

The Council meeting was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 8th January 2014 at 7:15pm. Chairman Cllr Whiting. **Present:** Cllrs Brown, Forrester, Frost, Garland, Mason, Ostler, Pratt, Turner, Wellman, Whiting and 6 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence:** none. (Later received from D Cllr Thomas and PCSO Wooster.)
2. **Adoption of Minutes:** It was resolved unanimously to adopt the minutes of the December 2013 meeting (proposed Cllr Garland, seconded Cllr Turner).
3. **Matters arising:** none.
4. **Pecuniary or other interests.** No requests for dispensation were received or interests declared.
5. **Planning:** Cllr Whiting summarised the delegation of powers to the Planning Committee, and the availability of electronic copies of papers making the current "round robin" system outdated. Cllr Garland proposed an intermediate meeting on 4th Wednesday of each month at 5pm, and one just before the Council meeting when necessary. Clerk to explain online system to members of the Committee.

Applications dealt with by the Planning Committee: the Parish Council did not object to any of these applications:

- **Croyston Charmouth Road** Construction of one dwelling and access to highway (outline application with all matters reserved).
- **Valley View Farm Lime Kiln Lane** Replacement windows and doors, re-roofing of main house and extension, removal of existing weatherproof coating from elevations and re-point, re-cladding of east chimney and insertion of roof lights.
- **Woonsocket Venlake** Construction of single storey rear extension and timber decking, first floor rear extension and balcony (amendments to approved application 13/2327/FUL).
- **Valley View Lodge Lime Kiln Lane** Retention of bathroom.

Applications considered at the meeting:

- **3 Yawl Crescent** Construction of single storey extension. It was resolved unanimously to respond as follows: *"The Parish Council does not object to this application"* (proposed Cllr Frost, seconded Cllr Mason).
- **Croyston Charmouth Road** Construction of one dwelling and access to highway (outline application with all matters reserved) – additional information. It was resolved unanimously to respond as follows: *"The Parish Council does not object to this application"* (proposed Cllr Ostler, seconded Cllr Turner).
- The Council did not have any objections to or comments on the proposed caravan rally at the corner of the Coach Road in August.

Applications granted by EDDC:

- **Cheesecombe Cottage Harcombe** Construction of access ramp, raised terrace with balcony, including retaining wall *Approved with conditions.*
 - **Dove Cottage Holcombe Lane** Construction of log cabin for use as ancillary accommodation *Withdrawn.*
6. **Finance:** The Clerk submitted the schedule of current payments for approval. It was resolved unanimously to approve them (proposed Cllr Garland, seconded Cllr Turner).
 7. **Correspondence.**
 - Cllr Whiting reported on a new system for managing the Clerk's correspondence report. Cllrs Garland and Whiting would consult the Clerk and draw up a list of items that needed decision or discussion at the meeting. These would be considered first, but all items in the list would be open for discussion if Councillors so wished.
 - Cllr Mason reported on the First Time Sewerage proposal at Rocombe, which had generated a lot of rancour and misinformation. Martyn Johnson made the application; South West Water is legally obliged to look into the feasibility/expense. Consultants will report by end of January. SWW will consider it and make a decision thereafter. If the scheme proceeds, it cannot be stopped by other residents, but there is no compulsion to connect, unless they have faulty sewerage arrangements that are not put right. Those who join pay a connection charge (to SWW or local contractor). The sewer would be laid across fields and not under the road. SWW representative will take questions. Public meeting had been suggested; the Council felt that a meeting will not achieve anything; if SWW goes ahead, a meeting then might be useful. Cllr Forrester has a copy petition from 22 objectors that went to SWW.
 - Consultation with Devon CC on flood risk strategy will be responded to by Cllrs Whiting and Ostler (by 27/1).

- Clerk will collate any responses to DCC transport consultation (by 29/1)
 - Cllr Turner and Clerk need to meet ASAP to complete pathfinder funding application. Matthew Parry reports that Church St drainage works would cost £25k. Clerk to contact him and get a specification to see if someone local can do the job within the £5K budget.
8. **Maintenance of Parish Council land.** Tree survey now received – recommendation was for several trees to be felled or reduced. Cllr Garland will review it and get quotes for necessary work.
 9. **Flooding WP:** Cllr Garland wrote a report on the floods over the holiday period, which has been sent to DCC. Flood protection prevented several houses being flooded, including at Venlake Meadow. Guinness has promised to clear its culvert this week. In Pound Lane, ‘The Firs’ and garage at ‘Roweda’ both flooded.
 10. **Reports to note.**
 - i. **Finance** to December 31st.
 - ii. **Highway matters.** C Cllr Knight was asked to look at Cathole/St Mary’s. Trees across the road, rubble and bad potholing make it very difficult to drive along. 3 lorry-loads of rubble had been removed from the Cooks Mead area.
 - iii. **Footpath** – FP12 diversion order has been drawn up at last. BP53/44 has 2 or 3 trees down – Cllr Turner will cut them when dry enough.
 - iv. **Lengthsman:** regarding “Parishes Together”, Axmouth PC is definite, Musbury PC has joined informally, Combyne PC possibly interested; Sidmouth TC has requested information very recently. It was resolved unanimously to ask the Clerk to write to all other Clerks to give formal approval by 1st February; furthermore that Cllrs Turner, Ostler and Garland should proceed with practical and funding arrangements etc. (proposed Cllr Ostler, seconded Cllr Wellman). Funding application has to be made by 1/3/14.
 - v. **Playground** closed following flood damage – no point in arranging a clear-up party until the weather improves. It was suggested that extending bank further down and putting a fence instead of the gate would help protect the surfaces – KGV would need to approve.
 - vi. **Emergency team:** flood clearing by a few helpful people including James Booth, Jeff Fisher, Cllr Ostler had made a real difference but the majority of the public are apathetic and don’t bother to do even the simplest tasks e.g. removing leaves from grids.
 - vii. **Meetings attended by Cllrs:** Cllr Pratt reported that the Village Hall Committee recorded a vote of thanks to Cllr Ostler for his work in keeping the hall flood-free.
 - viii. **C Cllrs report:** C Cllr Knight had taken note of all the reported highways problems and would get them actioned; he mentioned jetting culvert under the B3165, and is meeting residents tomorrow re: drainage problems. Uplyme will not lose the mobile library service. Cllr Turner thanked him for arranging a salt delivery to Shapwick.
- There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.42 p.m.

Signed Chairman

Date