

The Council meeting was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 13th November 2013 at 7:15pm.

Chairman Cllr Whiting.

Present: Cllrs, Frost, Garland, Mason, Ostler, Turner, Wellman, Whiting and 7 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Brown (convalescing) Cllr Forrester (unwell) and Cllr Pratt (on holiday), also PCSO Wooster. As Cllr Turner was unwell, the Chairman moved that the following items on the agenda be considered before the Open Forum:
 - i. **Footpaths.** BP 55 was blocked but is now open again. FP 14 is now open with new livestock-proof gate. Extremely dangerous bridge at Pitt White still being used.
 - ii. **Highway matters.** Trinity Hill hedge now much safer; thanks to C Cllr Knight, who is also following up unauthorised signs for Country Covers that block visibility on Trinity Hill, and Whalley Lane road drains. BT water leak on road by playground has been reported to Openreach.
 - iii. **Lengthsman:** Cllr Turner reported that progress has been made at last: DCC finally provided funding figures for 2013: £3000 for Uplyme, and £2400 for Musbury (plus costs for materials and disposal); Axmouth may also be interested now. Cllr Turner has found a Chapter 8 trained contractor; initial info suggests it will be much cheaper than £300/day quoted for SWH.
 - iv. **Emergency team:** article appeared in *Parish News* and local papers; Cllr Turner has a new volunteer to be trained. Cllr Turner left the meeting at 7.20. Meeting was adjourned for the Open Forum.
2. **Adoption of Minutes:** It was resolved unanimously to adopt the minutes of the October 2013 meeting (proposed Cllr Frost, seconded Cllr Mason).
3. **Matters arising:** none.
4. **Pecuniary or other interests.** No requests for dispensation were received or interests declared.

5. **Planning:**

Applications dealt with by the Planning Committee:

- **Land South of Whitty Down Rocombe** Retention of change of use of agricultural land to domestic curtilage; construction of polytunnel. *The Parish Council does not object to this application.* There was some discussion by Councillors over whether this change of use set an unwelcome precedent.
- **Harcombe Cross Harcombe Road** Construction of dwelling (outline application with all matters reserved). *The Parish Council does not object to this application, which is an infill site in accordance with Built-up Boundaries at present in force for this site.*
- **Pencroft Farm Woodhouse Lane** Replacement single storey side extension, construction of 2 storey extension and alterations to existing dwelling (to include cladding to first floor level and construction of 3no dormers). *The Parish Council does not object to this application.*
- **Mulberry Rhode Lane** Alterations to dwelling to include five dormer windows at second floor and balcony at first floor, conversion of existing outbuilding to form 1 bedroom annexe and construction of swimming pool and building enclosure within the garden. *The Parish Council does not object to this application, provided that a condition is attached that the barn conversion is not allowed to be a separate or individual dwelling.*

Applications considered at the meeting:

- **Woonsocket Venlake** Construction of conservatory on existing terrace level, provision of first floor rear extension and erection of balcony. It was resolved unanimously to respond as follows: *"The Parish Council does not object to this application"* (proposed Cllr Frost, seconded Cllr Ostler).
- **Cheescombe Cottage Harcombe** Construction of access ramp and raised terrace with handrail. It was resolved unanimously to respond as follows: *"The Parish Council does not object to this application"* (proposed Cllr Frost, seconded Cllr Wellman).
- **Cheescombe Cottage Harcombe** Construction of access ramp, raised terrace with balcony, including retaining wall (LBC). It was resolved unanimously to respond as follows: *"The Parish Council does not object to this application"* (proposed Cllr Wellman, seconded Cllr Garland).

