

LITTLEHAM & LANDCROSS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT LITTLEHAM
VILLAGE HALL
ON THURSDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2010.

Present: Cllrs. Atkinson (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Beer (Chairman), Mrs Galvin, Hamilton, Hassall, Heard, Hopkins, Miss Lamb, Stevens, and DCC Cllr Robinson.

Apologies: Cllrs. Poole, G Smith, M Smith and. TDC Cllr Pennington

In Attendance: Loraine Kindley, Mr & Mrs DJ Mortlock, Mrs B Mortlock, Prudence Gluzman, G Hobdell, Hannah Cheetham, Mrs P Phillips & Miss L Willis [members of the public].

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.

988 - Registration of members Interests: No additional registrations were required.

989 – To confirm Minutes 977-987 of 12th August 2010: the Minutes were adopted as a true record of the meeting. P: Cllr Atkinson. S: Cllr Stevens. Resolved unanimously.

990 – Matters arising – not covered by today`s Agenda:

- a. Land at Whitehall – storage & burning of waste. Letter to TDC sent 28/8; response received dd 7/9/2010 which was read to the Members – no further action proposed by TDC. This matter now to be monitored by members.
- b. Landcross Notice Board – repairs were in hand by Tony Brend.

991 – Planning Matters:

a- **From Previous Minutes:** None.

b - **Planning Notifications:** None

c – **Planning Applications:**

- i. 1/0761/2010/Ful: Field 4609, East Furlong, Littleham: members had given feedback by `phone to Cllr Atkinson, which was communicated to Cllr Mrs Beer. There being no objections, the appropriate response was made to TDC dd. Sept. 8th, 2010.
- ii. 1/0773/2010/Ful: Land adjacent to Pillmouth Cottage, Landcross: Prudence Gluzman of Barton Cottage, Landcross spoke on behalf of the residents present; she has 4 children who have all grown up riding bikes outside the house, with little traffic. Mr Oke [the Applicant] wishes to build a workshop close to her dwelling; she has watched him destroy wildlife habitats and take actions without any consultation or discussion with neighbouring residents. She has grave concerns regarding this application on matters of disposal of waste & sewerage; noise generated by any workshop activity, access for delivery vehicles; land slippage of the road. Concern also raised regarding the effect of business activities on the adjacent Church, and surrounding area of natural beauty. Copies of Letters of Objection, sent to TDC, were tabled from P. Gluzman, Mrs. P Phillips, H Cheetham & G Hobdell, the Mortlock family, J Howard, G Cornish [2] and the Churchwarden of Landcross PCC. Cllr Ms Lamb advised that she had received a verbal objection from Mrs Taylor on grounds of noise, access and also believes that the Applicant will eventually want to live on the site. Cllr Mrs Beer reminded Members that an application for a holiday Cottage on this site was rejected in 2005.

There being no Members in favour of this application it was **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** that the Application be refused on the following grounds: EMV2 – Development affecting Historic Buildings; TDLP DVT 29 – Development in the Open Countryside; DSP:DVT18 – Impact of development on Traffic; TDLP DVT19 – Access and Parking; DSP CO4 – area of Great Landscape Value; DSP ENV6 – Designated Landscape Area and TDLP C07 – Historic settlements & Buildings. Concern also expressed regarding the single track road for access, and the junction of this road with the main Torrington road [A386] which has poor visibility and has been the scene of several accidents. The Members request that should Planning Officers be minded to permit this

application, it be “called in”, and a Site Visit be made. Members also request that should this be the case TDC Cllr Pennington should be requested to “call in” this Application.

d – Other Planning Matters: None.

992 – District & County Councillors Reports: DCC Cllr Robinson reported: Land at Whitehall – reminder that a site cannot contain waste unless licenced: he will support our recommendations for road repair priorities: Winter Service; DCC had recently undertaken consultation/reviews which had been taken to Committee and communicated to Parish Councils and other Stakeholders. A conference held on Sept. 28th had been successful and DCC had been praised for their approach, looking to learn from last winter and improve for the future: Rural Exception Sites were those outside the Development Boundary where the only exception is for Affordable Housing, subsequently amended to include Open Market housing of where Affordable Housing is no less than 50% of the development: Protocols at Planning Meetings – Planning Policy requires a 21 day turn round for Applications; each Councillor is issued with Applications pertaining to their Ward; such Cllr can “Call in” any application; a maximum of 2 persons can speak for or against an Application, a Parish Council can make representation in it’s own right: On October 11th DCC/TDC Highways & Traffic Orders Committee will meet, Cllr Robinson will raise question of getting grit to Bideford in timely manner, ensure facilities in place for storage, co-ordinated distribution, and address issue of Insurance/liabilities where public wish to help in clearance: Sect 106 agreements should be maximised especially in cases of rural areas/provision: all departments at DCC will be expected to achieve 20% budget reductions – he foresees problems with services, possibly with Street Lighting; will pursue recent decisions on Mobile Library service, and Landcross bus stop with view to having them re-instated/commenced.

