

LITTLEHAM & LANDCROSS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
AT LITTLEHAM VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 22nd
January 2015.



Present: Cllrs. Atkinson, Corkery, Fishleigh, Haddrell, Hamilton, Hassall, Heard, Hopkins, Phillips & Stevens.

Apologies: Cllr. Smith. TDC Cllr Pennington. DCC Cllr Dezart.

In accordance with Standing Order 28 the Chairperson may adjourn the meeting at his/her Discretion to allow any member of the public wishing to address the meeting, for up to 3 minutes, on a specific agenda item.

1530 - Registration of Members Interests: No additional registrations were required.

1531 - To confirm Minutes 1516-1529 of the Parish Council Meeting of December 11th, 2014.

Cllr Atkinson pointed out that in Min. 1519 Cllr Smith was incorrectly written as Cllr Smit. With this alteration the Minutes were Proposed as correct by Cllr Stevens. S: Cllr Fishleigh. All agreed.

1532 – Matters Arising: Cllr Atkinson was pleased to report that the Bideford library steps and adjacent area had been cleared of weeds. That the new Bank Mandate required signatures from existing authorised signatures – this was done at the meeting and the forms will be re-lodged with the Bank. The Hoopers Water postbox has been replaced.

1533-PLANNING - Applications: 1/1302/2014/FUL – High Park House, Littleham: conversion outbuildings including raising of rooves to 5 units of holiday accommodation. It was noted that the existing stable block disappeared on proposed plans. Cllr Hassall advised that he had spoken to the Applicant who stated that the stable block was block built, not in keeping with the rest of the property and would be demolished. Cllr Corkery had concern regarding the exit to the highway - there is a "blind spot" on current exit which might be improved with an improved "splay" being constructed. With this suggestion being part of the response to TDC the Application was Approved.

P: Cllr Hamilton. S: Cllr Hassall. All agreed.

Notifications: None.

Other: Cllr Fishleigh asked if we had received a response from TDC Planning following our request to see a copy of "policy or ruling" regarding the imposition of the "21 Day Response Rule". The Clerk advised that no response had been seen, and he would chase the matter. On this matter Cllr Hassall advised that he had requested clarification from David Green at TDC regarding the recent announcement concerning the 21-day limitation on representations to planning applications. The reply confirmed that a period of 21 days is given for comments to be received; TDC Planning will look to make a decision asap after that date. Any comments received after 21 days would be considered if a decision has not, at the time of receipt, been made.

1534 - District & County Councillors' Reports. None received.

1535 - Finance & Insurance:

a) Report on Bank Balance and Authorisation of Payments.

Bank balance: - at 20th December 2014 stood at £5055.02. Cashbook figures had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cheques outstanding: Market Place Antiques - £500, and LLCWA - £25. No payments requested. Proposal to accept and have bank statement and Cashbook signed by the Chair.

P: Cllr Hamilton. S: Cllr Hopkins. **Approved.** All agreed.

Other Financial or Insurance Matters: Parish Precept for year ending March 2016. The calculations/formula from TDC relating to the Precept for y/e March 2016 had been sent to Councillors by the Clerk. An increase in the Taxbase calculation [given by TDC] resulted in an increased revenue receipt for the

Parish without an increase in the Council Tax Rates. Two alternatives were suggested – the first gave a neutral impact on the Council Tax Rate, but an increased revenue to LLPC of £3604 [including Council Tax Support Grant]. The second reduced the level of Council Tax by 1.87% [35p] and gave revenue of £3539 as in y/e March 15.

After discussion it was proposed that we apply for a Precept under the first alternative.

P: Cllr Hassall.

S: Cllr Heard.

All agreed.

1536 - Correspondence Requiring Attention: CAB – Northern Devon request a donation- Declined in line with Council “policy”. DCC – have invited Parish Councils to adopt their “Road Warden” scheme which would see volunteers in the Parish carrying out current DCC Highways activities to cut hedges, clean road signs and even fill-in potholes. The Clerk is requested to advise DCC that this Parish is not willing to adopt the scheme, and look forward to the County carrying out their duty of care to maintain the Parish roads.

1537 - Other Correspondence received: Clerks & Councils Direct – Jan 2015. Torrington Area Advisory Group – Agenda 27th January and Minutes 15th April 2014. Healthwatch – Winter 2015. Devon Senior Voice Issue 25.

1538 - E-Mail correspondence received: RSN- Rural Services Network: RSN Weekly Digest[x3]: RSN – Rural Vulnerability Newsletter [x2]: RSN –Opportunities Bulletin [x1]: Draft TDC Housing Renewal Policy 2014-17: Fields in Trust – January: NEW Clinical Commissioning Group – urgent and necessary measures update [x2] & Care Closer to Home: DALC E-bulletin January 2015: Torridge Crime Report [x4]: Devon Countryside Access Forum: Results of the Parish Rural Sounding Board Survey.

1539 -AOB. - Cllr Hamilton has agreed to take on the role of Snow Warden for Littleham; Clerk to advise DCC Highways accordingly so that weather warnings etc are sent to him. Cllr Hassall will attend the next Torrington Area Advisory group meeting. He also requested that at the next meeting we discuss a request from Woolsery Parish Council to support them in campaigning against the new A39 Free School. It was agreed that the Clerk will place this on the Agenda for March. The Clerk advised that the project to raise funds for the Long House, Torrington has received confirmation that the TAP Funds Application has been approved – in total 16 Parish & Town Councils had agreed to put their allocations to this cause, totalling £8128. To date an overall sum of £306997 has been raised against expected costs of £531848. Cllr Atkinson proposed that we should enquire of DCC Highways the cost to date of the temporary traffic lights at Whitehall, together with the ongoing daily rental costs. Agreed, the Clerk will do so.

1540 – Next scheduled Meetings: 2015 – 12 Mar: 23 Apr.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.