

EAST ANSTEY PARISH COUNCIL

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The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 7th March 2018 at Allways End Methodist Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr's I Vigus (Chair), R Gibson, J Griffin, Mrs H Warne and Miss R Warne.

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

152/03/18. To receive apologies. Apologies were accepted from Cllr's D Barber and R Milton. Apologies were received from County Cllr J Yabsley.

153/03/18. Disclosure of interests in items on the agenda. There were no disclosures.

154/03/18. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2018 as an accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

155/03/18. Matters arising from the minutes. There were no matters arising.

156/03/18. Public Question Time. There were no questions from members of the public at this point in the meeting.

157/03/18. 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

64358 Variation of Condition 3 & 4 attached to planning permission 60066 (57599) to allow Alder Cottage as two units of holiday accommodation.

Location: Alder Cottage, Blackerton, East Anstey.

Decision: conditional approval granted.

c) Update on the NDC Planning Meeting date for applications for Oaklands Poultry Farm, pt Hillands, East Anstey. There was no update. The

Parish Council has not been told when the planning application will be decided by the Planning Committee.

d) Update on consultation meeting with English Rural Housing

Association for affordable housing at Blackerton. Members of the Parish

Council will meet with Ian Gillespie on Wednesday 4th April, before the Parish

Council meeting. A consultation event for members of the public will be

arranged at Allways End Methodist Hall on a date to be advertised. Information regarding the proposed planning application will be sent to Blackerton

residents.

e) Any other planning matters. There were no other planning matters.

158/03/18. Highways

- a) To note, for reporting to DCC/SCC, any highways problems and to note works that have been carried out.** The condition of roads in the parish was reported to be bad. Hedges are not being cut. There is a large pothole at the bottom of Woodburn Hill and at the end of the lane leading to Higher Radnidge Farm a manhole over a large chamber under the road surface has sunk 3".
- b) Any other highways issues.** There were no other highways issues.

159/03/18. Report from meeting with Revd Stuart Innalls, Superintendent Minister, South Molton and Ringsash Methodist Circuit, regarding the future of Always End Methodist Hall. It was agreed to move this item forward on the agenda. Cllr Vigus reported on the meeting with Revd Innalls held on 5th March. As agreed at the last meeting the Parish Council representatives were Cllr Vigus, Cllr Barber and the Clerk. Mr Sid Blake was also present at the meeting. The Methodist Circuit has made the decision to sell Always End Methodist Hall as they are no longer using it and it is costing them money to keep open. It is going to cost £10,000 for some necessary maintenance work. The Circuit is supportive in giving the community time to raise money to purchase the hall and has suggested the Parish Council nominate the building as an asset of community value to NDC which would give the community six months to find the money to purchase the hall under the Community Right to Bid Scheme. The Methodist Church is a registered charity and under charity law they will have to get the best price they can for the hall and they are planning to sell it at auction this summer. The price is expected to be between £120,000 and £150,000 and there would also be the £10,000 cost of repairs. It is likely to be difficult to find grants to cover the purchase of the hall and the size of the hall would make it difficult to raise enough from lettings to cover the cost of running the hall. Even if the hall was purchased there would still be the parking problem. The community would need to cover the cost of running and maintaining the hall for years to come. It was explained that there is another option and the Parish Council could build a new hall on the Village Green. There is a possibility that a piece of land could be purchased beside the Village Green to expand the site so that parking could be provided and the play equipment could be repositioned. The hall would be set back from the road and would be large enough to provide more money from bookings and as a new build it would be easier and cheaper to run and maintain. Grant applications could be made to the Big Lottery Fund and the Batsworthy Cross Wind Farm Community Grant Fund. The S106 funding from Blackerton could probably be used. All members of the parish will be consulted by letter and the matter will be discussed again at the next meeting when parishioners will have the opportunity to give their views.

160/03/18. To receive the following reports:

- a) District Cllr.** Cllr Ley reported there had been a last minute decision that the Parish Grant for 2018/19 would not be reduced by 50% as the Parish Council had been informed, prior to setting the precept. The Parish Council will be informed of the decision by NDC.
- b) County Cllr.** No report.
- c) Village Fete Working Party.** The working party has met to start planning the fete and is due to meet again before the next Parish Council meeting. A report will be given on the 4th April.

161/03/18. Finance: to approve invoices for payment.

It was resolved to make the following payment:

Mrs J Larcombe - £139.40 clerk's salary and expenses (Chq no 270)

162/03/18. Play Area

a) Any points to note from the weekly inspections. There was nothing to note.

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

c) Any other matters arising. While a consultation is held over a future community building for the parish, plans to install new play equipment will be put on hold as future plans could mean the play equipment will have to be moved to a different place on the Village Green.

163/03/18. Update on DIRT scheme for the defibrillator. Volunteer's phone numbers have now been sent to the Community Heartbeat Trust so the scheme can be set up. It is planned to hold a dummy run to test arrangements work.

164/03/18. Opportunity to raise any questions on items discussed during the meeting. St Michaels PCC has sent a letter to the Chair of the Parish Council. The letter is to make the Parish Council aware that they are trying to raise £210,000 for repairs to the Church and have £24,000 left to raise by October. In addition to the repairs originally identified the electrical wiring needs to be replaced otherwise the Church will not be insurable. These repairs will put the Church in a good position for the next 50 years. The Parish Council were asked for their support and goodwill in this endeavour. Cllr Vigus asked how the Parish Council could help and was told a letter was going out to all parishioners asking for support to raise the final amount. It was reported that Colin Wilkins, the developer who purchased Blackerton, is concerned that the Oaklands Poultry Farm development, adjacent to Blackerton, will devalue the planned open market housing plots and this could affect the agreement for the affordable housing.

165/03/18. Correspondence received by the Parish Council. The following correspondence was noted:

NDC: Community Governance Review. This is carried out by the District Council and can review all issues relating to specific parishes including the boundaries. Parishes are asked if they have any issues that need to be reviewed. NDC is aware that a couple of parishes are keen for their boundaries to be reviewed to address local issues. East Anstey does not have any issues they wish to be reviewed.

It was noted Cllr Barber is now a member of the panel that makes decisions on grant applications to the Batsworthy Wind Farm Community Grant Fund.

166/03/18. Date of the next meeting. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th April 2018 at Allways End Methodist Hall at 7.30pm.