993 – Highways & Footpaths:

- a. Cllr Heard had enquired regarding priorities of road repairs; the response from Area Highways had been sent to Members prior to this meeting. He reported that it was hoped to repair potholes on the Littleham to Abbotsham Cross road in the following 7-10 days.
- b. DCC – Winter Service Proposals. DCC had requested that we respond to their questionnaire on siting/usage of Grit Boxes, proposed primary/secondary salting routes, and Community Self-Help in the Parish. After discussion a reply, on the pro-forma provided was agreed; it will be sent by the Clerk to DCC.
- c. The Clerk is asked to write to David Hearn c/o Hills Coaches, Stibb Cross asking him to trim the height of the hedge below the Methodist Chapel, Chapel Hill opposite Butterbeer Cottage, Littleham.
- d. BioDiversity Group – The Pond Area, Church Lane, Littleham: Cllr Galvin reported. A willow tree is shedding leaves onto the highway, the tree needs to come down as part of the plans to renovate the Pond. The Clerk is asked to write to Martin Beagley at TDC asking him to inspect, and if possible have the tree removed.

994 – Village Hall & Playing Fields: Cllr Hamilton reminded Members to “advertise” the Village Hall for functions, with the new sound system, and licenced it is a really good venue. Members requested the Clerk to send a letter to Cllr Poole thanking him for his efforts in procuring and establishing the new “cinema” and sound system.

995 – Local Community Partnership: Sept 23rd meeting: Cllr Atkinson advised that he had not attended the meeting; we will receive Minutes in time, and if anything significant occurred Neville Jackson would advise us. Cllr Atkinson had attended a consultation meeting on the Torridge Cultural Strategy – Draft Survey; around 40 persons heard a presentation from TDC appointed consultants Knight Kavanagh & Page. He had suggested that a cycle track be created along the old railway line from Bideford to Westward Ho! So encouraging visitors to areas other than those along the Tarka Trail. Results of the consultation will be received. DCC Cllr Robinson advised that a cycle way was being created along footpaths on Heywood Road, from Bideford and crossing the main roundabout to Northam and Westward Ho!

996 – Finance & Insurance:

Authorisation of Payments and Report on the Bank Balance: Resolved that payments be made to H E Stanley for Clerk remuneration - £415.42; DALC – Training for Clerk [general & Election Briefing] - £58.75. The Bank balance as at September 20th stood at £2086.51 – prior to receipt of the 2nd instalment of the Precept payment of

£1825. Cllr Mrs Beer reminded members that the balance included £1000 agreed as a grant to the Village Hall for general use. Members asked for expenditure/budget figures at the next meeting.

997 – Correspondence & Communication Requiring Attention:

- a- TDC Allocation process for Rural Exception Sites: the Clerk explained that the procedure notice received pertained to Rural Exception Sites – those sites which were an exception to normal Rural Planning to provide affordable housing [designated as such in perpetuity by Sect 106 agreement]. They can be built by Housing Associations, Community groups or individuals and the situation may be affected by the introduction of Right to Build legislation. Cllr Mrs Galvin reminded Members that the need for 1 person requiring affordable housing in our Parish had been established at the last survey; she would like to know if possible who the person was, if the need still existed, and if so, do TDC have plans to satisfy the need. To her knowledge there were no current sites in Littleham or Landcross; there was possibility of a site being created in Alwington. DCC Cllr Robinson added that such housing required applicants to prove links/needs with said Community. Members asked the Clerk to write to TDC – Housing – John Scott requesting an update on the situation.
- b- Landscape Character Assessment for North Devon & Torridge: Report received, tabled and noted.
- c- TDC Re: Licensing Act 2003: Review of Statement Policy: the Document had been seen by all members, the Clerk was asked to collate responses and send them to TDC.
- d- Environment Agency: Exercise watermark – Flood Planning: contents noted.
- e- Notice of Meeting: Torrington Area Advisory Group, 28.9.2010: the notice was accompanied by the Minutes of the last meeting dd. 8.6.2010, which were tabled. Cllr Hassell had attended the meeting – Ian Rowland of TDC gave verbal update on new Core Strategy; former requirement for 10,000 new houses no longer obligatory, locally derived figures to be used; TDC talking to Town Councils, and now working on rural requirements from housing needs surveys and Parish Plans. Further opportunities to comment in January. The significance of “local referenda” proposals on housing provision still being assessed. TDC Budget for 2011 – await Spending Review then possibly resubmit questionnaire. Parish Councils are invited to submit matters of concern as agenda items, next meeting [provisionally December 7] via Sandra Cawsey at TDC # 428703.

998 – AOB: Cllr Atkinson advised that he had a supply of pamphlets regarding anti-social behaviour for use by Members.

999 - ON-LINE Correspondence received: TTS – Snippets [3]; DALC- E-bulletin [2]; DCC- Highway Maintenance Parish Surgeries: NALC –Community Right to Build: DALC- Empowering Communities - A Local Perspective [2]; DALC – Best Kept Village Comp: DCC- Tough Choices Mtgs [2]; DALC – Cuts to Big Lottery Grant Funding: RSC: Rural Focus [2]; DCC- Emergency Planning newsletter: TTS- Get Active in Bideford: DCC- In Touch: DALC- Autumn Training: DALC – Newsletter: DALC- Keep Cornwall & Devon Whole: CCD- Annual Rural Communities Conference.

1000 – Next meeting: Thursday 18th November, 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.