

Upper Deverills Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Upper Deverills Parish Council held at the village hall Kingston Deverill on Wednesday 8 March 2017 at 6.30pm.

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

In attendance: The Parish Clerk Christine Fordham; 2 members of the public were also present.

Public Question Time

1. **Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (158/16)**

Cllr Louise Stratton; PCSO Debbi Robertson; All apologies were accepted

2. **Dispensations (159/16)**

No requests had been received

3. **Declarations of Interest (160/16)** None

4. **Exclusion of the Press and Public (161/16)**

No reasons were given to exclude the press and public.

5. **Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 11 January 2017 (162/16)**

It was proposed by Cllr Croot, seconded by Cllr Beattie that the minutes of the meeting of the Council meeting held on 11 January be accepted as a true record; all were in favour and the minutes were duly signed.

6. **Matters Arising(163/16)**

a) No update from the Broadband Action Group

b) Cllr Hirons would contact Wessex Water about the footpath

7. **Reports from Visitors (164/16)** None

8. **Broadband Action Group (165/16)** No update

9. **Chairman's Announcements(166/16)**

The Chair expressed his sadness at the death of Michael Mount; he had made a valuable contribution to local public life.

The Chair advised that he had emailed Cllr de Rhe Phillipe about the request to meet with the drainage officers re flooding in the villages.

10. **Parish Plan Action Plans (167/16)**

An update would be given at the Annual Assembly.

11. **Parish Steward (168/16)**

The Council's immediate priorities for the Steward were clearance of gullies in Hindon Lane and underneath the road at Allard's Lane in Brixton Deverill. The road from Maiden Bradley needed clearing of mud.

12. **Highways issues, 169/16)**

The hedge was infringing the road to the Church in Brixton Deverill, Cllr Croot would deal with the problem.

13. **Proposal to purchase a SID – review of quotes received (170/16)**

The Area Board had confirmed that all the current SIDs were broken, however there was an option to consider whether some local Parish Councils group together to buy a SID/SIDS collectively, with some funding help from CATG. On discussion it was agreed that the Council would really like to purchase their own SID and it was therefore agreed that the matter would be on the agenda for the first meeting of the new Council in May.

14. **Area Board Meeting (171/16)**

No report, as the time of the meeting had been changed.

15. Neighbourhood Tasking Group(172/16)

Cllr Beattie advised that it was reported that the Farm Watch Scheme had not really taken off and it was therefore proposed to set up a closed Facebook Group, which would be monitored by the Police. It had been noted that the emergency services would soon be using the 4G mobile network and this may affect functionality when operating in the valleys.

15 a) Rights of Way (173/16)

i) Outline proposal to link two existing footpaths

Cllr Hirons was dealing with the issue.

ii) Maintenance of Rights of Way in Wiltshire

The proposal to change the way funding was given to voluntary groups had been rejected, as it was considered that grants were already given. It was noted that the Ramblers Association could help with signage and stile repairs.

16. Clerk's Report (174/16)

The Clerk had arranged for the internal auditors to attend on 24 May to consider the accounts.

17. Litter Pick(175/16)

The Clerk had arranged to collect the equipment on 17 March. The Clerk would arrange for the full sacks to be collected by WCC.

18. Best Kept Village Competition(176/16)

On discussion, it was proposed by the Chair, seconded by the Vice Chair that the Council enter the competition: all Councillors were in favour and the matter was agreed. The Chair would submit the necessary forms.

19. Correspondence (177/16)

- a) DDPA Society of 17.1.17 -Thanks for grant.
- b) WALC of 12.1.17 – Election Timetable 2017.
- c) Ricochet of 24.1.17 – Details of a new TV programme searching for participants.
- d) WALC of 24.1.17 – South West Regional Conference
- e) WCC of 2.2.17 – Warminster Area Board Mental Health Awareness Sessions
- f) WCC of 3.2.17 – Great British Spring Clean 3 to 5 March.
- g) NFU of 6.2.17 – NFU leaflet on Better Planning
- h) WALC of 10.2.17 -Newsletter and details of training courses
- i) Cranbourne Chase AONB of 16.2.17 - Annual Forum on 2.3.17
- j) WCC of 21.2.17 – Budget News Release.
- k) WALC of 28.2.17 – update on S137 expenditure, now limited to £7.57 per member of the electorate.
- l) WALC of 6.3.17 – Newsletter and conference/training details.

20. Planning(178/16)

- a) TCA 17/00542 of 25.01.17 – Application for works to trees at Littlemead, Brixton Deverill. It was proposed by the Vice Chair, seconded by Cllr Croot that concerns be expressed about whether felling the sycamore was appropriate, but the Council would be content to defer to a professional opinion; all were in favour.
- b) WCC TCA 17/00649 of 27.1.17 – Works to Trees at St Michael's Church Brixton Deverill Ratification of Councillors Comments It was proposed by the Vice Chair, seconded by Cllr Croot that the Council's comments about concerns about the appropriateness of the reduction of the crown of the lime trees, but would defer to a professional's opinion be ratified; all were in favour.
- c) WCC TCA 17/00744 of 31.1.17 – Works to trees at Old Barn House, Brixton Deverill
No comments
- d) WCC 17/00163 of 30.1.17– application to remove field shelter and replace with shed and site oil tank underground.at Laurel House, Brixton Deverill Ratification of Councillors

Comments. It was proposed by the Vice Chair, seconded by Cllr Croot that the Council's concerns about placing the oil tank underground so close to a water course were appropriate; all were favour.

e) Other planning matters Summaries of 13.1, 27.1., 3.2, 10.2, 12.2, 3.3

20. **Payments (179/16)**

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount £</u>	<u>Cheque No.</u>
Mrs C D Fordham	Salary 11.1.17 to 10.3.17	466.40	Electronic payment
	Expenses advance from 11.1.17 to 10.3.17	40.00	
	Total	506.40	

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.

22. Approval of Corporate Governance Questionnaire (180/16)

The Corporate Governance Questionnaire from the internal auditors was discussed.

23. Audit 2016/17(181/16)

The Clerk would prepare the accounts for Council approval.

24. Council Website (182/16)

It was intended to "go live" on 1 April. The new host was making preparation to take over the site.

25. Elections 2017(183/16)

The Clerk outlined the election timetable for Parish Councillors.

26. Annual Parish Newsletter(184/16)

It was proposed by Cllr Croot, seconded by the Vice Chair, that the final draft of the newsletter be drawn up by the Chair.

27. Items for Parish news(156/16)

28. Date of Next meeting(157/16)

The Annual meeting of Upper Deverills Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 10 May 2017 at 6.30pm in the Kingston Deverill Village Hall. The Annual Assembly of the Parish will take place at 6.00pm on the same date

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

Date:

Signed:

Cllr Cousens
Chair