

**LITTLEHAM & LANDCROSS PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT**  
**LITTLEHAM VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> April 2012.**



**Present:** Cllrs. Beer, (Chairman), Corkery, Pat Fishleigh, Hassall, Heard, Pru Phillips, Smith and Stevens.

DCC Cllr Robinson.

**Apologies:** Cllrs. Atkinson, Hamilton, Hopkins and Loraine Kindley. TDC Cllr Pennington

*Members of the public wishing to address the meeting on a specific agenda item, were, in accordance with Standing Order 24 and Paragraph 12(2) of Statutory Instrument 2007/1159, permitted to do so before that Agenda Item.*

**1182 - Registration of Members Interests:** No additional registrations were required.

**1183 - To confirm Minutes 1168-1181 of March 8th 2012.** *(previously dispatched)*

Minutes Proposed as correct by Cllr Corkery.  
Chair.

S: Cllr Hassall.

All agreed- Minutes signed by

**1184- Matters Arising – Not Covered by Agenda:**

- a) **372- Later Afternoon bus service during 9 week Petroc vacation Period.** The Clerk advised Mr Lowe of the decision made not to participate in the funding of this service for the current year. No response to date.
- b) **Broadband – Devon & Somerset Funds.** The Clerk had requested an update from TDC – no response to date [chase and keep item on Agenda]

**1185 –Planning Applications:**

**1/0166/2012/FUL: Disused Water Reservoir at Littleham Cross.** Conversion to light industrial unit.

Letters of objection had been received from Jill Turner on behalf of Littleham & Landcross Biodiversity Group; J&L Griffin of Moorhead Cottage, Littleham- these were read to members. Cllr Smith stated this was another example of ignoring Planning procedures, by clearing etc before approval obtained; he is disappointed – overall – at lack of Enforcement by TDC. Cllr Hassall had prepared a list of reasons for rejection of this application which were tabled and read to members. It was proposed to **reject approval** of this application for reasons stated in Cllr Hassall's document.

P: Cllr Heard.

S: Cllr Smith.

All present agreed.

**Notifications:** None.

**Updates:**

-Edge Mill Nursery, Access: Response from Nigel Marshall, Planning Enforcement TDC, by e-mail: he cannot revoke permission because a condition was breached. This can only be done by Judicial Review in the High Court. The details required by the permission have been submitted and are acceptable to discharge the condition, therefore the Authority is unlikely to pursue the matter. Members were disappointed, and somewhat surprised by this response. It is noticed that the owner of the Nursery was now using the original entrance adjacent to the lane; the situation to be monitored.

-Edge Mill Cottages, unauthorised parking hardstand. Mr Marshall has visited the site, confirms that works carried out require permission, and awaits owners reply.

**1186 – Atlantic Array:** Cllr Beer had been made aware that the first meeting of the Atlantic Array Joint Member Steering Group had taken place at NDC on April 12<sup>th</sup>. It is hoped to see Minutes in due course through Jane Whittaker of TDC. Cllr Beer went on to say that it was unacceptable that DCC Cllr Robinson was not part of the Working Group given that he represents 3 parishes [Littleham/Landcross, Bideford East & Alverdiscott] which will be significantly affected by the onshore installations. DCC Cllr Robinson said that he will continue to push for direct representation for the Parishes on the Working Group, and that he would be kept informed by Cllr Geoff Fowler [NDC, Ilfracombe] who is part of the Group. It was agreed that the Clerk write to John Hart, Leader of DCC – copied to the 2 local MP's - expressing our thoughts, and seeking direct representation at future working Group meetings. The Chair is also sanctioned to make this an open letter to the Press.

**1187 – Jubilee Celebrations.** The Clerk read an e-mail from Cllr Kindley. After discussion it was agreed that the annual village lunch at the Village Hall in June would be combined with the Jubilee Celebration. Cllr Robinson was thanked for his offer to fund this event, which would not be taken up as it was felt that there were more worthy causes for him to support.

P: Cllr Beer.

S: Cllr Hassall.

All agreed.

