

The monthly meeting was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 14th October 2009 at 8:20 pm (delayed by late arrival of speaker for pre-meeting). Chairman Cllr B Denham.

Present: Cllrs Denham, Clarke-Irons, Forrester, Frost, Mason, Pratt, Whiting; 8 members of the public. PCSO Jones (at start only).

1. **Apologies for absence** were accepted from C Cllr Knight owing to public duty commitments, Cllr Brown who has just had a cast removed, and Cllrs Sellers and Turner who were both away.
2. **Adoption of Minutes:** The minutes of the September 2009 meeting were adopted and signed.
3. **Matters arising:** none
4. **Planning**

Applications dealt with by Planning Sub Committee

- The Old Nurseries Rhode Lane. Internal and external alterations to coach house to form 2 bedroom unit of ancillary accommodation **Comments:** The Parish Council objects to this application. The property is outside the development boundary. The proposed conversion of the Coach House/Garage by making a sitting/study area, kitchen, hall, 2 bedrooms and a bathroom converts this into a totally separate dwelling.
- Hook Farm Camping and Caravan Site Gore Lane. Construction of conservatory, porch and study and erection of decking **Comments:** The Parish Council has no objection to this application.
- Woodside Woodhouse Lane. Removal of 2 sheds and 1 summerhouse and replacement summerhouse/shed **Comments:** The Parish Council has no objection to this application.
- Undermead Venlake Lane. Reduce by 5% overhanging side branches of one Beech tree
- The Orchard Rhode Lane. 1 x Oak: remove 2 x low lateral branches

Applications granted or rejected by EDDC since last meeting

- Pitt White Mill Lane. Fell one horse chestnut (T1), coppice one holly (T3), reduce crown of one maple (T4) by 30% *Split decision (T1 felling not granted, remainder granted)*
- Ware Manor Ware. Construction of lean-to orangery *Granted*
- Apt 6 Rohaise Court Lyme Road. Fell one sycamore tree *Granted*
- 19 Barnes Meadow. 3 ashes reduce crowns by 40%; Pollard sycamore; oak reduce crown by 15% and lateral branches towards the house by 40% *Granted*
- Woodhouse Cottage Woodhouse Lane. Replacement of front porch and conservatory with larger conservatory. *Granted*

Other planning – letter to EDDC trees officer written by Clerk; EDDC meeting attended by Cllr Denham – will be paperless planning from next spring. Could we get a grant for a digital projector? New planning web site is available. Nick Wright will demonstrate at Sidmouth if required

5. **Finance** : The Clerk reported on the **current position at 30th September 2009:**

Current Account	9,254.19	Including Restricted Funds of :	
Business Instant Access A/c	5,351.29	Footpath funds	2,218.06
Millennium Tree Fund	55.06	Uplyme Speed Campaign	879.01
	<u>14,660.54</u>	Playground funds	1,511.72
Payments Out		Payments In	
Grounds maintenance	508.33	ERB fee (cemetery)	600.00
Clerk's salary	410.28	Bank interest	0.23
Clerk's expenses	22.48		
VAT	0.36		<u>600.23</u>
	<u>941.45</u>		

The Clerk submitted the list of current payments for inspection:

Cheque #	Payee / re:	Amount
1131	TruGreen – grounds maintenance	508.33
1132	L Wakeman – Clerk's expenses	16.51
1133	B Mason – travel expenses	22.13

Cheque #	Payee / re:	Amount
1134	DAPC – conference/clerk training fees	58.75
1135	B Denham – allowance (£30) and travel expenses	114.04
1136	Cllr Clarke-Irons – expenses	15.41
1137	Veolia (cemetery waste contractors annual admin fee)	34.50

The agenda item on a replacement battery for the PC laptop was not discussed owing to lack of time.

6. **Footpaths.** Glen footpath scraping/resurfacing is still awaiting appointment of contractor. Lower Rhode Farm footpath diversion: legal dept still doing paperwork, but diversion is operational; Old Mill footpath just requires a gate catch to be fitted; Woodhouse Lane bridleway sign is broken off. New FP sign from Glen at Church Street will be installed in a better position. Cllr Turner will be looking after spare signs and posts.
7. **Highway matters:** the Clerk reported that after much investigation, it appears that the Parish Council is responsible for the Hunter’s Lodge bus shelter damaged in a car crash, although the Highways Agency will clear the wreckage. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the person who caused the damage asking for compensation from her insurers. Plans for Village Hall raised crossing tablet were passed around the table. Improved signage at Cook’s Mead roundabout was discussed but it is unlikely that DCC Highways will be able to do anything. Roundabout will be completely redesigned if affordable housing goes ahead. Guinness Trust will need to make sure it goes in at an early stage.
8. **Maintenance of Parish Council land:** Cllr Sellers has recommended that the payment to the contractor should be made, which was agreed. Councillors were asked by the Chairman to report complaints on PC land to the Clerk, who would pass them on to the appropriate person for action.
9. **Affordable Housing:** Cllr Denham read a letter from Clare Brimm of Guinness Trust explaining current situation – site ground survey means complex foundations are needed. Letter from John Golding, EDDC Head of Housing, acknowledged mistake over Venlake letting and summarised improved procedure in future, with copy letter from Guinness Trust explaining how EDDC ignored their advice. New planning policy will relax some conditions on mixed social/private developments for a year.
10. **County Councillor’s report** was presented by the Clerk. Progress may be made re: the Barnes Meadow sewer and highway adoption situation; he has been in contact with Mr Cooksey (Culver Woodhouse Lane) and advised him to contact the Parish Council for help from the locality budget; he has looked at a problem tree in Venlake, and provided a list of roadworks in the parish.
11. **Meetings attended by Councillors:** Cllr Denham (and the Clerk) attended the EDDC Chairman’s Garden Party, then the DAPC conference and AGM. (Parishes are being encouraged to take over local services e.g. lengthsman. Small councils forum discussed clustering of smaller councils. Annual meeting presentation had lots of ideas for improvement.) Cllr Denham (and the Clerk) attended the Red Cross first aid session, which was excellent. RediPlan for home emergencies was presented, and Lions ‘message in a bottle’ scheme. Follow-up in spring with more training has been requested. Cllr Clarke-Irons attended a meeting about the changes to train services in the area. Hourly trains from early December – but not meeting incoming buses. Cllr Denham attended an EDDC “have your say” session – mostly about taking responsibility for more services/assets at Parish level.
12. **Correspondence:** the Clerk summarised correspondence. It was agreed that the Council did not wish to take over the BT ‘phone box in Whalley Lane.
13. **Any other business:** none.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9:10 p.m.

Signed Chairman
 Date