

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON MONDAY 3rd AUGUST 2009 AT 7.30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Cllr. T. Davey (Chairman), Cllr. J. Grimble (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Mrs Pepperell, Cllr. J. Jenner, Cllr. C. Morgan, Cllr. M. Bryan, Cllr. I. White, Cllr. A. Williams, Cllr. R. Hunt, Cty. Cllr. Clarence, P.C.S.O. Colin Rider, together with nine members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Cllr. R. Bailey, Cllr. D. Hourahane

THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING were duly approved and signed.

1051 **PARISH PLAN**

Cllr. Pepperell reported that the Enhancement Group had first met on the 16th January 2006 and had been working on the proposal to enhance the top of Bishops Avenue for over two years. She went on to report that the Enhancement Group had recently met with residents who had raised concerns about the scheme, some of whom were new to the village, had genuine queries or were against the scheme and that they had answered all the questions as clearly as they could. Cllr. Pepperell reported that some of the concerns related to disabled/blind who might find it difficult to navigate the area and the Enhancement Group had explained that the surface would be slightly raised and they were sure that a tactile surface could be provided. She went on to report that two meetings were being held this week with TDC and the MEP to see if any funding could be made available.

A copy of a letter had been received from Dr. Heather Dent to Cty. Cllr. Clarence raising her concerns over the proposed redevelopment.

THE CHAIRMAN THEN SUSPENDED STANDING ORDERS to allow Heather Conway, Cty. Cllr. C. Clarence and PCSO Colin Rider to speak.

Mrs Conway reported that many of the questions had been answered at the meeting, but that there were still two areas of main concern, the houses next to the chemist which were prone to flooding and the drains near the Ring of Bells which were not fully functional. She went on to ask that the Parish Council consult with all residents surrounding the area when considering how many events should be allowed. She also sought assurance that the sets in the surface design would be adequately maintained and that the surface would not result in extra traffic noise. Mrs Conway then informed the Parish Council of the Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee who had issued a revised statement in 2008 urging local authorities to retain kerbed footways with dropped kerbs at appropriate crossing points and that there was currently a nationwide disabled charity campaign against shared surfaces and although the shared space concept was positive, the shared surfaces were seen as a problem. She asked that existing shared surfaces be revisited to learn any negative as well as positive aspects. Mrs Conway reported that there were still concerns over the loss of parking along the wall opposite Bishops Avenue and overall loss of one or two parking spaces and asked that the Parish Council would look at parking issues with the County Engineer prior to the development and that some suggestions regarding parking in the village had been given to the Clerk.

Cty. Cllr. Clarence reported that he had met with Colin Day from the Enhancement Group who had explained the scheme to him, had seen that there was a strong mandate from the village for this scheme and had spoken to Dr Dent following her letter and smoothed the waters. He had also met with Ed Chorlton and Ian Harrison, DCC who took him through the scheme and the costs which were in the region of £230,000 although if some of the incidentals were cut down, could probably be lowered to £210,000. It was suggested that this be financed between the DCC, TDC and the Parish Council with the possibility of TDC contributing 2/7ths, the Parish Council 1/7th and DCC making up the balance of 4/7th. Cty. Cllr. Clarence also reported that TDC were keen to transfer the car park land to DCC and were prepared to do this for £1.

Cllr. Grimble raised his concerns about the way this could be financed as this would be a large amount for the Parish Council to precept and was concerned that this might stop the project moving forward. He also raised his concerns about the current parking situation on the junction which was very dangerous and stopping vans/buses from getting through and that this scheme would be providing official parking spaces.

DATED

CHAIRMAN

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3.8.09 (Continued)

1051 PARISH PLAN cont'd.

PCSO Colin Rider reported that parking opposite a junction was not recommended in the highway code, but did not constitute an offence, although it was an offence if a vehicle was causing an obstruction and that in towns parking in this manner would not be tolerated, but that it was very difficult to police in villages.

Cllr. White felt that this scheme was to enhance the centre of the village not to find alternative parking.

Cllr. Hunt raised his concerns about the ludicrous parking in this area with lorries now parking against the wall making it a very dangerous and thought that the possibility of squeezing back the parking space making it status quo should be looked at. He also reported that so far the applications for funding had been unsuccessful and that the proposed 4/7th from DCC was the first formal offer and if the Parish Council were able to take out a loan, repaid over a long period, this would mean a minimal amount be added to the precept each year and would be a very sensible way forward, but that the Enhancement Group were still looking into funding and trying to see if there was any European money available.