**1188 – Highways - Updates:**

- a) Hardstanding at Edge Mills Cottages – see Planning above.
- b) Julian Roskilly has not yet met with Cllr Fishleigh. The Clerk is asked to chase this and leave it as an Agenda item for the next meeting.

**1189 - District & County Councillors' Reports.**

**TDC Cllr Pennington** – no report received.

**DCC Cllr Robinson** gave his report which had been circulated prior to the meeting. [Appx. 1]. He asked that the links to Highways given in his report be placed on the Parish website – he had good experience when advising problems in this way. Cllr Beer asked Cllr Robinson to pass on thanks to Highways for their work in The Lane, Landcross. Cllr Hassall advised that fly-tipping had occurred in Scratchyface Lane, but it had now been cleared.

**1190 – Preliminary consideration of 2012 Annual Parish Council [17<sup>th</sup> May]Agenda items.**

- a) It was confirmed that all Members had a copy of the current Standing Orders
- b) It was confirmed that the Self-Help Emergency Plan for Littleham needed to be finalised; it would be distributed to Members prior to the Meeting.
- c) The Risk Analysis statement was reviewed. Action statement – Item 1 was amended to include the winter Equipment Storage shed. It will then be re-dated and adopted for 2012/13.
- d) Cllr Hamilton is the current Trustee of Littleham Village Hall & Rifle Range – and will continue in that capacity.

**1191 - Finance & Insurance:**

- a. Report on Bank Balance and Authorisation of Payments.

Bank balance: £3399.88 as at 20<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

Cashbook details tabled, and bank statement[s] signed by the Chair.

**Payments:** Devon Assn of Local Councils – subscription renewal – £98.79 to be deducted from first Precept payment OF 2012-13.

Devon Playing Fields Assn – subscription renewal, by S/order - £36.50.

£78 to TDC for salary admin fees to March 2012.

To re-imburse Cllr Beer £20 in respect of purchase of Mazzard [jubilee]Tree – £10; and £10 cost of Queens Jubilee Nomination [afternoon tea] for Aileen Badcock & Anne Davies.

To Mr Wivell - £924 for grass cutting services.

- b. Other Financial or Insurance matters: None.

Proposed: Cllr. Pru Phillips.

S: Cllr Corkery.

All Agreed.

**1192- Correspondence Requiring Attention:**

- a) Register of Electors: latest update. Amendments noted.
- b) TDC Planning: notification Housing Assessment update being undertaken by consultants on behalf of TDC and NDC – parish Councils have opportunity to reply/comment. Noted, no reply required.
- c) Notice of CPRE meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup> on wind Power/Turbine Applications. Noted.
- d) TDC – Independent review of Hackney carriage/Private Hire Operations by consultants, Halcrow. Noted.
- e) Merton Vintage Rally & Summer Fayre – May 6<sup>th</sup>.

**1193 -Other Correspondence received: Brochure:** CCD – Village Green, Spring 2012. Great Torrington Local Community Partnership – Agenda 22.3.12 & Minutes 26.1.12. DALC Nesletter april 2012. Torrington Area Advisory Group, Agenda 17.4.12 & Minutes 24.1.12. DPFA magazine spring 2012.

**1194-E-Mail correspondence received:** CCD- Rural Futures. TTVS-Evidence of Deprivation Tool. TTVS-Training & Events[x2]. TTVS-Big Lottery Meeting. TTVS- Snippets [x2]. RSN Weekly Digest [x2]. TDC-TAAG meeting April. Halcrow – Torridge Taxi Study. TTVS-Funding Snippets [x2]. DCC-Emergency Planning Newsletter. DCC-In Touch march 2012. Community Land Trusts-proof of Concept. CCD – Local Nature Partnership survey. TTVS-Asda free meeting room for local Charities. GTLCP meeting March. Neighbourhood Dispute Resolution Service. TDC/NDC-Joint Core Strategy Development Plan. TTVS – Volunteer Managers Grp mtg.

**1195-AOB.** Cllr Heard advised that there was a serious water leak on the road out of Littleham towards Howards Cross. Cllr Pat Fishleigh added that there was also a leak opposite Heale House on Kingdom Hill. The Clerk is requested to advise S W Water accordingly.

