

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF MEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL** held in the  
**Village Hall on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:** H. Tennant (Chairman), Mrs. D. Troake (Vice Chairman), Mrs D. Burrough, W. Foster, P. Pearse, A. Tasker, N. Yool, Councillor A Moulding, and 4 Parishioners.

**APOLOGIES:** Miss S. Little, K. Pearse, Councillor P. Diviani and PCSO Amanda Wooster.

**1. THE MINUTES** of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2014 were confirmed and signed as correct. The meeting scheduled for Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October was cancelled to allow a meeting with NHS officials – see item 9.

**2. MATTERS ARISING**

- Blocked Sewer – Mr J. Tuck had reported the situation to Neil Parish MP and the Consumer Council for Water for investigation.
- Appointment of Clerk – one parishioner had expressed an interest.
- Broadband – faster speed now scheduled for October 2015.
- Defibrillator – communication from Councillor Diviani re possible supplier.

**3. CORRESPONDENCE**

- Devon CC – Flood Risk Assessment – “Membury will not be getting looked at for the next few years.”
  - Budget savings in Waste Management.
- EDDC – Meeting with Parish Councils – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 5.30pm.
  - Model Protocol on the filming and recording of Local Council meetings. This was adopted.
- Councillor Diviani – Autumn statement.
- Local Government Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Devon.
- Devon Record Office – happy to receive Parish Council minute books but unable to digitalise them free of charge.
- PCSO Wooster – no crime reported since the last meeting – all lost property enquiries to be dealt with by the ‘Report My Loss’ website.
- East Devon Volunteer Support Agency – moved to Cranbrook.

**4. PLANNING**

EDDC Approval:

- Johnson, Treblehayes – agricultural building extension.

EDDC Refusal

- Johnson, Treblehayes – wind turbine. Appeal lodged.

Parish Council Planning Committee and EDDC Approval:

- Pearse, Challenger Farm – agricultural dwelling – approval was subject to an agricultural tie and adequate measures to reduce the effects of surface water runoff.

The Planning Committee had checked the conditions of planning consent regarding Waterhouse bungalow and were satisfied that these had been complied with.

## 5. FINANCE

Payments for approval:	£
786 Axminster DAPC - subscription	10.00
787 Membury PO – Neighbourhood Plan	27.54
788 Axminster Printing – NP	50.00
789 Membury PO – NP	141.80
790 RB Lawrence – car park	558.00
791 Hall hire	12.00
792 J. Hawkes – NP	35.28
793 Axminster Printing – NP	29.74
794 Community Council of Devon – NP	1593.44
795 Membury PO – NP	249.42
796 J. Wallace – Playing Field	298.00
797 Blackdown Hill Parish Network	50.00
798 R. Martin – war Memorial	65.00
799 Clerk’s expenses	36.71
800 Stuart Todd – NP	3360.00

Balances at 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2014	
General Funds	6,576.06
Clerk’s Salary Contingency	6,000.00
Footpath Funds	1,045.44
Flood Grant	292.64
Neighbourhood Plan Grants	<u>4,628.42</u>
Total	18,542.56

### Parishes Together Grant

Councillors Foster and Yool had attended a meeting arranged by Axminster Town Council. It was agreed to give first priority to “The Project”, a scheme to help local young people with mental health problems. Any surplus to be used for a road lengthsmen scheme.

Expenditure for 2014/15 to date was checked and found to be in line with budget figures.

## 6. HIGHWAYS

Problems to be reported to Devon CC:

- Surface breaking on Lewsley Lane near Blackmores.
- Potholes: at the top of James’s Lane , the higher part of Longbridge Hill, Bedlam Lane and between Kingsleaze and Case Bridge.
- Blocked pipe near Springfield – Councillor Moulding suggested a strong letter to Councillor Hughes, with photographs.
- “Lake” to the north of Star Cross – Councillor P. Pearse to take action.

Councillor P. Pearse had arranged for contractors to tip planings at Goyle Acre Lane.

Highways Correspondence

- Devon CC:
  - Parish Road Warden Scheme – lengthsman service suspended, local volunteer wardens to be trained. Councillor Foster had volunteered.
  - £18.5m cut from Devon’s highway budget since 2009. Savings of another £3.4m required for 2015/16. Proposals include no longer stocking grit bins, reduced road gritting programme, reducing staff by 20%.

## **7. FOOTPATHS**

Footpath Warden Councillor Foster reported that:

An electric fence had been placed across FP6. P. Pearse agreed to remove it. New gate to be erected north of Castle House. Reports that BW28 and FP16(Yarty Farm) were impassable were checked. It was felt that these were “heavy going but not impassable”. Church Lane – a run off channel was blocked – to be investigated. Some signs need replacing.

## **8. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Councillor Tasker reported on progress:

Although mobile phone and broadband coverage were not technically matters of NP policy, feedback was so strong that they will be included under community action plans. Future Parish Councils should ensure that the best possible services are provided.

Feedback from questionnaires had suggested that 2 affordable homes were required. There had also been significant support for sheltered or retirement housing. Significant development in village centre or elsewhere would create too much impact. Any development to be limited to no more than 6 units and should meet the Village Design Statement criteria. No sites to be identified in Plan as this would result in the necessity for an expensive Strategic Environmental Assessment. Feasibility studies for hydro power and biogas were desirable.

## **9. MEETING WITH NHS OFFICIALS – 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

Following concerns raised by Parishioners and unsatisfactory responses to emails and telephone calls, NHS officials were invited to explain the current situation regarding a parishioner who had been detained under the Mental Health Act in March 2013. A BBC news report at the time of sentencing stated that the community would be consulted before the person was released. The officials said that this would have been contrary to the terms of the Mental Health Act and that the individual was being granted increasing periods of home leave which could lead to his eventual release. The meeting was attended by about 60 parishioners. It should be noted that at no time did the Parish Council attempt to block the person’s return to his home.

## **10. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

2015/16 Precept

Appointment of new Clerk

## **11. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Tuesdays 27<sup>th</sup> January, 10<sup>th</sup> March, 21<sup>st</sup> April (APM), 19<sup>th</sup> May (AGM), 7<sup>th</sup> July, 18<sup>th</sup> August, 12<sup>th</sup> October, 1<sup>st</sup> December at 7.30pm

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

Mrs D. Hosking thanked the Council for obtaining the replacement sign outside Lachdooga from the County Council. The previous one had rotten posts and become dangerous.