

**Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of East Worlington Parish Council on
Friday, 8 March 2019 in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm.**

Chaired by: Councillor P Risdon	Clerked by: Sue Squire
Present: Councillors S Baber P Brown P Risdon Mrs J Smyth Miss D Sturla T Wall D Webber County Councillor J Yabsley 40 members of the public	Agenda: - Representations from the public in respect of Item 4. Apologies Declarations of Interest Highways
	Action:
75.	Representations from the public in respect of issues relating to Minute No. 78. Councillor Risdon introduced the reason for the meeting and advised that the Agenda item in respect of the stretch of road from West Worlington to Affeton Moor Cross was no longer valid as Devon Highways had agreed to repair the road and it would be usable. Due to this, the Chairman did not call for representations from the public. Mr Paul Winter was called to speak who addressed the meeting giving the historic details that people had been told the road would be closed. In his capacity as Vice Chairman of Chulmleigh Academy Trust of which East Worlington Primary School was part, there was concern about additional, and sometimes heavy traffic using the narrow road past the Primary School should the road in question be closed. Mr Winter and Councillor Miss Sturla, supported by County Councillor Yabsley, had gathered as much information as possible and met with Devon County Council officers. They had been swamped with emails supporting a campaign to stop the closure and thanks were expressed to everyone who had got behind this. An email had been received from a Devon County Council officer advising that works will be occurring from West Worlington to Glebe Farm to bring the road up to a good standard, during the next financial year. The sender of the email understood that County Councillor Yabsley is considering the use of an element of him Pothole Action Fund for 2019/20 to carry out isolated structural patching to address the worst areas stretch of road from Glebe Farm. This should keep the route in a condition that will prevent closing the road but is likely to only bring the road up to reasonable condition. In addition, the Devon County Council officer had discussed the matter with the Neighbourhood Highways Manager and will also be taking advice from Skanska, the DCC contractors at a meeting the following day, to understand if there is an opportunity to use recycled materials, or other low cost options, to minimize the

	worst affected areas in the shorter term. The DCC officer assured County Councillor Yabsley that this site is in view for positive intervention works during the 2019/20 financial year to avoid a road closure for this stretch of highway. Mr Winter stressed that care has to be taken with Devon Highways and it was necessary to continue gathering information as County Councillor Yabsley requires it as a dossier to support expenditure. Other issues had arisen from the way parishioners had written to Devon Highways and this would be addressed. Plans would have to be made as to how traffic will be moved around when the road is being repaired. This meeting is another piece of evidence and thanks were expressed to County Councillor Yabsley and Councillor Miss Sturla who had driven the whole issue to get to this satisfactory conclusion.	
76.	Apologies. None.	
77.	Declarations of Interest. None.	
78.	Highways. To discuss the stretch of road from Glebe Farm, West Worlington to Affeton Moor Cross and Devon Highways proposals for it. To consider submitting an appeal to Devon Highways in respect of the possible closure of this road. Due to the information given in Minute No. 75, the heading of this Minute was no longer valid. County Councillor Yabsley thanked Mr Winter for the resume given in Minute No. 75. He felt it was fortunate to get the right response quickly, but it was not possible to completely relax as the information will be held for future use. County Councillor Yabsley pointed out there were lessons to be learned from this issue. The road was due to be patched, then serious issues arose which would cost £100,000 from Glebe Farm to Affeton Cross. A lot of work on the programme had taken County Councillor Yabsley 18 months to secure the work as it had to be agreed by Asset Management, funding then had to be found and then programmed. There is an extra £80 million towards a Pothold Fund and each Division represented by a County Councillor has a proportion of this. County Councillor Yabsley stressed that it was important not to 'get hot' about things as due to a lot of noise from parishioners, Asset Management had become nervous and sent an Audit Team to look at the area, who decided to close the road. Up to that point, this had not been decided. Moving on, there is a better end product and the funding to do the work will come out of the main pot. County Councillor Yabsley expressed particular thanks to Councillor Miss Sturla and the Parish Council who had done a good job in averting a road closure, as when a road closure is agreed, it is very hard to reverse the decision.	

	It was important to continue reporting potholes to get them on the system. If there are a lot of potholes, the road is patched. Councillor Risdon thanked County Councillor Yabsley for his 18 months of hard work and efforts for this piece of road. Councillor Risdon also spoke about potholes and at the next Parish Council meeting, consideration will be given to appointing a Road Warden, which could be correlated as a Parish to bring everything together. Councillor Risdon proposed that the Parish Council sends a letter to Devon County Council expressing the Parish Council's thanks, and that of East Worlington residents, for the confirmation received that works will be occurring from West Worlington to Glebe Farm to bring the road up to a good standard during the next financial year adding that it is understood that County Councillor Jeremy Yabsley is considering an element of his Pothole Action Fund for 2019/20 to carry out isolated structural patching to address the worst areas of the stretch of road from Glebe Farm with reference made to additional work. My proposal includes that the letter is to be drafted by Councillor Miss Diana Sturla and Mr Paul Winter, forwarded to the Parish Clerk for transposing onto Parish Council notepaper and circulated to Councillors. The letter to be sent will be subject to agreement by Councillors who will confirm or disagree by sending an email to the Clerk. The Clerk will send the letter subject to there being a majority in favour of it being sent. Seconded by Councillor Baber. Unanimously agreed. County Councillor Yabsley suggested the letter was sent to the same people with whom there had been dialogue in recent weeks and that it included saying that the Parish Council was looking for a response. Councillor Risdon expressed thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to Councillor Miss Sturla. Councillor Miss Sturla replied by saying if all pull together, it shows what can be done. Any other information obtained is to be forwarded to Councillor Miss Sturla to be collated, put on record and kept for a future record. The meeting ended at 7.50pm.	
Summary of Decisions: ➤ Letter to Devon County Council Highways expressing thanks that a decision has been made to repair the road from West Worlington, past Glebe Farm to Affeton Cross.		
These Minutes are agreed by those present as being a true record.		
Signed: Chair of East Worlington Parish Council:	Date:	