

The monthly meeting was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 14th January 2009 at 7.30 p.m.

Chairman Cllr. B.Denham

Present Cllrs. B.Denham, J.Clarke-Irons, , B.Mason, C.Pratt , C.Sellers (from 8.40pm), A.Turner, P.Whiting.,

5 members of the public.

Resolution The following resolution was proposed by Cllr.Turner:

To resolve under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public be excluded from the meeting for item No.20 (Tenders for Maintenance Contract) on the agenda on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reasons of the confidential nature of the business. This was seconded by Cllr.Whiting and carried unanimously

Apologies Cllr. P Shirley, D.Cllr.K.George. The police

Minutes. The minutes of the December 2008 meeting, as circulated, were adopted and signed.

Matters arising. There were no matters arising.

Planning.

Applications Refused by East Devon District Council

Land adjacent Lydwell House. Erection of 3 town houses with new vehicular access.

Land adjacent Lydwell House. Erection of dwelling

Applications Granted by East Devon District Council

Land at Clanbury, Rhode Lane. Erection of dwelling with new vehicular pedestrian access

Bulford, Lyme Road. Demolish existing dwelling and garage, construct replacement dwelling and garage.

Land to west of reservoir Shire Lane. Change of use of agricultural land to recreational land in connection with Woodroffe School.

Rosemundy, Lime Kiln Lane. Single storey extension to side of bungalow.

Applications considered

Warren Cottage, Harcombe. Erection of front and rear extensions and detached studio building. *The Parish Council recommends refusal of these inappropriate design additions to a traditional rural Devon long house. Not in accordance with Parish Council Guidelines. Any office/shed should have conditions stopping use as holiday or other accommodation.*

Saas-Fee, Whalley Lane. New Garage and ground floor shower extension. *The Parish Council has no objections to this application.*

Warren Cottage, Harcombe Amended Designs. Erection of front and rear extensions and detached studio building. *The Parish Council considers this cruciform design to be completely out of keeping in this rural area within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The Parish Council would have no objection to the office/shed in lieu of containers, provided any accommodation, including holiday accommodation is prohibited.*

Finance.

Present Position

Balances at 30th December 2008

Current Account	£16,778.71		Including Restricted Funds of :	
Business Instant Access A/c	£5,348.37		Footpath funds	£1,718.06
Millennium Tree Fund	£55.03	£22,182.11	Playground Funds	£2,133.63
			Uplyme Speed Campaign	£879.01
				<u>£4,730.70</u>
Payments Out			Payments In	
Clerk's Salary & Expenses	444.74		Cemetery	600.00
Bay Gardens and Landscaping	480.00		CUP	8866.47
Royal British Legion	16.50		War Stock Dividend	1.56
Audit Commission	285.00		Bank interest	2.50
Axe Valley & West Dorset Ring & Ride	200.00			
Repairs & Maintenance	37.16			
VAT	49.88			
	<u>1513.28</u>			<u>£9,470.53</u>

Parish Precept 2009/2010. The Clerk in his capacity as Responsible Financial Officer recommended an increase of £307 in the precept to £14,200. This allows for essential works to be carried out in Stafford mount and committed donations of £500 to King George Field, £200 to East Devon Citizens Advice Bureau and £250 to the Axe Valley & West Dorset Ring & Ride. The increase will result in an annual precept for a property in council tax Band D of £16.89 (an annual increase of 6p on the 2008/2009 precept). Cllr. Clarke-Irons proposed that the precept be increased by £307 to £14,200, seconded by Cllr. Turner and carried unanimously.

Footpaths

Cllr Mason reported that the annual survey has to be completed by mid February. Nine out of the twelve volunteers who took part last year have volunteered again and he has two more volunteers. A meeting will be held with the volunteers to discuss arrangements.

Maintenance of Parish Council Land At this stage Cllr. Sellers had not yet arrived but he has confirmed to the Clerk that the monthly payment may be made.

Stafford Mount Cllr.Denham, Cllr Sellers and Mr Sole met with the maintenance contractor and it was agreed that a tree surgeon was needed to carry out the work necessary. The big tree in the middle is to be left but some outside trees will be taken down. Two estimates had been received for the work. Mr. R.Chiplin of Holly Hill Nurseries £500 and Woodland Garden & Tree Services of Ilminster ££414 inc VAT. Cllr.Turner proposed that the estimate from Woodland Garden & Tree Services be accepted, seconded by Cllr.Mason and carried unanimously.

Children’s Playground Cllr.Clarke-Irons had nothing to report but was encouraged by the fact that children were using the playground even in the cold weather.

Emergency Procedures A meeting of the sub committee is to be arranged and in the meantime it was agreed that sand can be purchased to enable the empty sandbags supplied by EDDC to be filled when needed. How this is to be achieved will be considered at the meeting.

Parish Council vacancies The Chairman has received a letter of resignation from Cllr. Pam Shirley. There are now three vacancies which will have to be filled by co-option. Councillors are encouraged to approach any possible candidates.

Parish Clerk Vacancy To date four applications have been received. Interviews will take place in February and Cllr Denham proposed that Herself, Cllr Clarke-Irons and the Clerk conduct the interviews and decide on the successful candidate with Cllr.Mason being available should the need arise. Seconded by Cllr.Pratt and carried unanimously

Cllr.Sellers arrived at 8.40pm

Correspondence

Carnbrae. Before this next item was discussed Cllr.Turner declared an interest and took no further part in the discussion. A letter that had been received from a resident regarding ‘Carnbrae’ expressing concern as to the way various planning matters had been dealt with by the Parish Council. Councillors considered that at each stage the Parish Council had acted correctly and in accordance with planning regulations. It was agreed that the Chairman will respond appropriately.

The meeting was adjourned at 9.03pm for the open forum

The meeting was reconvened with the public excluded at 9.14pm

Tenders for Maintenance Contract

Four tenders had been received for the annual maintenance contract :

Moby Hill	£7,612.50
Charles Chetwode of Bay Gardens & Landscaping	£6,300.00
Mr.Gary Sims	£6,100.00
Mr.William Clarke	£5,730.00

Before discussion took place Cllr.Clarke-Irons declared an interest and took no further part as he is a personal friend of one of the applicants, Mr Charles Chetwode. The Chairman, Cllr.Sellers and the Clerk each reported their personal assessments to the full Parish Council. After discussion regarding the merits and qualifications of each applicant it was proposed by Cllr. Turner that Mr Gary Sims be awarded the maintenance contract for the year commencing 1st April 2009.Seconded by Cllr.Pratt and carried unanimously.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Signed..... Chairman

Date.....