Cllr. Morgan reported that he had been against the scheme as he was concerned at the loss of parking and that there had been opportunities for more parking within the village which had not been taken.

Cllr. Grimble explained that land which had become available had been designated as building land and as such was not viable for use as car parking.

The Chairman reported that the scheme had been approved by the Full Council, but in view of the concerns and discussions proposed that BEG be asked to consult with DCC engineers to reinstate the number of parking spaces as per the first draft which would retain the status quo. Seconded Cllr. Hunt. Agreed.

1052 POLICE REPORT

PCSO Colin Rider asked if any thoughts had been given to restricting the size of vehicles parking in the village and the Clerk reported that she had made this suggestion which David Cox had taken to DCC, and this would be added to the list for the meeting with Brian George, DCC on the 18th August 09.

PCSO Colin Rider then went on to report that there had been 3 domestic incidents, £500 had been stolen from a vehicle in Flow Lane and very recently a further theft of a wage packet and wallet had occurred from a house in Newton Road and asked residents to be vigilant in locking vehicles. He also reported that an elderly resident had been approached in Fore Street and asked for money, which fortunately she did not give. A false address had been given and reports of similar incidents in other villages where vulnerable people had been approached and asked for money to go to France following the death of a relative, had been received. PCSO Colin Rider went on to report that a bike had been stolen in Moors Park, vases had been stolen from the cemetery which due to the different locations it appeared that these had been targeted and that there had been a theft of a boat worth £57000 on the river which had been recovered, but the engine worth £13500 had been removed. There had also been driving offences on the 21st & 23rd July and two RTA's on the 22nd. PCSO Colin Rider reported that he had not yet had time to put an article in the Parish Magazine and website on considerate parking but would do so.

1053 CEMETERY

THE MINUTES of the Meeting held on the 8th June 2009 were duly approved and signed.

Cllr. Williams reported that he had received an email from Duncan Moors in response to the request by the Parish Council to meet with TDC to discuss the closed churchyard at St. John the Baptist Church. He went on to explain that Phil Shears had advised that TDC did not wish to take on the closed churchyard but that the Parish Council may wish this issue to be considered by members and suggested the Parish Council raised it with the Leader who is the Portfolio Holder for Assets and if no favourable resolution, raise this as an item for the Executive to consider. Cllr. Williams went on to explain that he had responded to this email stating his disappointment that council representatives are not even prepared to meet members of the Parish Council which strikes him as arrogantly dismissive of the Parish Council's attempts to broach this matter through the democratic process, but that he had spoken to Alan Connett, Leader of TDC, who had given him an undertaking that he will personally meet with the Parish Council. This matter was discussed and Cllr. Grimble raised his concerns that the CEO of TDC did not seem concerned as she had left her deputy to deal with this matter and that the perceived way Officers of the Council were treating the elected members needed to be explored with the leaders being given the opportunity to look into. Cllr. Williams had reiterated that the Parish Council had never intended to demand that TDC take over the closed churchyard but were just trying to resolve a difficult situation. Cllr. Williams to progress the meeting with Alan Connett, Leader of TDC.

DATED

CHAIRMAN

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3.8.09 (Continued)

1053 CEMETERY cont'd

The Clerk reported that the tree contracted had reseeded the damaged grave at St. John the Baptist and had made arrangements for a stone mason to replace the headstone at his cost. Cllr. White raised his concerns about the loss of the hedge as this prevented cattle from coming into the churchyard and after discussion it was agreed that whips be replanted in the autumn and Roger Morey to be asked.

The Clerk reported that concerns had been raised about the old tiles which had been left behind the cemetery store following the refurbishment. The Chairman to look into this matter.

Cllr. Morgan asked that the question of allowing pots on graves in the Garden of Rest be revisited and the Clerk reported that the caretaker would be putting in a revised quote toward the end of the year giving details of costings for maintenance with and without pots and that she would ensure that the minutes relating to the Garden of Rest were available to enable an informed discussion at that time.

