

Upper Deverills Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Upper Deverills Parish Council held at the village hall Kingston Deverill on Wednesday 11 January 2017 at 6.30pm.

Present: Councillors Richard Cousens (Chair); Bridget Beattie (Vice Chair), David Croot Colin Hirons and Louise Stratton (arrived at 6.45pm).

In attendance: The Parish Clerk Christine Fordham; 3 members of the public were also present.

Public Question Time

Mr Julian Wiltshire addressed the Council prior to the meeting to give the background to his request for Council support to his proposal to arrange for the Egbert Stones to be returned to their original position. The Chair thanked him for the information.

1. **Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (131/16)**

Cllr Stratton had advised that she might be late.

2. **Dispensations (132/16)**

All Councillors requested the Clerk to grant a dispensation to discuss item 24 (Budget 2017/18); all requests were granted by the Clerk.

3. **Declarations of Interest (133/16)** None

All Councillors declared a pecuniary interest in Item 24 (see also item 2 above)

4. **Exclusion of the Press and Public (134/16)**

No reasons were given to exclude the press and public.

5. **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 November 2016 (135/16)**

It was proposed by Cllr Croot, seconded by Cllr Beattie that the minutes of the meeting of the Council meeting held on 9 November be accepted as a true record; all were in favour and the minutes were duly signed.

6. **Matters Arising(136/16)** None.

7. **Visitors (137/16)** None

8. **Broadband Action Group (138/16)** – Update from Richard Kitson

Mr Kitson advised that WCC had confirmed that Brixton Deverill were included in the additional scheme to upgrade Broadband Service to villages. Surveying would begin summer 2017 with the scheme completed by September 2018. The Council expressed their appreciation for all the hard work and persistence of the members of the Broadband Action Group in pursuing the provision of upgraded broadband for Brixton Deverill. BAG would only attend the March meeting of the Council if there was anything new to report.

9. **Chairman's Announcements(139/16)**

The Chair advised that the Council had received a formal letter of thanks from Robin Greenwood for his gift and farewell get together.

There had been an informal meeting with some members of the Longbridge Deverill and Crockerton Parish Councils. The main issues of concern were the increased lorry movements for the potential chicken farm at Sutton Veny, flooding and broadband. There were also concerns about water quality in the river. The suggestion was made that it would be good to liaise with neighbouring Councils to present co-ordinated views to WCC on local issues as well as to send area representatives to events. An annual meeting would be held.

10. **Parish Plan Action Plans (140/16)** – Update

a) ***Facilities and Services***

No. 3 – Providing Facilities and Services for children, young people and families

Due to changes in the village demographics there we no requirements for such services at this time

b) Crime and Community Safety

No. 4 Maintaining Current satisfactory situation

No further action required.

c) Culture, Leisure and Resources

No.6 Need for regular informal daytime gatherings

This Action had been completed

d) Local Economy and Tourism

No. 8 Assisting the local economy, including encouraging tourism and No. 9 Assisting Economic growth

The Deverills Festival and the new proposals in connection with the Egbert Stones support this area of development.

e) Education and Communications

No.10 – keeping education of children under review

There were no current issues.

No. 11 Improve Communication of Parish Council activities

A new website was being developed

No.13 Improve mobile telephone services.

No update

f) Environment and Countryside

No.14 Maintain support for conservation and restoration in villages and countryside

No further update

No.15 Meet concerns about the River Wylde.

Cllr Croot was investigating this issue.

g) Transport and Traffic

No.20 – Gather Evidence to Affect change

The Council were awaiting the repair of the SIDs and would ask for another metro count at a more appropriate location.

11. Drainage and Flood Issues(141/16) Letter from resident

Concerns had been raised by a local resident about the effectiveness of the piecemeal clearance of drains and gullies. On discussion it was agreed that a meeting would be requested with the Parish Steward and WCC drainage engineers to consider the issues, so that a holistic view of the issues could be taken and an action plan drawn up for the spring/summer. The Chair would draft a request.

12. Parish Steward (142/16)

The Council's immediate priorities for the Steward were checking visibility splays at the junction of Hindon Rd and the A350, clearance of culverts and gullies, mending of potholes and cleaning of road signs

13. Highways issues, including SIDs (143/16)

The Chair advised that he had been told at the area board meeting that the SIDs were being repaired and should be available soon. He had asked that the Deverills be made a priority for the deployment of the SIDs. The Chair would draft a letter to the Chair of the Board confirming what he was told at the meeting. It was agreed that if the SIDs were not useable the Council would consider purchasing their own.

14. Winter Readiness (144/16)

An article had appeared in the newsletter, but it was considered that neighbours were generally aware of those in the villages who would need additional help in extreme conditions.

15. Brixton Bridge Weight Restriction (145/16)

Cllr Croot had been advised that the Council had made requests for a weight restriction in the past, but had been told that a weight restriction could not be applied until improvements had been made at the junction with the A350 and A303. Although there had been changes there were still weight restrictions on the new access route to the A303. The Clerk had been unable to find any mention of the request in the minutes, but would do a further search.

16. Area Board Meeting (146/16)

See item 13.

17. Egbert Stones, Past, present and Future (147/16)

On discussion the Council welcomed the initiative to restore the Egbert Stones to their former position and to make them accessible to visitors; this initiative accorded with the Council's development plans.

