

The Council meeting was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at 7:15pm. Chairman Cllr Whiting. **Present:** Cllrs Brown, Forrester, Frost, Garland, Mason, Ostler, Turner, Wellman, Whiting and 15, later 21 members of the public.

1. It was resolved unanimously that under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public be excluded from the meeting for items no. 13 and 14 on the agenda because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business (proposed Cllr Turner, seconded Cllr Wellman).

Meeting was adjourned for a discussion of Flood Resilience Planning by Kate Taylor of the Environment Agency Exeter, then the Open Forum.

2. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Pratt (away), PCSO Wooster.
3. **Adoption of Minutes:** It was resolved unanimously to adopt the minutes of the February 2013 meeting (proposed Cllr Garland, seconded Cllr Brown).
4. **Matters arising:** none.
5. **Pecuniary or other interests.** No requests for dispensation were received.
6. **Planning:**

**Applications dealt with by the Planning Committee:**

- **Lower Rhode Farm Rhode Hill** Retention of conversion of barn to ancillary accommodation. *The Parish Council Planning Committee does not object to this application, subject to a condition being imposed that the barn conversion is ancillary to the existing domestic dwelling and is not used as a separate dwelling*" (prop Cllr Turner, sec Cllr Brown)

**Applications dealt with at the meeting:**

- **Lyme Road, Outside Dalverton Rise** Installation of 1 x BT Openreach Broadband Cabinet. It was resolved to respond as follows: *"The Parish Council does not object to this application"* (prop Cllr Turner, sec Cllr Frost)
  - **Land adjoining Gore Lane** Construction of dwelling and improvements to access. It was resolved to respond as follows: *"The Parish Council objects to this application as overdevelopment of a small plot with inadequate access"* (prop Cllr Turner, sec Cllr Wellman) Stability of the area is a concern.
  - **Pitt White Cottage Mill Lane** Ground and first floor extensions (also amended plans). It was resolved to respond as follows: *"The Parish Council objects to this application as overdevelopment of a small plot putting protected trees at risk in the future"* (prop Cllr Garland, sec Cllr Brown) – Clerk to give copy of report to tree warden to examine and discuss with neighbours as necessary.
  - **Knollside Lyme Road** Construction of verandah. It was resolved to respond as follows: *"The Parish Council does not object, subject to no neighbouring properties being overlooked"* (prop Cllr Turner, sec Cllr Frost)
7. **Finance:** The Clerk submitted the schedule of current payments for approval. It was resolved unanimously to approve them (proposed Cllr Brown, seconded Cllr Mason). Clerk to find out if noticeboard posts can be shortened and if so, get quotes for doing this. It was resolved unanimously to grant £250 to Uplyme Church towards its disabled toilet facility, which would generally be available for public use (Public Health Act 1936 s.87) (proposed Cllr Brown, seconded Cllr Turner). Cllrs suggested a sign advertising its existence would be useful for visitors.
  8. **Correspondence:** Cllrs Ostler and Wellman to let Clerk know if they wish to attend DALC training at Exeter on evening of 9<sup>th</sup> May; Cllr Pratt nominated as safety champion.
  9. **Maintenance of Parish Council land.** Insurance issues were discussed following recent visit of insurance agent, viz. risk assessments: Mrs C Wiscombe will assist the Clerk with these, Clerk to get quotes for tree inspections (5 yearly). It was resolved unanimously to adopt a procedure for maintenance contract bidding and selection (proposed Cllr Turner, seconded Cllr Garland). Triangle tree planting – different officers at DCC have different opinions and none have come back with a definitive answer on what is allowed. It seems that 1m clearance from edge of road may be acceptable on Parish Council owned land.
  10. **Flooding WP:** a report of progress since the last meeting was made by Cllr Whiting. DCC draft report has been issued, but EDDC report has not yet been finalised. Neil Parish MP reports no progress on moving the BT cabinet. A letter from the KG V Trustees was read out by Cllr Whiting, in which they notified their intention to dig a relief flood channel down the side of the tennis courts. Although the Council was invited to continue the channel though the playground, concerns were raised over any prior action invalidating the major scheme that is currently being

designed for the whole village. It was resolved unanimously not to spend any section 106 money on flood alleviation until the designed scheme is available (proposed Cllr Turner, seconded Cllr Mason).

11. **Reports** to note.

- i. **Finance** to February 28<sup>th</sup> 2013.
- ii. **Footpaths** – BP 55 works will be subject to a site visit at Smokey Hole before a decision can be made. Glen – stone needs to be moved over owing to landowner objections. BP 84 now has a bigger pipe to take water at top, which has improved matters.
- iii. **Highway matters.** Lengthsman – Combyne/Rousdon Parish Council will be discussing, as will Musbury. Working party will also get info from Wootton which has one already
- iv. **Playground:** padlock on yellow gates to be cut off so gate can be closed safely. Hole by gate by tennis court needs repair.
- v. **Emergency plan.** Specific flood section to be added with help of Kate Taylor.
- vi. **Affordable Housing:** Access for Mr Masters was reinstated into the contract. Allocations not yet finalised. Confidential report has been produced by Guinness.
- vii. **Meetings attended by cllrs:** Neighbourhood planning meeting attended by Cllr Garland, Mr & Mrs Dench. Cllr Garland introduced the concepts and process for production. Major project taking 18 months or so, then consulted on and approved by EDDC, then a referendum held. Meeting suspended briefly to hear from Mr & Mrs Dench and D Cllr Thomas – NP is a statutory document and third level of planning control. Look to see how much it is going to cost. Vote of thanks was proposed to the Denches. School Trustee meeting attended by Cllr Frost – purchase of land for school is imminent. Then funding in earnest. Delegation will be going to Parliament.
- viii. **D Cllrs report** – broadband should be faster for parts of parish from new box at Dalverton Rise. Report on adverse press coverage re: Cllr Graham Brown of EDDC.

12. **Any other business.** 8<sup>th</sup> April projected start on cemetery compound replacement.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.58pm for the open forum and re-convened at 9.15pm *in camera*.

13. **Clerk’s hours.** It was resolved unanimously to increase the Clerk’s hours to 15/week next financial year, as recommended by the Finance Committee (proposed Cllr Turner, seconded Cllr Frost).

14. **Tenders for maintenance contract.** Cllr Forrester declared a DPI owing to a tender having been submitted by a relevant person and left the meeting; Cllr Whiting declared a personal interest – he did not take part in the discussion or voting and only acted as Chairman. Cllr Garland reported on the interviews with potential contractors, and the majority decision of the interview panel to recommend Simon Flux of Fluxy’s Garden Services. It was resolved unanimously to accept Mr Flux’s tender in the sum of £7072 (proposed Cllr Wellman, seconded Cllr Ostler). Cllr Whiting pointed out the importance of value for money vs. absolute cost, and the Council felt that the winning tender offered this.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.33 p.m.

Signed ..... Chairman

Date .....