

## **EAST ANSTEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at East Ansteay Primary School commencing at 7.30pm.**

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

**In attendance:** District Cllr E Ley, the Clerk Mrs J Larcombe and one member of the public.

**79/02/09. To receive apologies.** Apologies were accepted from Cllr N Vereker.

**80/02/09. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda.** None.

**81/02/09. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2008 as a true record of the meeting.** The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

**82/03/09. Matters arising from the minutes, not covered on the agenda.** None.

**83/02/09. Planning:**

**a) To make a recommendation on any planning applications received by the Parish Council.** No applications.

**b) To note any decisions made on planning applications by NDDC.** None. A query was raised as to whether the planning application for the riding school had been approved.

**c) To update the council regarding affordable housing.** The Chairman reported that he hadn't heard anything more about the affordable housing and was not expecting to do so.

**d) Any other planning matters.** None.

**84/02/09. Finance:**

**a) To approve accounts for payment.** It was resolved to make the following payment; Mrs J Larcombe £104.00 Clerks salary & expenses.

**b) To confirm to councillors the amount precepted for 2009/10.** The Clerk confirmed that the council had requested a precept of £2565 from NDC.

**85/02/09. Highways**

**a) To note, for reporting to DCC, any highways problems and to note works that have been carried out.** Cllr White has contacted DCC and SCC about the potholes in the roads. The two large potholes have been repaired. Outside of Threadneedle only the large one was mended, the small ones were left. More potholes are appearing. There is a bad one at Hilltop and outside of the school. The large one at Roachill will be reported, even though it is outside of the parish, because parishioners are using the road.

**b) Any other highways issues.** Cllr Gillette will contact the lengthsman about clearing the drains. No gritting lorries came through the village during the worst of the recent bad weather, not even past the school. SCC did salt their roads once. Cllr White will write to both SCC and DCC to complain. More salt bags will be requested. A contractor made a gouge in the verge when clearing snow and this had to be cleared up by Cllr Blake.

**86/02/09. To receive the following reports:**

**a) District Cllr – Cllr Ley.** Cllr Ley reported that Mike Kelly, Chief Planning

Officer NDC, is to meet with a James Green in late February with the aim of getting them to pursue plans for affordable housing or to drop the matter altogether. Cllr White will contact Mike Kelly to see if he can attend the meeting. There is a general gripe about the salting and gritting of the roads. If there are any requests for grants they should be made before the end of the financial year. The decision on the Boundary Commission review has been put off until July. The decision on a planning application for wind turbines at Batsworthy Cross has been put off because of a Ministry of Defence complaint. NDC's share of the council tax will rise by 3%. He commented that public sector pensions are a drain on council tax. A local Wild Boar farmer has taken the Planning Inspectorate to the High Court and has been granted legal aid to brief a barrister.

**b) County Cllr – Cllr Yabsley.** No report.

**c) Police.** The Chairman reported that he had tried to contact PC Julie Bradshaw but she is on sick leave. PC Mike Levitt has been asked to have another look at the parking problem at Park Cottages and to suggest a solution. One vehicle parked there has been hit by another vehicle. As heavy vehicles are having to drive on the edge of the road to pass parked vehicles the edge of the road is breaking up and there is now a 4 to 5" drop. It was suggested that the Avon & Somerset Police should also be consulted about this issue. The Chairman will approach a local land owner regarding the possibility of using a gateway for parking if all other avenues fail.

**d) Website.** There have been 3968 hits in the first year. The meeting dates for 2009 have been posted onto the website. There is now a link to the Pre-schools own website.

**e) Play Area.** It was noted that the gate, swing chains and the bark safety surfacing need attention. The actions will be carried forward.

**f) Newsletter.** The newsletter will carry information about the Annual Parish Meeting format (calling it the Annual General Meeting), the Community Centre, May Day Fair, web site, Garden Show and the reorganisation and renaming of CARE Blackerton.

**87/02/09. To update councillors on the Community Centre.** Cllr Wood reported that the new kitchen has now been installed. And the electrics wired up. There is just a small amount of decorating to be done. An opening event is being planned for the end of February on a date to be agreed by the committee. Cllr Eric Ley will be invited. The Community Centre will look at how people can help each other.

**88/02/09. May Day Fair.** Cllr White reported that he is co-ordinating the event and the long term plans have been made. The PFTA of the school are helping on the day but not with the organising. As the council is the organising party public liability insurance will be covered by the council's insurance. The marquees need to be covered for two days before the event. Cllr Noon will organise the electrics. A vintage engine display has been offered.

**89/02/09. Correspondence received by the Parish Council:**

NDC - Weekly Information Sheets

South Molton & District Community News – January 2009, February 2009

Shore Sight Opticians, Braunton. An independent optical practise providing domiciliary eye care to patients who find it difficult to visit an optician unassisted looking to extend their service to day centres etc for elderly to make the service more efficient.

NDC Standards Committee Minutes

**90/02/09. Public Questions.** A parishioner asked whether there was any information on the entrance behind the council houses being opened up. There is no information. In answer to questions a parishioner was told that the community centre had been fully funded by receiving two grants and private funding; no alcohol will be allowed in the hall; the Parish Plan will not go ahead; CARE have been asked to provide a representative to sit on the Community Centre Committee; plans for transport to the Jubilee Inn for meals have not been taken up but may be looked at again once the community centre is up and running; there are no plans for the Parish Council to submit its own planning application for affordable housing and no information about a compulsory purchase order.

**91/02/09. Date of the next meeting** – Wednesday 8th April at 6.30pm before the Annual Parish Meeting (AGM) at 7.30pm. It was agreed that a glass of wine would be served after the meeting.