

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL held in the Village Hall
on Monday, 29th November, 2010 at 7.30 p.m.**

PRESENT H.Tennant (Chairman), Mrs. D.Burrough, R.Steele, A.Tasker, J.Wallace
N.Yool and 3 Parishioners

APOLOGIES Miss S.Little, K.Pearse, Mrs. D.Troake, Councillor A.Moulding (Devon C.C.)
and Councillor P.Diviani (EDDC)

1. **THE MINUTES** of the Meeting held on 11th October, 2010 were confirmed and signed
as correct.

2. **MATTERS ARISING**

Clerk continuing to pursue proof of ownership of car park and Quaker Burial Ground.
EDDC bonfire leaflets available at the village shop.
Blackdown Hills Office still dealing with BT re new poles.
350 sandbags obtained from EDDC – held by Clerk.
Clerk had attended EDDC Information Event and Planning Presentation.

3. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Devon CC : Local Flooding Survey – questionnaire completed by Clerk.
: Minerals Core Strategy Consultation
Membury and Dalwood Primary Schools – federation consultation – Meeting 3 p.m. 7th
December. *
Prince's Countryside Fund – grants for rural communities
PCSO Amanda Jones – no crime reported since last meeting
EDDC – Open Space Strategy – Clerk completed questionnaire

* it was agreed to respond to the letter after attending the meeting.

4. **PLANNING**

EDDC Approval:
Pearse, Challenger Farm – retention of agricultural building (with drainage conditions)
Heeler, Quakers – internal alterations (LBC)
Dugdale, Yarty Farm – barn conversion (LBC 2nd application)
Hamilton, Ford House – extension (LBC – renewal of lapsed consent)

Parish Council Planning Committee Approval:

Confrey, Furley Cottage – removal of Cupressus Macrocarpa (TPO)
Mr. Yool declared his personal interest (the property had belonged to his late mother) and
took no part in the consultation process.

New Applications

Hunter-Cox, North Mill – internal alterations (LBC)*

Dare, Goslins – polytunnel **

*Mr. Tennant declared personal interest as the previous owner of the property

** It was agreed that it was difficult to formulate policy on development in the Membury Flood Zone and to consider each application on an individual basis.

EDDC Planning Presentation

Membury's 3 questions were answered:

1. Village Design Statements, when drafted with the help of EDDC's planning policy officers (as Membury's was) are very much taken into account in the decision process, and parishes should consider updating their plans and VDS's.
2. EDDC tries to ensure that other agencies, such as DEFRA and the EA, respond appropriately to planning application consultations. However recently the EA had sent EDDC their manual and told them to work out what the responses would be. The meeting agreed that this was totally unacceptable and that EDDC must try harder to obtain the EA's co-operation.
3. All planning applications are advertised in the local press.

Planning Correspondence

- EDDC - Waterhouse Bungalow – bat survey received. Follow up in the New Year
- LDF Core Strategy consultation. Membury to retain built up area boundary ("black line").*
 - staff changes, including Ed Freeman replacing Stephen Belli as Development Manager.
 - Crawley Farm Certificate of Lawfulness consultation.
 - Planning website instructions
 - Work to start on Cranbrook in 2011
- DALC - NALC to raise the matter of enforcing planning conditions with Government.
- * It was agreed that this was the correct policy for Membury.

5. FINANCE

Payments for Approval	£
622 Beryl Griffin – typing etc.	50.00
623 Axminster Drainage Services	100.00
624 N.Yool – Clerk's expenses	37.99

Audit Commission to be abolished – but audits for 2010/11 and 2011/12 unlikely to be affected.

2011/12 Precept

It was agreed to keep the precept the same as this year, £3,800, including a probable election charge of £400. To be finalised at the next meeting. General fund balance carry-over to next year will include enough for Clerk's salary contingency.

Clerk to seek contributions from those who use the car park overnight.

Balances at 31 st October, 2010	£
General Funds	9,045.93*
Footpath Funds	2,412.23
Parish Plan	220.55
Flood Grants	528.14
War memorial	-----
* including Clerk's salary contingency	12,206.85

6. HIGHWAYS

Problems to be reported to Devon CC:

Surface water on lane leading northwards from Longbridge

Councillors were disappointed at the refusal of the James's Lane upgrade request.

The Clerk reported that the Highway Engineer and Councillor Moulding were visiting Membury on 7th December. He agreed to take them to James's Lane and to show them the blocked pipe below New House Farm entrance.

Vehicles were still grounding on their way down the hill outside Sportley.

Councillor Wallace had rodded the pipe on Greendown which was now working.

Highways Correspondence

- Devon CC - request to upgrade James's Lane refused
 - response to problems reported at last meeting
 - response to video film of blocked pipe below New House Farm entrance.
 - Paul Wilson, Highway Engineer, coming to Membury on 7th December.
- Councillor Moulding – offer of £200 grant towards £300 cost of a new grit bin.

There had been reported of James's Lane being obstructed by the dirty water lagoon discharge pipe again. Devon CC to write to Mr. Dyer.

Flood scheme covers starting to rattle again. EDDC officer D.Cook and Councillor P. Diviani have been to look.

7. FOOTPATHS

Clerk and Footpath Warden to complete annual return to Devon CC by 14th February.

Mr. Watkins (Footpath Warden) said that the £2, 412.23 balance in the footpaths account was because Devon CC had paid for all work undertaken in the parish this year. There was concern that a grant for next year may be withheld because of this balance but it was agreed not to spend money simply for this reason, only where necessary.

FOOTPATHS continued.....

It was reported that the lane leading up from Yarty Lodge was still overgrown. Mr. Watkins pointed out that this was a green lane/unmetalled road and not the Parish Council's responsibility, but that of the County Council and landowners. He pointed out that clearance could lead to more use by offroad vehicles.

8. PLAYING FIELD

Mr. Steele had resigned as the Parish Council's representative on the Committee. Miss Little had agreed to take his place.

Mr. Steele agreed to weld the damaged goalpost and Mr. Wallace to repair the climbing frame.

9. EMERGENCY PLANNING

Mr. Tasker reported that after further discussions with Mr. Hosking regarding the possibility of ear damage from the proposed siren the Environment Agency had been asked to go ahead. The EA had appointed Capita Symonds to do the work. Mr. Tasker and Mr. Yool to complete a questionnaire from this company.

EDDC Emergency Planning Officer Jane Tancock made redundant – post to be shared with South Somerset DC.

10. WAR MEMORIAL

Mr. Tennant reported that a grant application had been submitted.

The Clerk had asked Mr. Pritchard and Mr. Dare for quotes for repointing the wall below the memorial.

11. QUAKER BURIAL GROUND

Hedges had been trimmed.

Hedge laying may be required when ownership established. Further work needed.

12. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

2011/12 Precept

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 17th January, 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Hosking participated in the discussion concerning the flood siren.