

Abbotsham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Abbotsham Parish Council held on Tuesday 15 December 2020 on Zoom

Present: Councillors Wilson, Mullins, Lilly, Marlow, White, Mrs Tolley, Bone

Cllr T Inch (DCC)

Apologies: Councillor Pennington (TDC)

1. Apologies

2. To Register Members New Interests - None

3. Items raised by members of public - none

4. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda and Minutes

4.1 Declarations of interest by Councillors within agenda - none

4.2 Minutes of previous meeting held on 03 November 2020 – all agreed

4.2.1 Matters arising not covered by Agenda – flooding on road near Pig on the Hill, 2 accidents on ice in that location. Graham cycles past so will take photos to prove its there over 24 hours.

5. Report by Councillor Philip Pennington or Robert Hicks

Not present/report not sent

6. Report by Councillor T Inch

Reports gone in, statistics about Torridge that we are the most deprived areas in Devon, something that DCC & TDC need to address urgently. Sad to hear of vandalism at village hall. He wants to help if he can but not had a grant request in yet. Winter – check salt bins and if need more salt then email DCC. Roger has checked and we have enough supply. Census coming up in 2021 – DN email Woolsery PC regarding the presentation at their meeting. As TDC Cllr he has called in Badger Hill application.

Water at bottom of road at Pig on the Hill – Philip can't drive safely in middle of the road as its on a bend, and then in cold weather it caused two accidents. No drain but could create a gully. Philip asked if Tony could raise it with DCC. If accidents not reported then DCC won't know about it. Need evidence of a safety issue, Roger – rainwater down main road towards St Helens, sent photos to Kieran showing the issue and not good when bad weather. Signpost by the Old Vicarage, make drain bigger and then take it across road. Kieran advised no money available to do works. Roger happy to meet Kieran there.

Jenna – zigzags outside school need repainting. Police have raised it to DCC. Don't think Kieran could authorise it.

7. Planning

1/0926/2020/OUTM - Outline planning application for the erection of up to 290 dwellings, including affordable housing with public open space, landscaping and sustainable drainage system (SuDS) and two vehicular access points from Abbotsham Road. All matters reserved except access, Land North Of Abbotsham Road Abbotsham Bideford Devon EX39 3QP – Philip circulated comments, as follows, *The lanes in the Kenwith Valley are the only safe walking routes, in a countryside setting, linking Bideford town with the rural footpath networks in Abbotsham and Northam. The lanes are heavily used by walkers (before, during and after lockdowns), conferring major health benefits. The iconic landscape is enjoyed by many and must be maintained. The proposed development would destroy the ambience of the valley. The site is remote from all local services and employment centres which will mean even more car journeys, almost nowhere is walkable. There were complaints about traffic congestion on the narrow Bideford Abbotsham road as far back as 1894. This proposed development on top of Londonderry, College Park and the land south of the road which is in the development plan will exacerbate an already bad situation. There are regular flooding problems on the lanes through the Kenwith Valley closing them to walkers not in Wellingtons and sometimes to cars. There are plans to raise the flood defences in Kenwith by 1.5m. This will cause more backing up of water in the valley and more flooding of the lanes. The proposal seeks to open up the Badger Wood Stream to ensure the site is not flooded which will make matters even worse.* all agreed. No footpath proposed to link to village. Martin advised that we had a negative report from Kieran regarding the issues we raised.

1/1012/2020/FUL | Change of use of land from agricultural to recreation for the purpose of camping and retrospective works of on site tracks, | The Ultimate Adventure Centre Abbotsham Bideford Devon EX39 5AP – Roger providing it is seasonal, Philip can understand in short term. In view of current situation we understand the need to help business. We would suggest that it is granted for a two year period in view of special circumstances related to impact on hospitality businesses in light of Covid.

1/0947/2020/OUTM - Outline application with all matters reserved except access for the development of up to 200 dwellings with associated work, Land At Grid Reference 242647 125879 Clovelly Road Bideford Devon – Martin feels too many houses for the size of the site. Roger concern regarding access onto Clovelly Road with 2 mini roundabouts (at previous). Now only one access, no mini roundabout. Splays not big enough (own transport report), speed limit is 40mph, should be change to 30mph. Philip – footpath still going across link road, should be a bridge over link road to link to other footpaths to get onto SW coast path. Got to put housing anywhere that patch of land is a sensible place to put it. Sustainable location to shops/transport links. Would suggest a footbridge over the link road. Roger – concern about the development on opposite side of road, impact on local road network. Sharon – concern with traffic, 30mph limit hope it would be implemented. Real concern over traffic volume onto Clovelly Road entering and leaving the new estate, cumulative impact of all other developments, existing and proposed.

1/1046/2020/DIS - Discharge of condition 5 and 6 of planning permission, Arboricultural Impact and Landscape proposals 1/0634/2016/FULM, Kenwith Castle, Abbotsham – Philip superb layout, sensible planting looks as good as you can get. Hugh, whats going to happen to tidying and managing of water from stream. No objections, happy with layout.

1/1096/2020/FUL – Alterations to farmhouse, Greycliff, Abbotsham – Martin, generally good application, removal of upvc and replace with timber. Is west side visible from SW coastpath. Less obtrusive than the barns. Being dealt with in sensible way - support

1/1097/2020/LBC – Alterations to farmhouse, Greycliff, Abbotsham

1/0680/2020/FUL - Change of use from a multi-use building (Class D2) to a single holiday let, installation of windows and external staircase leading to timber deck with glass balustrade, Duckhaven Stud, Cornborough Road, Westward Ho! - Withdrawn

8. Clerks Report

- 8.1 Defibrillators – Jenna had first aid course. Defib not registered so it needs to be done in order for ambulance trust know its there. Jenna will find out how to register, it will then be checked monthly by NHS
- 8.2 Highway issues – covered in Cllr Inch section

9. Chairs Report

- 9.1 Bus stop swap shop – very good, someone has put dvds/video in it tonight. Officially write to Mickey to thank him. (The Chantry EX39 5BA)
- 9.2 Village hall damage – Excess is £100 and insurance won't go up next year, but will need enclosure and will need funding
- 9.3 Rural broadband – did everyone receive leaflet on Airband, Hugh advised many have registered interest in Kenwith. Major issue – Kenwith Castle have moved onto business account which has improved internet. Fibre runs to business not to residents.
- 9.4 VIPS – maintenance around the village – Mickey been sweeping leaves, nothing else reported, Roger has been raking back bits to allow better drainage with gullies
- 9.5 Village Grass cutting 2021/2022 – Tivoli not doing it next year, we need another company to do it. Do Bideford or Northam have capacity. Contact Heather Blackburn and clerk at Northam to find out if any capacity

10. Finance

- 10.1 Grants
 - 10.1.1 Grants in 2020/21 – Maybe something from Village Hall
 - 10.1.2 Grants in 2021/22
- 10.2 Precept 2021/22 – advised that keeping precept the same may mean increase in individual council tax bill

11. Correspondence

- 11.1 Round Robin Items – emails sent – Avian flu, Devon Carbon

12. Any Other Business

Roger – because of water coming out by Vicarage Close. If people want salt for roads outside their properties then contact Notts Yard. Looking for snow warden replacement. Roger will highlight what is required.

13. Items raised by Councillors for inclusion on the next agenda