

## East Anstey Parish Council

### **Minutes of the full Council meeting held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2008 at East Anstey Primary School commencing at 19:30.**

- 1. Apologies:** Cllr I Bew (Cllr I Bew supplied input via an email)

**Present:** Cllr J White, Cllr N Vereker, Cllr P Edwards, Cllr C Gillett, Cllr I Noon (Minutes)

**In Attendance:** Peter Wood, Phyllis and Eric Hutter, Robert Blake, Joe Brock (Departed 19:53), District Cllr E Ley, PCSO J Rozpotynski (Arrived 20:09, Departed 20:55), County Cllr J Yabsley (Arrived 20:16, Departed 20:40) – Apologies were received from late attendees and those departing early.

#### **NOTES:**

- a) This meeting was a regular meeting of the full Council and NOT the Annual General Meeting as advised in Issue 12 of the East Anstey Parish Newsletter.**
- b) Cllr Edwards objected to the wording of one item on the published public agenda differing to that of the agenda issued to Council members.**

- 2. Minutes of Meetings held**

Full Council 9<sup>th</sup> January 2008

Agreed and signed as a true and correct record

Proposed: Cllr Noon, Seconded: Cllr Vereker

- 3. Declarations of Interest**

None raised.

- 4. To consider co-opting a new member of the Council**

Peter Wood had stated an interest in being co-opted onto the Council.

Proposal made that Peter Wood to be invited to join the Council

Proposed: Cllr Vereker, Seconded: Cllr Gillett – 1 abstention – Carried

Peter Wood welcomed to the Council @ 19:44 following (his) completion of initial paperwork accepting Council Office.

- 5. Council Meeting in May**

The **May** meeting will be the **Annual General Meeting** and will be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

**Note:** the **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2008. These dates will be published in Issue 13 of the EA Parish Newsletter.

- 6. Parish Notice Boards**

The Parish notice board at Oldways End is not enclosed. As a result notices, often those legally required for Council purposes, are made illegible by rain or blown away in strong winds. A proposal was made to replace this notice board

with that currently sited by the play area and, in turn, replace that notice board with a lockable one. The necessary permissions have been sought and gained from the respective landowners.

Proposed: Cllr Vereker, Seconded: Cllr Wood – 1 against – Carried

In view of the high cost of a commercially available notice board (C£600)

Cllr Edwards will approach CARE for a quote to manufacture a suitable notice board.

## **7. March Newsletter**

Date of May AGM to be added prior to Issue 13 being distributed.

Draft updated Emergency Plan to be available by EAPC meeting.

## **8. Matters arising**

**New Parish Clerk:** It was proposed that Jill Larcombe be appointed to fill the vacant Parish Clerk post following the promotion and consequent departure of Trish Harrogate, the former incumbent.

Proposed: Cllr Wood, Seconded: Cllr Vereker – 1 abstention – Carried.

**Play Area:** Cllr Bew has turned some trial rungs to replace those removed from the climbing net due to damage/deterioration. These will be fitted as soon as time and the weather permit. Cllr Edwards handed an invoice from CARE to the Chairman for the construction and supply of the new bench for the play area. The bench will be delivered, as requested, in mid-May. Repairs to the sprung modules are ongoing. WICKSTEAD are to be approached to undertake the annual safety inspection of the play area in preference to ROSPA this year on grounds of cost. WC Dart to be invited to continue cutting the grass in the play area this year subject to an acceptable quote.

**Affordable Housing:** A report of the latest situation was given by Cllr Vereker following the meeting held between the Chairman and the Planning Committee of EAPC and the NDDC Planning Department, held 13<sup>th</sup> February 2008. In attendance for EAPC were Cllrs White, Vereker and Noon and for NDDC Barbara Venn and Joe White. Progress was made with agreement that public funding had been secured to make good the shortfall between what was on offer from Stags and that required by Falcon to construct the new houses. The NDDC still need to clarify some outstanding issues with Falcon and Stags and, once they have done so, another meeting will be held between Stags, Falcon, NDDC and EAPC to move this project forward with all dispatch. Cllr Edwards challenged the position of the affordable housing project but was advised that things had moved on as a result of the 13<sup>th</sup> February meeting and, as such, Cllr Vereker had reported on the latest position.

**Web Site:** The EAPC web site is now up and running and favourable comments have been received. It was requested that a “Hit counter” be added to the homepage. It was further requested that that links to the public services in the close Somerset area be added e.g. Dulverton police, Avon and Somerset police, Dulverton Council, etc. The Chairman will undertake to have these requests entrained.

**May Day Fayre:** CARE are dealing with all aspects of organisation supported by the PTFA. A progress report produced at the meeting indicated that plans are now well advanced with additional attractions for this year.

