

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL held in the
Village Hall on Tuesday, 20th AUGUST, 2013 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: H. Tennant (Chairman), Mrs. D. Troake (Vice Chairman), Mrs. D. Burrough, W. Foster, P. Pearse, A. Tasker, N. Yool, Councillors A. Moulding (Devon CC). P. Diviani (EDDC) and 1 Parishioner.

APOLOGIES: K.Pearse, Miss S. Little, and PCSO Amanda Wooster.

1. **THE MINUTES** of meeting held on 2nd July 2013 were confirmed and signed as correct.

2. **MATTERS ARISING**

Car Park: The Land Registry had granted the Parish Council possessory title. On the advice of Land Registry lawyer Mr. T. Moran, the Clerk has appealed and asked for absolute title. If this is not granted now conversion can take place after 12 years.

Damaged Water Trough: The contractor's representative Jess Smith agreed that a local builder should be asked to quote a price for repairs.

Blocked Sewer: Clerk had contacted South West Water engineer, Mr. D. Pateman who was "bidding for funds" to clear the blockage. A letter expressing concern had been received from Ms R. Robson.

3. **RESPONSE FROM DEVON CC AND EDDC RE. COMMUNICATION**

Councillors Tennant, Tasker and Yool had the opportunity to raise the Parish Council's concern with Devon CC Highways Officer, Mark Dauncey, at an Axminster Area DAPC meeting in Musbury on 30th July.

It was explained that £642m was needed to bring Devon's roads up to an acceptable standard – the 2013/14 budget was £30m. £62.3m was needed to maintain the current position. Mr Dauncey explained that the County Council will always "keep the roads safe" and undertook to improve communications with Parish Councils.

Councillors were encouraged to sign a Rural Services Network petition aiming to ensure that public services in rural areas receive a fair share of Government funding. It was said that £28m of business rates collected in East Devon are passed to Central Government and spent elsewhere. Councillor Moulding undertook to research the Highways Department's management structure (which appears to have expanded in recent times) and to continue to press for improvements.

The County Council had organised a Highways conference on 14th September. Councillor Foster agreed to attend.

4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>To be attended by</u>
Stockland Parish Council	Tues 27 th August	N. Yool
Society of Clerks AGM	Fri 13 th September	N. Yool
Highways Conference	Sat. 14 th September	W. Forster
Axminster Town Council	Mon. 16 th September	N. Yool & H. Tennant
EDDC Planning	Thurs. 3 rd October	P. Pearse, W. Foster, Mrs. D Burrough
EDDC	Fri. 11 th October	

EDDC –offer of 250 empty sandbags to be collected from Sidmouth on 1st or 2nd October. Councillor Little has agreed to collect them.

Blackdown Hills – website, events diary etc.

Community Council of Devon – confirmation of membership.

Devon CC – rural broadband

PCSO Amanda Wooster – 3 reported crimes since the last meeting: 1 “burglary dwelling”, 1 “burglary other”, 1 “snapping dog”.

5. PLANNING

EDDC Approval:

- Dyer, Crawley Farm – agricultural building extension.

New Applications:

- (i) Hurford, Sisterhood Farm – agricultural building. The Parish Council’s Planning Committee considered that both the original and amended applications would adversely affect the residential properties at Playstreet and recommended refusal.
- (ii) Parris, Moxhayes – livestock building
- (iii) Smith, Sunnyside- extension

Planning Correspondence

EDDC – 2006/26 Local Plan has been submitted.

- Investigating building work at Oxenways.

The Planning Committee was invited to North Grays to hear about plans for an “innovative” dwelling. No action required until a planning application is received.

6. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Dunkeswell and Luppitt have suggested undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan for the Blackdown Hills area, including Membury. A planning consultant would be employed to write the majority of the plan with each parish having the opportunity to add specific relevant elements. Funds of up to £5,000 per parish are available. The Clerk has registered Membury’s interest in this scheme with EDDC. Mrs J. Simmonds had agreed to help

7. FINANCE

Payments for approval:

	£
735 T. Worsley – Footpath Walk Leaflets	120.00
736 Hall hire	6.00
737 Clerk’s expenses	56.00
Balances at 31 th July 2013	4,025.16
Clerk’s Salary Contingency	6,000.00
Footpath Funds	2,066.81
Flood Grant	<u>387.64</u>
Total	12,479.61

The External Auditor had certified the 2012/13 return having raised no issues. The statutory notice had been displayed. There would be no fee this year.

£98 (£100 less £2 bank charge) had been received from Portuguese transport firm Frutos do Mar as compensation for damage to the car park railings.

8. HIGHWAYS

Problems to be reported to Devon CC:

- Potholes at Waybeers (Rock)
- Bedlam Lane (west of Furley Cross)
- Damage to Case Bridge, northside – capping stone dislodged.
- Overgrown hedges at Castle House and Gowan Brae.
- Site visit to be arranged to see proposal to widen entrance to Newhouse Farm.

9. FOOTPATHS

The new footpath walk leaflet was selling well at the Village Shop. Mr. Foster was congratulated. Devon CC has supplied a gate to replace a stile on FP20 at Lewsley Farm. Church Lane – loose post at war memorial.

10. EMERGENCY PLANNING

The Clerk had requested Devon County Council to undertake a Flood Risk Assessment for Membury.

11. PLAYING FIELD

A fundraising day had been held on 21st July.

12. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Car Park.

13. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

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

PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs D. Hosking referred to the “snapping dag” mentioned in PCSO Wooster’s report. This was a nuisance to cyclists, walkers and motorists but the police and dog warden had spoken to the owners.