

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL held in the
Village Hall on Tuesday, 2nd JULY, 2013 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: H. Tennant (Chairman), A. Tasker, N. Yool, and 3 Parishioners.

APOLOGIES: Mrs. D. Troake (Vice Chairman), Mrs. D. Burrough, W. Foster, Miss S. Little, K.Pearse, P. Pearse and PCSO Amanda Wooster – also Councillors A. Moulding (Devon CC). P. Diviani (EDDC) who were attending the NALC conference.

1. THE MINUTES of meeting held on 21st May 2013 were confirmed and signed as correct.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Car Park: The Chairman and Clerk had met local resident Mr. T. Moran who works at the Land Registry. Mr.Moran felt that the documentary evidence was sufficient to obtain absolute title and provided the relevant forms for the Clerk to complete. There had been no reply from the Portuguese transport firm whose lorry had damaged the railings, which had been repaired.

Membury Merrymakers requested permission to hold a boules tournament in the car park on 10th August. This was granted.

It was suggested that local residents who use the facility on a daily basis should be asked to contribute to the cost of maintenance. The Clerk to contact the people concerned after the Land Registry grants title.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

- NHS – looking for a lay member for the Wakley sub locality.
- DALC – Healthwatch Devon
 - Good Councillors Guide – new edition
- PCSO Amanda Wooster – 2 “burglary other” crimes since the last meeting: thefts of tools from outbuildings.
- EDDC – Draft Charging Schedule – includes provision to improve rural broadband and mobile phone signals.
- Mr J. Tuck – SW Water had reported that the sewer was “80% blocked” in places.
- Mrs B. Griffin – unable to undertake any more typing due to ill health. Ms R. Robson had kindly agreed to take over.

4. PLANNING

EDDC Approval:

- Bailey, Haycroft – garage extension
- Foster, Beckford Farm – ground mounted solar panels
- Hamilton, Ford House – rebuilding of barn extension (LBC)
- Hamilton, Ford House – rebuilding of outbuilding (LBC)

- Waterton, Land Farm – cart shed alterations (LBC)

Parish Council Planning Committee recommendation of approval:

- Hamilton, Ford House – 2 applications as above (LBC)
- Foster, Beckford Farm – ground mounted solar panels (after site visit)
- Bailey, Haycroft – garage extension

5. FINANCE

Payments for approval:

	£
730 CPRE subscription	29.00
731 Blackdown Hills Parish Network	50.00
732 J. Wallace – playing field	265.00
733 Land Registry	30.00
734 R. Martin – car park and war memorial	290.00

The 2012/13 Annual return had been sent to the External Auditor

Balances at 30 th June 2013	4,567.90
Clerk's Salary Contingency	6,000.00
Footpath Funds	2,186.81
Flood Grant	<u>387.64</u>
Total	13,142.35

6. HIGHWAYS

Problems to be reported to Devon CC:

- Potholes near Waybeers (Rock)
- Better road markings needed at the Star X (recent accident)
- Damage to water trough near Post Office – no response from road resurfacing contractors who had caused the damage. Clerk to pursue and suggest work to be undertaken by a local builder on guarantee of reimbursement.

There followed a considerable discussion regarding issues concerning the resurfacing of the village street and other matters. Mr. Tasker had emailed Councillors Moulding and Diviani and had received what was felt to be an unsatisfactory reply. The Clerk was asked to pursue these matters namely:

- Why were the Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Highways Officer not informed that the village street was to be resurfaced?
- It was felt that the County Council's policy of resurfacing roads that did not need doing and ignoring the ones that do (such as James's Lane) was wrong.
- Do the County and District Councils consider that Parish Councils should be involved in decisions concerning their parishes? Do they value local knowledge? Are they interested in improving channels of communication?
- Why was the resurfacing contractor not informed about the flood scheme? Who was responsible for this?
- How much did the resurfacing of the street cost?
- What would it cost to resurface James's Lane?
- Why was there no co-ordination between Devon CC and EDDC regarding the sewer camera survey? This could have been used to check the flood scheme.

Mr. Yool reported on a meeting held on 12th June attended by Councillors Moulding and Diviani, Neighbourhood Highways Officer Richard Brown, residents of Rock and himself concerning the prevention of damage to properties by large vehicles.

7. FOOTPATHS

It was reported that long grass at Case Bridge (FP10) and nettles at the Butcher's Hill stile (FP22) were making access difficult. Mr. Tasker queried the County Council's priorities – strimming footpaths when unable to repair roads.

8. EMERGENCY PLANNING

It was agreed to submit a request to the County Council for a Flood Risk Assessment.

Mr. Tasker and Mr. Martin to attend an EDDC Flood Forum on 23rd July.

Mr. Yool reported on a meeting attended by Councillors Moulding and Diviani, local residents and himself on 12th June to discuss flooding in the village centre.

9. PLAYING FIELD

Nothing to report.

10. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Response from Devon CC and EDDC re communications with Parish Councils.

11. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesdays: 20th August, 8th October and 3rd December at 7.30pm.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr D. Dodd thanked Councillors for their efforts concerning flooding and supported the idea of requesting a Flood Risk Assessment.