1054 MAINTENANCE

The Clerk reported that she had emailed more detailed photographs of the war memorial to the War Memorials Trust who had advised her that it would be very unlikely that a grant would be awarded for the cleaning and recommended cleaning methods which the Parish Council could try themselves. She had subsequently looked at the war memorial with an expert and been given advice on what action to take and with the assistance of Cllr. Morgan would carry out the cleaning methods suggested, then ask Cllr. Hourahane to look at the results but if not satisfactory a grant application could still be made.

Cllr. Hunt asked the current situation regarding the maintenance of the telephone box in Fore Street. The Clerk reported that a job number had been issued and she would chase this up.

Cllr. White reported that people using the seat at Coles Barn when waiting for the bus could no longer see it coming. The Clerk explained that the replacement seat had needed to be repositioned due to the gas equipment which had been installed behind the bus stop and this was the nearest place it could be located. Cllr. White explained that the lack of visibility was due to the trees that were in the garden of the second house in Newton Road and after discussion it was agreed that the owners be contacted to see if the trees/bushes could be cut back.

Cllr. Jenner reported that the foliage outside 49 Bishops Avenue was encroaching on the pavement. A letter to be sent.

Cllr. Williams asked about the sign at Bishop's Palace and the Clerk reported that this matter had been ongoing for some time and that another letter was being sent to Devon Archaeological Society asking them to replace the sign.

1055 TRAFFIC CONDITIONS

The Chairman reminded councillors of the meeting with Brian George, Area Engineer South, DCC on Tuesday 18th August 2009 at 2pm and the clerk reported that she was compiling a route and list of items to be looked at and asked for any suggestions to be emailed to her. Cllr. Bryan gave his apologies for this meeting.

A letter had been received from TDC on the naming of the new road/development off Flow Lane which the developer wished to call Great Park and TDC were proposing Great Park Close. This matter was discussed and concerns were raised that Great Park could be confused with Grange Park and therefore Great Park Close would be preferred. TDC to be advised.

Notification had been received from TDC of change of address from Maple Cottage, 1 Flow Lane to Maple Cottage, Flow Lane.

Notification had been received from TDC of addresses for new properties at Bronescombe Avenue to be 20 & 22 Bronescombe Avenue.

DATED

CHAIRMAN

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3.8.09 (Continued)

1055 TRAFFIC CONDITIONS cont'd

A letter had been received with a joint statement from DCC and Devon & Cornwall Constabulary on 20mph Zones & Limits. This to be discussed in relation to the request for a 20mph limit through the village with Brain George, Area Engineer, DCC, at the meeting on the 18.08.09.

Cllr. Pepperell reported that the pot holes in Forder Lane near West Town were being filled.

THE CHAIRMAN THEN SUSPENDED STANDING ORDERS to allow Cty. Cllr. Clarence to speak.

Cty. Cllr. Clarence reported that he had spoken to DCC regarding the machine that had been working on the A381 recently and had been informed that from the end of Forder lane toward Wear Farm had been identified as being too slippery and that this machine takes out the tar content to improve grip. Cllr. Davey raised his concerns that this opens up the road surface to weather which could cause more damage in the future and ask that these concerns be minuted.

Cty. Cllr. Clarence reported that he had spoken to Les Pym, Lighting Engineer, DCC regarding the concerns on Clanage Street and was advised that according to county records there has not been much activity over the last eighteen months, but that there was considerable activity the previous 3 to 4 years and that this might have been due to the electrical supplier.

STANDING ORDERS WERE RESUMED

1056 COUNTRYSIDE & RECREATION

Cllr. Hunt reported that the first formal meeting of the Sports Area Committee was being held this week and the most significant issues that would be addressed were the ongoing problems with the combination locks and people damaging them, looking at ways to improve the booking system and marketing to expand the use of the Sports Area.

Cllr. Morgan asked that provision of a storage shed be looked at and advised Cllr. Hunt that the lighting units required certification.

An email had been received from Katy Hanley regarding the refusal to allow free use of the sports area in connection with the Big Lunch event.

An email had been received from Jackie Ridley following the removal of a tree at the Recreation Ground and asking that a screen be reinstated to prevent a dog from running out into the road. Cllr. Grimble reported that the tree had been removed as it was diseased and that it had been agreed not to replant to allow the other trees to grow into the space. To be noted.

