

DEAN PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES - SUBJECT TO ALTERATION

Minutes of the Meeting Held on Monday 5th March 2018 at Dean Prior Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present – Cllrs Chew (Chairman) , Rutley , Thorn and Wetherall
Clerk , Karen Gilbert District Cllr Peter Smerdon , Ella Briens (DNPA Ranger)
Cathie Pannell (DNPA Member) - left at 7.50pm and 2 members of the Public

Public Forum

One Parishioner expressed an interest in the Defibrillator project whilst the other commented that the work of the lengths man - however funded - is important to the Parish

Cathie Pannell (DNPA) - Cathie commented on the recent bad weather and the fact the DNP Authority and Development management meetings had been cancelled and re arranged for two weeks time - (details available on DNPA website) . She also encouraged Cllrs to attend the Planning Workshop due to take place on Tuesday 27th March 2018 5:30pm-9pm at Parke

Ella Briens - DNPA ranger - **Public Rights of Way** remains a significant part of our work. Rangers submit annual bids for works that they would like to achieve on rights of way in the Parishes they look after. Last year some (but not all) of the work I bid for was completed – drainage and vegetation clearance on the Moor Cross Bridleway. I had proposals for footpath 4 from Harbourneford which were not supported to improve the surface and drainage – this bid will be re-submitted. Due to the success of the ‘Moor Otters’ I am pleased to say that we have some extra funds for works that help alleviate erosion issues meaning that a project for Bridleway 7 has been approved which includes widening the path by removing adjacent gorse, adding drains / clearing existing drains where required and adding a small footbridge to the western end (Ranger Rob Steemson will be leading on this). DCC has also made improvements to local signage. As a reminder DNPA are responsible under a delegated agreement with DCC for roadside signage and the paths surface. Technically field furnishings are the responsibility of the landowner.

Key Messages - New look ‘lambing and Bird Nesting signs – part of the work that Becky Davies has been doing with the Ranger team on ‘Key Messages’ – Litter (#2 minute litter-picks – we were the first National Park to join the 2 minute beach clean campaign and go ‘inland’ to tidy up) camping, dogs, fires... This will be illustrated in the new Enjoy Dartmoor magazines which will be out for Easter.

Patrolling and CSAS – another significant area of work that ties in with DNPA key messages - we regularly patrol honey pot sites and patrol jointly with the Police and have been working together tackling issues such as illegal off-road vehicles and wildlife crime.

Volunteer Wardens – thank you to local VW’s who help us out and continue to support Rangers with local events, litter-picking, surveying rights of way – Tim Ferry, Juliet Edmunds, Janet Bombback and Carol and Bruce Durrant...

Dist Cllr Smerdon

Cllr Smerdon gave a verbal report on the Budget setting process at South Hams and outlined the changes in the Waste collections following the recent bad weather

County Cllr Hosking - written report

1 The Devon County Council Budget 2018/19.

Devon County Council received a few welcome announcements of additional funding in the run up to the Local Authority Settlement for 2018/19. Despite this additional funding it is still going to be challenging to meet our budget and we will be seeking innovative ways of managing increased demand for Social Care.

Devon County Council core funding from Central Government has been reduced to £115.2 million in 2018/19. This is a reduction of £13.1 million on 2016/17 (taking into account the additional £10 million from the Improved Better Care Fund announced in 2017).

The additional funding announced includes;

- a The County in partnership with our eight District and two Unitary Authorities has been made a Business Rates Pilot in 2018/19. This is estimated to increase potential funding to the County by £16.6 million, £6.6 million more than anticipated;
- b Rural Services Delivery Grant has not been reduced as expected but has been increased by a further £1.5 million to a total of £7.5 million;
- c Anticipated changes to the New Homes Bonus Scheme have not been introduced and Devon County Council (DCC) will benefit by an additional £300K to a total of £3.8 million.
- d An additional £2.2 million Adult Social Care Support Grant has been allocated to DCC for Adult Social Care;
- e The County has received £2.1 million to compensate for a change in the inflationary increase on Business Rates as announced in the Autumn Budget;
- f We are permitted if required to increase our Council Tax Precept (excluding the Social Care Precept capped at 2%) by an additional 1% to 3% before triggering a referendum.
- 2 Increased Spending.** In response to demand we therefore plan to increase spending for the following services;
- g) an additional £6.5 million on Children's Services;
- h) an additional £13 million on Adult Services budgets;
- i) an additional £6.5 million on maintenance and repair of drainage, patching and potholes on our highways.
- 3 With the additional funding we have been able to restrict the increase in our Council Tax Precept to 4.99% rather than the maximum 5.99% permitted by Central Government. This is a small but we hope helpful limitation on necessary increases in Council Tax.

18/03/01 - Apologies for absence - Cllr Mabin (work commitments) and Cllr Hosking

18/03/02 - Approval of Minutes

Approved and signed as a true and accurate record , the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2018 - all in agreement.

18/03/03- Declarations of Interest - None

18/03/04 - Dispensation requests - None

18/03/05 - To receive an update on potential costs/funding for a defibrillator in the Parish

It was NOTED that sufficient funds had been collected / promised to allow the project to go ahead

It was **AGREED** that the Defibrillator could be placed on the Village Hall exterior wall

It was **AGREED** that the Parish Council would pay for the electricity used

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Wetherall would be the lead Councillor with responsibility for the defibrillator

ACTION CLERK TO RESEARCH BEST PACKAGE AVAILABLE TO BE AGREED IN APRIL 2018

18/03/06 - Clerks Report

The settlement of the Lengthsman's invoice was raised and it was **AGREED** that no further discussion take place until such time as County Cllr Hosking had raised the matter with Devon Highways and the County Council

The Clerk confirmed that

- She had purchased a shredder (DP 25% of cost)and stamps (as an increase was imminent)
- Fountains Forestry - The removal of wood from Dean Wood had been completed
- There were no funds from Highways budget for new Village signs - emailed all Cllrs
- Devon Highways will look at silt problem from field run off

18/03/07 Planning

- There were no new applicants to consider
- An enforcement issue was briefly mentioned

18/03/08 - Finance

a) The Following cheque was approved - all in agreement	
K GILBERT - Broadband /expenses / 3 months home office	£91.50
Viking 25% Shredder + 25 stamps	£35.80
Dean Prior PCC - 137 grant churchyard maintenance	£200.00

18/03/09 - Highway matters

Cllr Smerdon advised that there were new regulations with regard to run off from fields which placed a greater burden on the landowner to ensure any silt is removed from the Highway

18/03/10 - Councillor reports

Following the recent bad weather , Cllr Weatherall commented that the use of community Facebook pages had proved extremely helpful in advising / assisting members of the Public

It was suggested that maybe Dean prior should look at communication in this manner

ACTION ; CLERK TO RESEARCH AND REPORT IN APRIL 2018

18/03/11 - Parish Council admin

It was **RESOLVED** that the following Policies be **ADOPTED** by Dean Prior Parish Council

Complaints Policy , Standing orders , Publication Scheme and Public Participation Policy

It was **AGREED** that dates of the April and May meetings be altered due to Bank Holiday clashes

It was **AGREED** that the Annual Parish Meeting would take place on Wednesday 4th April at 7pm - followed by the Regular Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm

It was **AGREED** that the Annual Parish Council Meeting (commonly referred to as the AGM) will take place on 2nd May 2018 at 7.30pm

18/03/12 - Correspondence - None - correspondence having been emailed during the month

18/03/13- Councillors business for next agenda - None

18/03/14 - Date/time of next meeting

WEDNESDAY 4th April 2018 - ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AT 7pm- Regular MEETING at 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.20pm