Applications granted or refused by EDDC:

- **Land To The East Of Hill Farm Gore Lane** Change of use of part of agricultural land to recreational amenity land. *Refused.*
- **Fir View Harcombe** Replacement of garage/workshop with workshop/storage building. *Approved with conditions.*

- **Ware Farm Manor Ware Lane** Internal and external alterations including single storey extension, demolition of 2 storey wc extension, re-roofing, re-structuring of dormer windows, replacement windows to main house; alterations to outbuilding (LBC). *Approved with conditions.*
- **Ware Farm Manor Ware Lane** Construction of single storey extension to dwelling; repairs and alterations to outbuilding including changes to doors, windows and roof finish. *Approved with conditions.*
- **Land Adjacent 17 Glebelands Uplyme** Construction of chalet bungalow with integral garage. *Refused.*
- **Knoll View Venlake** Use of land for stationing of mobile home for ancillary use *CPL granted (for info only)*
- **Land South of Whitty Down Rocombe** Retention of change of use of agricultural land to domestic curtilage; construction of polytunnel. *Approved.*
- **Harcombe Cross Harcombe Road** Construction of dwelling (outline application with all matters reserved). *Approved with conditions.*

Neighbourhood Plan: £6100 funding has been applied for. Four people have expressed an interest in joining the group. New web site allowing public comments will be running in a few days.

Other planning: the Council agreed to trial regular Planning Committee meetings on the 4th Wednesday of the month to cope with applications that arrived between Council meetings. Clerk to make necessary arrangements. Cllrs Garland and Ostler had attended DALC planning training which was quite helpful.

6. **Finance:** The Clerk submitted the schedule of current payments for approval. It was resolved unanimously to approve them (proposed Cllr Garland, seconded Cllr Wellman). She explained about the ink recently purchased for the printer to replace that bought in error. Cllr Mason will substitute for Cllr Brown at the forthcoming Finance Committee meeting. It was resolved unanimously to purchase 2 copies of the new edition of *Local Councils Explained* by NALC, at a cost of £108 (proposed Cllr Garland, seconded Cllr Wellman).
7. **Precept:** The Clerk requested any items for consideration when drafting a budget for 2014/15. New expenditure may need to be allowed for closed churchyard and parish lengthsman.
8. **Correspondence.** The Clerk will request a quote for professional internal audit. Cllr Whiting will respond to the survey from EDDC about DC services. Request to fill in a survey on the Council's views of the Marine Theatre was left in abeyance.
9. **Maintenance of Parish Council land.** Contractor not emptying cemetery bins – Clerk to chase up. Wall inside metal gates is falling down; Cllr Garlenad will get quotes. Cllr Ostler put in a new post for cemetery water tap. Cllr Frost has planted two big hebes on the Stafford Mount wall. Tree branches are now removed. Churchyard report to be sent to PCC; issue of insurance is still unresolved. The Council agreed that next year, a 3 year maintenance contract would be put out to tender, with the same specification/conditions as currently in force.
10. **Flooding WP:** Cllr Whiting reported on progress since the last meeting. He summarised his letter to John Galt (DCC's new project manager) and the unsatisfactory reply. Cllr Ostler reported that Carswell traps were promised in 2 weeks. Neil Parish MP will be asked to arrange a separate flood meeting when A35 junction meeting is held.
11. **Reports to note.** (Some items on agenda were taken early: see 1. i-iv above.)
 - v. **Finance** to October 31st.
 - vi. **Playground** – was closed when willow tree damaged by storm, fence by back gate in corner needs replacing, and dog mess continues to be a problem.
 - vii. **Meetings attended by Cllrs:** Cllrs Garland and Ostler had attended a useful planning training session.
 - viii. **C Cllrs report:** day centres will be closed as well as libraries.
 - ix. **D Cllrs report:** Towns and Parishes meeting with EDDC on 14/11. Office relocation - 5 sites being considered. Budget reductions of 4% overall proposed.
12. **Any other business.** Cllr Brown passes on his good wishes to everyone and hopes to be fully recovered in the New Year. Cllr Garland reported that walking down from Yawl on the B3165 was terrifying and speeding is very bad. Clerk to ask PSCO to do speed checks higher up the lane. D Cllr Thomas will ask Combyne Rousdon about speedwatch training. Visibility from Cathole turning R is very poor. HGVs over white lines don't help.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.43 p.m.

Signed Chairman
 Date