

Minutes of the meeting of East Worlington Parish Council held on Tuesday 28th September 2021, 7pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllr. Smyth (Chairman); Cllr. Good; Cllr. Rhodes; 6 members of the public; County & District Cllr. Yabsley; Penny Clapham (Locum Clerk)

1) PUBLIC DISCUSSION

An opportunity for members of the public to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business on the agenda, or any matter of interest to the parish. The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 15 minutes. (Standing Orders 3e and 3f).

Reminder that members of the public are not allowed to raise issues when Council is in committee.

Parishioner enquiring about the annual magazine which has not been published so far this year. Cllr. Smyth stated that there was no actual deadline, the magazine can still go out. It does take about 3 months to collect everything together – usual publication in April/May. Help has been offered and accepted to assemble and publish the magazine.

Parishioner queried whether any grants had been spent yet this year, and requested the difference between donations and grants. Clerk has researched using the Oxford dictionary.

Donation, the act of giving, especially to a charity.

Grant, (pertinent to a local authority) is a sum of money that is applied for eg. to finance repairs, put on an event, cover the cost of the annual magazine, etc.

2) Apologies For Absence: Cllr. Sturla. Apologies accepted.

3) Declarations Of Interest: In accordance with the Code of Conduct, members are required to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have, in items to be considered at this meeting. Members are also reminded that any change to their Declaration of Interests must be notified to the Monitoring Officer at North Devon District Council within 28 days of the change. None declared.

4) Matters raised by the Chairman (for information)

Cllr. Smyth mentioned funding available for energy and saving Devon's treescapes.

Ian Old has tendered his resignation as a councillor.

Letter from the PCC regarding support for the churchyard – to be advised as to the legality of this support. Website is now live. Do please take a look.

5) District and County Councillor Reports –

Cllr. Yabsley mentioned the new website. At district level a new head of planning has been appointed and 2 new lead planners employed. Currently forming a joint local development plan with Torridge. Talked about the housing land supply which is a government requirement. There is a lack of affordable and social housing.

County council report – highways issues in the pipeline. There is a farm committee for the letting of some 65 farms rented out though this number is reducing. Currently serving on the health and social care scrutiny committee. There is a debate as to whether this type of care should no longer be delivered in person.

Cllr. Good raised a query on road repairs and how much needs to be done. This is a county Highways matter.

6) Minutes – to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on the 20th July 2021. Some amendments were agreed; the resulting minutes were then signed by the Chair as a true record.

7) Recruitment of a Clerk – to receive an update from the HR committee.

Reported that there is currently no interest in this position. To meet in November to revamp all details for the employment of a permanent Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer.

8) Parish Hall – to resolve to agree on the hiring of the village hall for meetings.

Cllr. Smyth, from the July meeting, regarding grants to the hall which would then absolve the Council from paying for the hire for meetings. No grant has been given in this financial year and there is no longer the support grant from the district council which used to be passed direct to the hall. Cllr. Rhodes proposed payment for the hall for Council meetings. Cllr. Smyth demurred stating that the hall is there to serve community needs.

Standing orders suspended for a parishioner to comment that all other organisations pay for the hire of the hall.

Standing orders resumed.

Cllr. Good seconded the proposal: 2 in favour 1 against by show of hands. Motion passed.

9) Transfer of Land – to receive any further updates on the progress of this transfer.

No update; the documents are still with the Church.

10) East Worlington Co-option to Council Policy – circulated prior to this meeting; to resolve to adopt this policy. Resolved to adopt. Proposed by Cllr. Smyth, all in favour by show of hands.

11) PLANNING

Planning Applications – North Devon District Council has asked for comments from the Parish Council on the following planning applications:

- i. 73938 Installation of ground mounted solar PV at East Worlington House, East Worlington.
SUPPORTED
- ii. 73900 Multiple extensions to dwelling and conversion of outbuilding to ancillary accommodation, Rock Cottage, Drayford, Crediton.
NO OBJECTION

12) FINANCE

Expenditure	W. Baldwin temporary clerk	£291.72	BACs
	DALC – training; Cllr. Smyth	£72.00	BACs

Income	Refund of charges from Unity Bank	£12.00
--------	-----------------------------------	--------

Bank Reconciliation and Statement, for information not yet available – to be circulated after this meeting. Council resolved to accept the accounts. Proposed by Cllr. Smyth, all in favour by show of hands.

13) insurance – Council to resolve to agree insurance for the next year(s) as follows:

Came & Co – current insurers, renewable at £587.57

BHIB – £403.46 inclusive of insurance tax. Cllr. Good proposed acceptance of this quote.

14) Council Objectives = Council to consider setting and agreeing objectives for the year 2022/2023 to facilitate the budgeting process. To restore the pump.

15) Queen's Platinum Jubilee – to consider activities for the long bank holiday weekend June 2022.

2nd June national beacon lighting. Agenda November for updates.

16) Clerk's report-

- i. Grant forms to be circulated later in this financial year done. To be adopted in November.
There is no grant funding available in the current budget to 31st March 2022.
- ii. There are no 'matters arising' in a council agenda – to be noted.
- iii. The service charge from the Unity Trust bank is incorrect and a refund has been actioned.
It is £18 per quarter, not per month.

Councillor's reports and External Meetings attended (for information only)

Cllr. Smyth has attended both a finance and chairman's course through DALC.

Cllr. Sturla is identifying drainage systems (buddle holes and the like) on the highway.

Cllr. Good informed that BT is to provision the hall with broadband and phone. He is continuing to keep this in focus. Council support the parish hall in this venture.

Items for Information - The next council meeting will be on Tuesday 23rd November 2021 at 7.00pm

Meeting closed at 8.54pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Email Circulation

DALC Newsletter 52 (sent 20/09)