

DEAN PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT

Minutes of the Meeting Held on Monday 4th March 2019 at 7.00pm **Dean Prior Village Hall**

Present – Cllrs Chew , Rutley , Thorn and Wetherall (Chairman) , I member of the Public D.Cllr Smerdon , Dest Cllr Steer , C Cllr Hosking (arriver 7.45pm) , Ella Briens DNPA and the Clerk , Karen Gilbert

Public participation

A Member of the public raised concerns over a recently held Motorbike trail event - the route of which included a short stretch where traffic was intended to travel over/through the river - in an area popular with families and walkers. The meeting was informed that , despite this section was removed upon request from concerned residents , damage to the riverbank together with the removal of a small tree to improve access - had already taken place . It was NOTED that the organisers had appeared less than civil to those asking for consideration .

ACTION ; CLERK TO WRITE TO ORGANISERS TO REQUEST ADVANCE NOTICE IN FUTURE

Ella Briens DNPA Ranger

Ella spoke on the recent motor trail event and her work as a Dartmoor Ranger both within the Parish and further afield. Public Rights of Way remain a significant part of Ranger 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 bid for was completed. Due to the success of the 'Moor Otters' Ella was pleased to say that they have some extra funds for works that have helped alleviate erosion issues meaning that a project for Dean Prior Bridleway 7 has been completed 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 has been leading on this). DCC has also made improvements to local signage - that seem to be lasting on site! She has also been able to use Donate for Dartmoor funds to do extra path work in neighbouring Buckfastleigh, and DNPA continue to look for alternative funding measures to top up the DCC grant

She also commented on the new CamsWeb – <https://prow.dartmoor.gov.uk> – where the Public can report a problem and track issues on Public Rights of way.

Cllr Peter Smerdon

Cllr Smerdon commented on the newly introduced Council Tax reduction scheme which assisted those in financial need - there are 4 stages of benefit for varying categories - see SHDC website for further details - <https://www.southhams.gov.uk/article/4327/Council-Tax-Reduction-if-you-are-on-a-Low-Income>

He also confirmed that Sophie Hosking had now been named as the Chief Executive on both South Hams and West Devon Councils

Cllr Robert Steer

Councillor Steer commented on the Planning system at South Hams and the potential development proposed for Parishes nearby Dean Prior . He further advised on the two Dean Prior enforcement issues near Drybridge and confirmed he intention to stand for District Council at the elections on 2nd May 2019

C Cllr Richard Hosking

Cllr Hosking advised that he had made enquiries regarding the Travellers now residing at the DCC owned land near Drybridge and confirmed that plans were in hand for their removal He also confirmed that both the 30mph limit at Lower Dean and the new sign for Higher Dean were progressing - albeit slowly

19/03/01 - Apologies for absence - Cllr Mabin and Cathie Pannell (DNPA)

19/03/02 - Approval of Minutes

Approved and signed as a true and accurate record , the Minutes of the regular meeting held on 4th February 2019 - all in agreement.

19/03/03- Declarations of Interest - None

19/03/04 - Dispensation requests - None

19/03/05 - Clerks Report

The Clerk confirmed she had contacted Highways with regard to the drainage down the hill opposite the Village Hall and been reassured that it will be monitored during heavy rainfall
She also stressed the need for contact details for the Hall being readily available - as identified recently by a member of the Public

ACTION ; CLLRS TO SUPPLY HALL DETAILS TO THE CLERK FOR INCLUSION ON WEBSITE
ACTION ; VH CLLRS TO ENSURE TEL NO REINSTATED ON THE OUTSIDE HALL WALL

It was **AGREED** that a letter of Support be sent from the PC in connection with the application for Dark Skies status for Dartmoor

19/03/06 Planning

There were no Planning applications to consider

19/03/07 Trail Bike event - See Public participation

19/03/08 - Finance

a) The Following cheque was approved - all in agreement

Karen Gilbert - B/band /Phone/Home allowance

£82.50

K . Feasey Creation of website (Transparency fund)

£500.00

19/03/09- Highway matters

Several examples of Highway failure went identified . The Clerk encouraged Councillors and Public alike to report any Highway issue online - as each report is individually logged and therefore stands a better chance of being remedied

The link for this is <https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem>

19/03/10 - Parish Council admin

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council elections are to be held on 2nd May 2019 and that nomination papers will be available very soon from either the Clerk or direct from South Hams DC

All Election notices and a timetable will be displayed on the Noticeboard and the website

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 1st April 2019

19/03/11 - Correspondence - most correspondence had been emailed during the month.

19/03/12 Councillors business for next agenda None

19/03/13 - Date/time of next meeting MONDAY 1st April 2019

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AT 7pm
followed by FULL COUNCIL MEETING at 7.15pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.05 pm