The Clerk is requested to invite a Speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting: invites to be sent to John Hart, Leader of DCC [to speak on the Atlantic Array]; Nigel Marshall, Planning Enforcement at TDC- copied to R L Webster [the problems facing Planning Authorities]; and Jane Whittaker County Councillor – [subject of her choice].

**1196 - Next Meeting: May 17<sup>th</sup> – Annual Parish Council Meeting.**  
**May 24<sup>th</sup> – Annual Parish Meeting - both at 7.30pm.**

The meeting closed at 9.09pm.

**Report to Littleham & Landcross Parish Council for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2012.**

**1/ Atlantic Array update.** As already reported, the selection of both district and county representatives on the Working Group has left these parishes of Bideford East, Littleham & Landcross and Alverdiscott & Huntshaw without councillor representation. Nor is there any apparent medium for either giving notice of such meetings (they would not be public meetings in any case) or for a dissemination of news of their deliberations.

I have maintained a correspondence with Vanessa Saunders of TDC, who appears to be the coordinator of the working group, and she has been made well aware of how both the parishes and I view the present situation.

It is ironic that it was by way of an email from one of the independent non-councillor members of TDC's External Scrutiny Committee that we learned at a late stage of the meeting convened for last Thursday (which had been scheduled originally for last February!). Ironic, too, that, to my knowledge, the county representative for Torridge on the working group did not attend the meeting last Thursday, as, I believe, neither did one of the North Devon county representatives.

Since Thursday I have corresponded with Cllr. Fowler, one of the county representatives from North Devon on the working group, and I would expect that Geoff will keep me abreast of developments. I have also requested from Vanessa an understanding that at each Full Council meeting of TDC a Report of the deliberations of the working group is tabled.

Of immediate concern to me is the suggestion being floated by Alan Rayner that, in light of further possible developments in renewable energy installations in the Bristol Channel area, the RWE proposals be split between the sea-based and land-based portions. As I see it, that would give us in Northern Devon, and in Torridge in particular, the worse of both worlds – they would be allowed to plough up a 200ft wide trench through our parishes in the hope that sometime in the future that would be the conduit for whatever energy might be captured from any new developments offshore. Put simply, I believe the best approach is to insist that RWE proceed whenever they are ready with their whole project and let the strategic development people decide whether or not it is permissible

**2/ Recycling.** I have a copy of the responses to questions from this council of some months ago regarding chargeable items at recycling centres, and which I related to the relevant cabinet member.

As an up-date I am happy to report on the recycling front that a new contract has been signed by DCC for the management of nearly all the recycling centres. The company that won the contract has an excellent track record in recycling and, in giving assurances to me on that point, the relevant cabinet member has given, as example, the recycling rate at the new centre in Exeter which this company operates and where the rate achieved has been 86% where the county-wide average has been 74%, and bearing in mind that Devon is now the top recycling county. As well as that, the new contract is expected to yield savings of up to £2m per annum.

**3/ Reporting of potholes, etc.** As I reported to the Parish council some time ago, there are two dedicated council e-addresses, one for reporting potholes and one for reporting a range of "faults". I have had reason to use both links on a number of occasions and I find that response is usually good and fast. I would welcome any adverse comment from any councillors who may have encountered problems or poor response. I give below the links: - For potholes –

<http://www.devon.gov.uk/form-pothole?url=webcs/Defect.aspx&sid=5uoahknpyym552zpbfnuz0i2> , and for "faults" in general;

<http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/online-services/services-report.htm>

**4/ My county council duties.** This is a list of the committees on which I currently serve: -

Corporate Services Scrutiny Committee; People's Scrutiny Committee; Health & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee; Development Management (Plans) Committee; School Transport Appeals Committee; Torridge Highways & Traffic Orders Committee (HATOC); Torridge County Committee; Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE); Devon & Severn Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority (D&SIFCA); Northern Foster Panel.

Thank you Chairman, Council. Sam Robinson, 21 Bude Street, Appledore, EX39 1PS. [sam.robinson@devon.gov.uk](mailto:sam.robinson@devon.gov.uk)  
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