agreed to continue to support the amended proposal (A-E-F-D) as this was the diversion they had proposed. They noted the request from Blackerton residents to create a new section via a Creation Order that would retain access from Blackerton onto the new route.

37/07/21. Reports

a) District Cllr. No report.

b) County Cllr. Cllr Yabsley noted that the verges at Woodburn Cross had been cut. The vegetation is growing again but they will be cut a second time. He reported that there was not much money in local pots.

38/07/21. Finance:

a) To approve invoices for payment. It was resolved to make the following payments: Mrs J Larcombe - £103.90 Clerk's salary for June and expenses (Payment ref: 2122/11)

West Anstey Village Hall – room hire (Payment ref: 2122/12)

Ridd & Son - £160.00 grass cutting at the playing field (Payment ref: 2122/13)

C J Thorne - £6000 prepayment for new heating system at Anstey Village Hall (Payment ref: 2122/14)

Bank balances 30.06.21: Unity Trust Bank Current account - £7,514.71 and Unity Trust Bank Instant Access Account - £53.34.

£2290.81 has been transferred from the Nationwide Treasurers account to the Unity Trust Bank Current account (£2265.88 + £25.01 interest). The Nationwide Treasurers has been closed.

b) Notification of award of Climate & Environment Grant for replacement heating system at Anstey Village Hall. The Parish Council has now been told that it has received £10,000 funding from the Climate Emergency Grant Fund. No further applications will be allowed for to this funding scheme for this project at Anstey Village Hall.

c) Budget 2021-22 – Quarter 1 Actual v Budget. The report was noted and at this point in the financial year there were no concerns.

d) To discuss adding cutting around the East Anstey village sign to the grass cutting schedule. This is the sign on the road from Oldways End. It was agreed to pay for this area to be cut monthly. Ridd and Son have been asked for a price.

39/07/21. Play Area

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

b) To agree who will carry out inspections for the next month. Cllr Mrs Warne will carry out the inspections for the next month.

c) Update on the working party arrangements. This will be held on the next dry weekend. Cllr Mrs Warne will email councillors with the arrangements. It is hoped that the new gates can be put up and the new signs put on them. It was reported that cars are parking in front of the gates on some occasions.

40/07/21. Correspondence

To include change of name consultation for West Anstey Village Hall.

Further to the Notice of Consultation of 15th February 2021, The Village Hall Committee have been made aware that the proposed name change to Anstey & District Village Hall was not a suitable choice. They are now proposing that Anstey Parish Hall is the new name for the registered charity and the hall.

The proposed change needs to be approved by The Charity Commission, and in order for them to consider the request the committee need to demonstrate that they have taken appropriate local consultation. The consultation runs until 17th July. The Parish Council supported the proposed name.

Cllr Miss Gannon informed Councillors that she had been asked to chair the Exmoor Housing Network again.

41/07/21. To agree the date of the next meeting. The next meeting will be held on 4th August 2021 at 7.30pm in Anstey Village Hall.

Signed:

Date: