

LUXBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2018 AT 7.30pm

PRESENT: Chairman, Cllr Tombleson, Cllr Henson, Cllr Sparling and the Clerk.

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO APPROVE THE REASONS GIVEN.

Apologies for Absence were received from Cllr Higson due to work commitments, Cllr Duke and Cllr O'Hare due to a prior engagement.

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 JANUARY 2018

Resolved: The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman

Proposed: A. Sparling, Seconded: J Tombleson

4. CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Signposts. The signpost at the Beech Trees has been restored and repaired. The Historic Signposts Project has agreed to pay for all the signposts in the village to be restored. This may take up to 6 months due to the delay in manufacturing the replacement fingers.
- New Play Area. There will be a public meeting held on 13th March 2018 to discuss proposals and invite ideas and a sub committee of the village hall has been formed who are responsible for the funding and neither the Parish Council nor the Village Hall will be liable. It was felt that there have been a lot of negative comments about the proposed new play area and this was due to a lack of communication on behalf of the sub committee and incorrect information being given out. It was hoped that the meeting on 13th March would address these concerns and that a more explicit newsletter than the previous one could be sent out.

5. REPORT ON WEST SOMERSET FLOOD GROUP

The Chairman recently attended a meeting of the Flood Group.

- Riparian owners of land will be more liable in future on environmental grounds.
- Councillors should be aware when considering planning applications that there is no one in the planning dept at ENP with experience of flood management so parish councils must be vigilant when considering applications adjacent to water courses.
- There will be a meeting of the West Somerset Flood Group in Luxborough on 25 April 2018 in the village hall.

6. REPORT ON EXMOOR PANEL MEETING

- The Chairman attended the Exmoor Panel Meeting and reported that he had made David Peek of the Highways aware that the road closure between Luxborough and Roadwater continued for an extra two weeks due to the workmen blocking the road with machinery which was unnecessary and caused a lot of diverted journeys.
- The ENP new housing policy was outlined which is much more flexible than the previous one.
- Broadband: there are approx. 9,000 homes on Exmoor which now have broadband of which 4,500 are supplied by BT, 1,000 by Airband. An alternative for those who do not have sight line of the masts there should be a system called "White Space" but the speed is slow and funding is not agreed yet.

7. REPORT ON MEETING REGARDING THE HOUSING SURVEY

- The Housing Survey has been posted to all households and it very important that everyone completes this in order to get an accurate picture of housing requirements now and in the future. All councillors are asked to speak to as many people in the village as possible and ensure they complete their forms and give assistance if required and inform the Clerk of who they have contacted. A FAQ list has been sent to the Clerk to assist councillors in advising people and this will be forwarded to all councillors.

Resolution: The Clerk to coordinate the names of people contacted by councillors and inform the Chairman. The Clerk to send an email to all villagers requesting completion of the forms. The Clerk to forward the FAQ list to all councillors.

8. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- A cheque had been received from Mr and Mrs Duke for £150 in January as a personal donation towards the defibrillator fund.
- A further cheque had been received from Cllr Duke for £90 to finalise the payment for the defibrillator. The money was raised at the Lent Lunch held on 23 February at Chargot House and hosted by Mr and Mrs Duke.
- The invoice for £90 from SALC was approved and a cheque was signed.
- Payment of the Clerk's expenses of £20.96 was approved together with payment from the Transparency Fund of £195 for the website and a cheque was signed
- The Clerk informed the meeting that bank reconciliations for the period commencing 1st September 2017 to 31st January 2018 had been posted on the website and the current bank statement was produced for inspection.

9. ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Email received from SALC regarding consultation by DEFRA on waste sector crime with link to the consultation document. Consultation closes on 26 March 2018.
- Newsletter received regarding the proposals for new play area
- Letter received from Caroline and John Shuffrey re the play area
- Annual report and accounts from the Trustees of West Somerset Advice.
- FAQ for Housing Need Survey

- Magna Housing Somerset Stakeholders Conference revised date 2 March
- Claiming rights of way based on historical evidence deadline for applications from ENPA
- Hinkley Point Community Funds Small Grant Programme
- Exmoor Young Voices Update and Thankyou.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed

Date