

EAST ANSTEY PARISH COUNCIL

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The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 13th August 2008 at East Anstey Primary School at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr's J White (Chairman), I Noon, N Vereker, C Gillette, P Wood and R Blake.

In attendance: District Cllr Ley and the Clerk Mrs J Larcombe.

36/08/08. To receive apologies. None.

37/08/08. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda. Cllr Noon declared a personal and prejudicial interest in a letter to be discussed under item 49/08/08.

38/08/08. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on the 11th June 2008 as a true record of the meeting. With a change from Countysmeet to Countiesmeet under item 26/06/08 the minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

39/08/08. Matters arising from the minutes, not covered on the agenda. An item on Parish Plans was not able to be included in the last newsletter. WPC Julie Bradshaw has spoken to residents at New Park about the problem being caused by vehicles parking on the road outside of the properties. Larger vehicles are finding it difficult to get through. It was felt that there is also a problem at Hollowalls.

40/08/08. To discuss the co-option of three councillors. It was agreed to bring this item forward from it's position on the agenda. It was resolved to co-opt Robert Blake onto the council. There are still two vacancies to fill.

41/08/08. Planning:

a) To make a recommendation on the following planning application

46976 Erection of building to house cattle. Higher Radnidge, East Anstey.
 Applicant Radnidge Farm Ltd. Recommendation - approval

b) To note any decisions made on planning applications by NDDC. None.

c) To update the council regarding affordable housing. Mike Kelly, NDC Head of Planning, has responded to say that there has been no movement regarding the provision of affordable housing. There was concern that the site was overgrown. It was agreed that Cllr White would write to Stags and ask them to clean up the site and to see that the trees are lopped.
 Cllr White reported that the NDC Planning Department are now asking to be given 48 hours notice when someone wants to look at a working file.

42/08/08. Finance: To approve accounts for payment. It was resolved to make the following payments:
 DAPC - £47 annual, subscription
 DPFA - £15 annual subscription

Mr J White - £67.98 expenses claim

Mrs J Larcombe - £110 Clerk's salary and expenses

Nationwide Building Society are closing the Portman type of account that the Parish Council has. The council will look at opening a new account to be called the Village green account.

43/08/08. Highways

- a) **To note, for reporting to DCC, any highways problems and to note works that have been carried out.** The potholes reported at the last meeting were filled in ahead of a check of highways problems by Cllr White and Cllr Vereker. The temporary patching has not been very successful. Work carried out for South West Water at Oldways End is satisfactory. County Cllr Yabsley will be contacted and asked to chase up the Highways Department about the Village Signs. It was noted that the roads in the parish have not been swept for years. County Cllr Yabsley to be asked to take this up with the Highways Department. A list of dates for visits by the Lengthsman to be obtained. There was concern over the inconsistency of verge cutting, particularly at Woodburn Cross, which was only cut once but on separate dates.
- b) **Any other highways issues.** Simon Houghton, DCC Public Rights of Way Warden, has said that the cleaning up of Scratchy Face Lane is a private matter.

44/08/08. To receive the following reports:

- a) **District Cllr – Cllr Ley.** District Cllr Ley agreed to take up the council's highways issues with Cllr Yabsley. He was concerned about NDC asking for 48 hours notice to be given to look at working files and will raise this at the meeting he has with Jean Watkins on the second Tuesday of each month, With regard to the affordable housing he suggested that the Parish Council apply for planning permission on the proposed site as, in Cllr Ley's opinion, it is the best site in East Anstey for affordable housing. The council was reminded that councillors could be co-opted from the area within three miles of the parish boundary. Cllr Ley is able to give a grant to a community hall with trustees and might be able to help the hall at Oldways End, which needs it's kitchen upgrading. He will send an application form to Cllr White. The Methodist Circuit would need to approve the grant. Money might also be available from the County Cllr. Cllr Blake will obtain a quote for the work. With regard to the Boundary Commission Review Cllr Ley said that he is afraid that politics will interfere with common sense. EDDC is applying for a judicial review as they have seen a huge mistake that the Boundary Commission has made on the financial viability criteria. The Chairman and Leader met with the Boundary Commission in early July and gave them a rough ride. This Boundary Commission Review process has happened in Norfolk and Suffolk. Norfolk is also going for a judicial review. In Cllr Ley's opinion Community Boards would be unelected quango's with no powers. Individual comments are now being registered and three out of four are against a county unitary. The opposition party of the County Council are leaning on the Tory Leader to distance himself from the process.
- b) **County Cllr – Cllr Yabsley.** No report.
- c) **Police.** No report. A councillor reported that one parishioner has had two lots of oil stolen, A warning notice about thefts will be put in the newsletter. There is no neighbourhood watch at present. Cllr White will forward the Police emails he receives to the people he emails the newsletter to. This information could also be put on the website. Cllr White has spoken to

a representative of the Somerset Neighbourhood Watch Scheme to get information.

d) Website. All the Parish Council minutes are now on the website. There have been an amazing amount of hits on the website , especially from abroad.

- 45/08/08. Boundary Commission Review.** The Boundary Commission has recommended one unitary for Devon, excluding the existing unitaries of Plymouth and Torbay. Councillors agreed that they were not in favour of this recommendation and supported the proposal put forward by NDC for two unitaries. Cllr Wood will draft a letter, expressing the views of the Parish Council, to send to the Boundary Commission. It was felt that people's views had not been taken into account and there was concern that there would be no saving to the tax payer. Councillors felt that there had not been a proper consultation.
- 46/08/08. To approve a draft newsletter.** It was agreed the following information would be included: the co-option of Cllr Blake, affordable housing update, meeting dates for the rest of the year, Harvest Festival dates, update on Police Authority Liaison meeting, Parish Plan, website, rural Watch and Neighbourhood Watch, and proposed Lunch and Social Club.
- 47/08/08. Play area update.** Councillors are looking at ways of getting the rungs replaced on the climbing frame. That part of the frame could perhaps be removed.
- 48/08/08. To consider the possible formation of a social/luncheon club.** It was noted that the Jubilee Inn are willing to put on pensioners lunches more frequently than one Tuesday every week.
- 49/08/08. Correspondence received by the Parish Council:** The following correspondence was noted:
 News from your Community Information Centre South Molton & District
 NDDC – Weekly Information Sheets
 NDDC – notification of application for a House to House Collection Licence between 23/08/08 & 09/02/09 for Clothes Aid and also between 01/09/08 & 30/09/08 for African Orphans UK.
 DPFA – Playing Field
 South West Lifelong Learning Network – information.
 A letter was received from the parishioner at “Henley” who had been accused of being in contravention of planning law in regard to fencing and the keeping of poultry. A NDC Planning Enforcement Officer has visited the site and has confirmed that there has been no contravention of planning law and that there will be no action taken.
- 50/08/08. Public Questions.** It was noted that S106 agreements need to be done in conjunction with planning applications.
- 51/08/08. Date of the next meeting** – Wednesday 8th October