## **9. Items to be reported**

**Devon and Cornwall Police:** PCSO “Yorkie” Rozpotynski introduced himself and was welcomed to the meeting. He invited all to address him as “Yorkie”, due to the difficulty of pronunciation of his given names!! The new Police Station at South Molton is now fully staffed. “Yorkie” advised that, being new to the job and the beat, he was currently concentrating on meeting local councils, committees, etc, to make himself as widely known as possible. Mike Livett is the patrol officer for East Anstey. Revised details of local police contact numbers will be found in Issue 13 of the Parish Newsletter following distribution of police business cards at the meeting. More response staff are now also available in the area. Cars either dumped or not working are currently being stolen in the area – please be aware if you have such a vehicle. “Yorkie” will try to call the Chairman, when possible, if and when he is scheduled to visit the Parish to make sure that he is aware of any local issues prior to his visit.

### **North Devon District Councillor Ley:**

Cllr Ley opened by tendered his apologies for the forthcoming meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> April, citing previous commitments. Cllr Ley assured those present that, contrary to the opinion of some, affordable housing in East Anstey was not viewed by the NDDC as “Low priority”. Cllr Ley went on to expand upon proposals for a “Unitary Council” in the County. This proposal would see the disbanding of the NDDC and County Councils. EAPC have the opportunity to respond to this proposal giving their preference as to any division of the county when the Unitary Council comes into force.

### **Devon County Councillor Yabsley:**

Cllr Yabsley outlined the proposal for a Unitary Council. The make up of the council is still unclear, as is any division of the county for Local Government purposes. The Boundary Commission will make their proposals to central Government in due course. Cllr Yabsley reported that he will shortly have budget available for local works. Missing and damaged signposts and signs need to be reported for repair/replacement as part of this funding.

### **Parish Lengthsman / Health and Safety – areas for attention**

**Highways issues:** Cllr Gillett reported that the next visit by Parish Lengthsman is scheduled for week commencing 27<sup>th</sup> March 2008. Cllrs White and Vereker to undertake a survey of the local roads with a view to vital repairs being undertaken.

## **10. Finance:**

A local audit is now required and that a provisional approach had been made to Cynthia Butcher ascertain her costs for undertaking same. She had responded that her charge would be £10 per hour for this work. It was proposed that her offer be accepted.

Proposed: Cllr Wood, Seconded: Cllr Vereker – Carried unanimously.

EAPC have received a cheque in the sum of £235.58 for the return of monies in connection with uncontested election costs.

An invoice had been received from the former Parish Clerk, Trish Harrogate, for her work to the conclusion of her service with the Council in the sum of £160.06p. A proposal for payment was made.

Proposed: Cllr Noon, Seconded: Cllr Wood – agreed unanimously – Carried.

An invoice from Zurich Insurance had been received in the sum of £502.08p. This insurance covers EAPC for Public Liability, indemnity, etc. A proposal for payment was made.

Proposed: Cllr Gillett, Seconded: Cllr Edwards. – agreed unanimously BUT subject to confirmation that the policy covers the work and operatives contracted to undertake the grass cutting in the play area.

**ACTION 1** - Chairman to obtain confirmation.#

## **11. Correspondence received:**

DCC – Unitary update – to be circulated to all EAPC Councillors

Mid Devon Supplementary Planning Documents – to be circulated to all EAPC Councillors

Provision of Funding of Open Space  
Air Quality Action

Local Sewerage – A household in the Parish has asked that the Council look into the possibility of a public sewer being provided. Cllr White has contacted SW Water who have advised that their “Mains Drainage” department will investigate and report.

Unauthorised Development at “Henley” – A letter addressed to the EAPC Chairman and EAPC Planning Committee has been received. The letter has been passed on to NDDC.

## **12. Public Questions:**

**Local Sewage** – a member of the public opined that SW Water may not be the appropriate body to deal with the issue in question. Cllr White to discuss with correspondents of letter and discuss with them whether Environmental Agency involvement is necessary.

**Cllr Yabsley’s budget** – A member of the public requested that replacement of the missing village signs be funded from this. This issue is known to the Council who have also previously brought the matter to the attention of Cllr Yabsley. Cllr White or, time permitting, the new Parish Clerk will write again to Cllr Yabsley on the issue.

**Emergency Plan** – A member of the public requested that the updated Plan also included those living on the “Somerset side” of the village. Agreed for inclusion.

**Web site** – A member of the public advised that the writing at part of the site could not be read due to a picture of a tree obscuring it. Cllr White to investigate and arrange remedial action.

All were thanked for their attendance and the meeting was closed at 22:05.