18. Rights of Way (148/16)

a) The Definitive Map – Possible Anomalies A complaint had been received about a locked gate blocking a path; the Chair would draft a letter to the Public Rights of Way Officer asking WCC to deal with the issue.

b) Outline proposal to link two existing footpaths

Cllr Hirons was dealing with the issue.

19. Clerk's Report (149/16)

The Clerk advised Councillors that all members would be up for re-election in May and that they needed to be aware that they were responsible for making sure that their nomination papers were submitted on time. WCC had advised that information about the process should be issued by the end of February.

20. Correspondence (150/16)

- a) SSE of 15.11.16 – Winter Readiness
- b) WALC of 22.11.16 – Newsletter and Planning Training
- c) KCC EIS of 5.12.16 – confirmation of the new pricing for hosting the website (£55 per month). The Clerk advised that she had approached an alternative host, who had advised that they would charge £25 per month. She would seek other quotes
- d) Resident of 5.12.16 – objection to the removal of the phone box at Kingston Deverill (forwarded to WCC).
- e) Deverill Performing Arts of 8.12.16 – application for £300 grant for 2017 season. Mr Munroe had advised that there would be 5 events in 2017. This event aligned with the Council's aspiration in the Parish Plan and it was proposed by The Chair, seconded by Cllr Stratton that a grant of £300 be approved; all were in favour and the request was agreed.
- f) Deverills and Crockerton parish News of 8.12.16 – application for £250 for Newsletter. It was proposed by the Chair, seconded by Cllr Stratton that the grant request be approved; all were in favour and the grant request was agreed.
- g) WCC of 13.12.16 – Warminster Area Transport Group minutes of 7.12.16
- h) WCC of 14.12.16 – Budget Monitoring Report.
- i) WALC newsletter of 16.12.16
- j) WALC of 20.12.16 – Community First Newsletter and request for nominations for tickets to a Garden party at Buckingham Palace.
- k) Cllr Rhe de Phillipe – seasons greetings.
- l) WCC of 26.12.16 – request for Council's top five priorities for Parish Steward.
- m) Police and Crime Commissioner of 4.1.17 – Consultation on Police and Crime Plan for 17/18.
- n) CPRE of 9.1.17 – Advance notice of Best Kept Village competition.

o) Deverills Cricket Club of 4.1.17 – request for grant of £1,000 for grass cutting on the amenity field. It was proposed by the Chair, seconded by Cllr Stratton that the grant be approved; all were in favour.

21. **Planning(151/16)**

a) WCC Planning of 2.12.16 – application for works to trees in a Conservation Area at Brimsdown Cottage Brixton Deverill.

b) WCC Planning Application 16/11469/FUL– Erection of Agricultural building to store hay and straw at Lower Pertwood Farm, Hindon

c) Other Planning Matters

i) WCC Planning of 16/11668 – application for variation of condition for erection of outbuilding at Southby Cottage, Kingston Deverill. On discussion the Council decided they had no comments on the application.

ii)WCC of 8.1.17 16/12152/FUL – application for single storey extension at Manor Farm, Monkton Deverill. Some Councillors had made a site visit. On discussion the Council decided they had no comments on the application.

iii) summaries of 11.11, 18.11, 25.11, 2.12, 9.12, 16.12, 23.12,16 and 6.1.17

20. **Payments (152/16)**

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount £</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>
Mrs C D Fordham	Salary 11.11.16 to 10.1.17 Expenses advance from 11.11.16 to 10.1.17	466.40 40.00 Total 506.40	Electronic payment
<u>KCC</u>	Website hosting 1 Nov to 31 March	51.50 10.30 Total 61.80	Electronic payment
Unity Trust Bank	Bank Charges paid on 31.12.16	Total 18.00	

Under the Local Government Act 1972 (Sch 2) the approval of the cheques and electronic payment, was proposed by Cllr Stratton, seconded by Cllr Beattie; all Councillors were in favour and the cheques were duly signed.

Councillors were asked to note that Bank charges of £18 were taken on 31.12.16

23. **Council Website (153/16)**

The increased charge of £55 per month had been confirmed. The Clerk had written to KCC to cancel the contract with effect from 31 March 2017. An alternative supplier had quoted £25 month to host and maintain the website; she would seek further quotes.

24. **Budget 2017/18(154/16)**

The Clerk had circulated a draft budget showing the potential outturn for 16/17 and the possible expenditure in 17/18, including potential outturn should the precept remain the same. On discussion the Councillors decided that they would like to have additional funds available should the need arise to purchase a SID; speeding through the villages was a major concern for residents. It was proposed by Cllr Hirons, seconded by Cllr Beattie that the precept for 2017/18 be increased by £500 to £7373; all Councillors were in favour and the precept request for 2017/18 be set at £7373.

25. **Annual Parish Newsletter(155/16)**

It was agreed that articles should be included on: Cllr Robin Greenwood, Parish Website, Parish Steward, SIDS, Egbert Stones and flooding. The first draft would be considered at the March meeting.

26. **Items for Parish news(156/16)**

Litter pick on 18 March

27. Date of Next meeting(157/16)

The next meeting of Upper Deverills Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 8 March at 6.30pm in the Kingston Deverill Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Date:

Signed:

Cllr Cousens
Chair