Cllr. Grimble asked if there had been any progress with the resurfacing of Durley Lane. Cllr. Davey reported that he had received a letter from DCC confirming funds. This to be chased.

Cllr. Pepperell reported that Sarah Lord from the Allotment Association had been speaking with Lorraine Montgomery, TDC regarding allotments at Micheals Field and had been advised that there was a possibility that these could be provided by October, but that the provision of water and an access track would be down to the association. This was discussed and felt that TDC should be reminded that it was incumbent on them to provide allotments. Cllr. Pepperell asked Cty. Cllr. Clarence if he could look at funding possibilities from DCC.

1057 PLANNING

THE MINUTES of the Planning Meeting held on the 20th July 2009 were duly approved and signed .

Cllr. Williams reported on the email which he had received from John Cocker, TDC regarding the need for TDC to put in a planning application for sports pitches and allotments. He had replied saying that this matter would need to be discussed at a full council meeting and this to be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

09/02324/COU Hilltop, Teignmouth Road Change of use of ground floor to self-contained flat - the P C object as this is development in the countryside and contrary to landscape policies, CPA & AGLV.

DATED

CHAIRMAN

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3.8.09 (Continued)

1057 PLANNING cont'd.

09/02159/FUL The Mill Church Road Luton Proposed alteration to garage and stable block to raise roof line and provide games room - the PC object as they feel that the raising of the roof would have a material effect on a listed building. If the District Council are minded to approve they ask that it be restricted solely to ancillary use.

Cllr. Williams reported that following the decision of the appeal inspector to uphold the planning refusal for a workers dwelling at Old Walls he had spoken to Ken Dawe who had advised him that a meeting had been arranged with TDC to see what could be salvaged. He reported that Mr Dawe had advised him that major flaws had been identified in the inspectors report in particular the reference to the business plan and that there was now a potential problem over where he was currently living.

Cllr. Williams reported that at the Overview and Scrutinee Committee meeting a proposal had been made that notices be put up as well as letters be sent to neighbouring residents when advertising domestic planning applications. He reported that this matter had been discussed, the Head of Planning had admitted that there was no cost implication and the proposal had been seconded and supported. The Overview and Scrutinee Committee would now recommend this procedure to the Executive.

1058 MEMBERS REPORTS

None

1059 CORRESPONDENCE

A letter had been received from the Bishopsteignton Village Show Committee thanking the Parish Council for their donation to sponsor the Fruit and Vegetable Division for 2009.

A letter had been received from TDC regarding the review of the 'statement of principles' as required under the Gambling Act 2005 which was now available for public consultation. This was discussed and the Clerk to forward details of the website address and advise TDC that the Parish Council wished to be informed of applications in their areas.

THE CHAIRMAN THEN SUSPENDED STANDING ORDERS to allow members of the public to speak.

Mrs Knapman reported that the footpath from Flow Lane to the main road was very badly overgrown and needed attention. The Clerk reported that arrangements had been made for this path to be sprayed on a regular basis and that she had spoken to the contractor last week who had been unable to spray due to the wet weather but would do so as soon as possible.

Jim Whittaker reported that white pegs had been placed in Micheals Field presumably to mark out the pitches. This matter was discussed as no planning permission for pitches had been granted and Cty. Cllr. Clarence reported that this fell within the permitted 28 days use. Cllr. Grimble informed Cty. Cllr. Clarence that TDC had put an Article 4 directive on this land and therefore the 28 days rule did not apply and asked him to speak to John Cocker and the enforcement officer to remind them of this directive.

CHEQUES SIGNED

000898	Neptune Outdoor Furniture - seat	£480.70 (VAT £62.70)
000899	EDF Energy – electricity recreation ground	£ 59.17 (VAT £2.82)
000896	C. Morgan – reimbursement for paint	£ 27.44 (VAT ££3.58)
000897	HM Revenue & Customs – Tax & N.I.	£171.91
000898	Mrs C. Colyer - Salary & exps.	£809.22

FINANCIAL STATEMENT (UNTIL 31st JULY 2009)

Lloyds TSB (Treas. A/C)	£ 12907.28
Lloyds TSB (Prem.Int. A/C)	£ 445.82
Bank of Scotland	£ 12571.73
TSB	£ 935.98

PAYMENTS	£ 3568.28
RECEIPTS	£ 345.00

DATED

CHAIRMAN