

Minutes of the Belstone Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6th December 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Ann Norman, Jon Pike, Paul Boyce, Susan Norrish, Elisabeth Emerson with Michael Ash in the Chair. Robin Hill (Parish Clerk)

77 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None

78 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS: 18th October and 1st November, previously circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed.

79 MATTERS ARISING: Simon Herbert (Church Warden) has advised the Clerk that the Church has been unsuccessful with its application to the Dartmoor Communities Fund.

Consent has been given for the tree work at Birchy Lake, Belstone.

80 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

81 URGENT MATTERS RAISED BY THE CHAIRMAN: None

82 CORRESPONDENCE:

- i. **Dartmoor National Park Forum 25th November:** Michael Ash gave a short report about the meeting
- ii. **Eastern Links Report:** Notes had been circulated to all Councillors for their consideration.
- iii. **Super Link Meeting:** Wednesday 7 December. Ann Norman and Elisabeth Emerson to attend on behalf of Belstone PC.
- iv. **Other:** North Dartmoor Search and Rescue Team, Okehampton Community District Transport Group, Citizens Advice, StOC – thank you letters received for 137 Payments

83 CLERK'S REPORT:

i. Meeting dates for 2017 were agreed as follows:

January 17, February 28, April 11, May (Annual Parish Meeting) 2, (Annual Parish Council Meeting) 30, July 11, September 5, October 17, December 5.

ii. Council Tax Support Grant: There will be an annual grant reduction of 8.6% for the next three years. West Devon Borough Council have agreed to sign up to the four-year financial settlement offered by the Government.

iii. Provision of sandbags: The Council have taken up the offer of a delivery of sand. This will be coordinated by Ann Norman.

iv. Councillors were reminded to check that their Register of Interest information is up to date.

84 FINANCE:

i. **Current state of finances and petty cash:**

Current Account £1399.11 Reserve Account £1996.39 includes interest of 11p. Petty cash £5.91 in arrears.

ii. **Payments to be made:** None

iii. **Set Draft Parish Precept:**

The Parish Precept for 2017-18 was discussed and a draft proposal made subject to final ratification at the January meeting. With expenses estimated at £1,730.00, the expected Parish Council Expenses were set at £1730.00. This to be made up from £40.00 Council Tax Support Grant and £1690.00 Precept. Proposed Ann Norman seconded Jon Pike. This was agreed unanimously. It was decided not to add £200 contingency sum to the total for this coming year. As part of the discussion it was agreed to increase the Clerk's salary by £25 and to drop the payment to South Zeal Scouts but retain £15 as a contingency. These changes were proposed by Ann Norman and seconded by Susan Norrish and agreed unanimously.

iv. **Payments made:** All 137 Payments, Clerks salary and HMRC all agreed at the meeting 18 October.

v. **Council Diary:** Checked and signed.

85 PLANNING:

- i. Grant of conditional planning in respect of conversion of traditional buildings into one unit holiday accommodation at Skaigh Stables, Belstone
- ii. Grant of conditional planning permission to replace existing monopitch superstructure of garage with double pitch roof, Moorgate Cottage, Belstone

86 HIGHWAYS:

The Clerk was requested to contact highways to ask for the road sweeper.

The clerk has received an amended temporary road closure notice for Skaigh Lane, Belstone 1st to 7th December

87 OTHER MATTERS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN:

Seat: The seat behind Cleave House looking down West Cleave is in a poor state of repair. Paul Boyce agreed to look at it and make it safe/remove it.

88 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 17th January 2017

There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.35pm

Signed Dated

Chairman