

Abbotsham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Abbotsham Parish Council held on Tuesday 15 October 2019
at The Village Hall Skittle Alley, Abbotsham

Present - Councillors Wilson, Mullins, Lilly, Marlow, White, Mrs Tolley, Fuller

Cllr Tony Inch (DCC) and Cllr P Pennington (TDC)

1. Apologies - Hugh

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 September 2019, amendment made and all agreed

4.2.1 Matters arising not covered by Agenda -

5. Report by Councillor Philip Pennington

Community resources meeting – carry on with Burrows centre. New councillors were asking more questions but agreed 10 – 2

Car in Kenwith – not been moved yet, but it is in hand

Green bin – will do a free label for green bin for individual but not for a parish council.

School want banner on fence – does it need planning permission. It belongs to village hall/school property.

Philip asked Cllr Pennington question regarding big sheep retrospective permission for new building with condition to provide footpath. Plans committee stipulated prior to use of building planning wanted to see plan showing footpath. In 2014 plan was submitted showing footpath going through car park up through church yard. Signs were supposed to be erected. He is now threatening to charge people to park in his car park for parents to walk to school

6. Report by Councillor T Inch

Still not got a highway officer, Julian going to be off for at least a year. Vicky Braddon at Okehampton covering temporarily but under pressure as person down.

Potholes – less reported this year than 2016, continue to report potholes on DCC website. Philip raised the point that it's not always a pothole but line in middle section of road of length

Winter – mild winter helps roads, DCC stocked up on salt with 23000 tonnes. If we need anymore contact DCC

Carbon reduction – new technology – warm asphalt which reduces carbon

Lots of roads have had resurfacing.

Budget soon to be notified. Government will provide £13million if DCC put up council by 2%. Children services stretched with 750 in care. Schools given more cash - £4000 to each primary and £5000 to each secondary

On holiday from 30 October to 3 November

7. Discussion with Representative from The Big Sheep

Not present

8. Planning

- 8.1** 1/0415/2019/FUL – Variation of condition 5 of planning permission 1/0088/2012/FUL and 1/0518/2011/FUL to allow cave structure to be used as holiday accommodation (C3), Ocean Kave, Cornborough Road, Westward Ho! – only written justification provided. Still not a plan. Original permission in 2010, wedding cave in AONB, eventually went through because of low impact and not a residential use. Farm buildings and stables gradually converted. Wooden store had to be converted to a disabled persons accommodation. Variation of condition to allow holiday accommodation not acceptable. Chris raised issue of what if the business closes. Is this reasonably controlled? Graham if its AONB then its designated use shouldn't be altered. We are objecting because of its position in the AONB as holiday accommodation, implied extension of usage hours compared to wedding venue – All agreed
- 8.2** 1/0831/2019/REM – Application for reserved matters (access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to permission 1/1293/2018/OUT, Garden of 10 Rickards Green, Abbotsham – No objections all agreed

9. Clerks Report

- 9.1** Speed cameras – Roger and Martin met Sam at layby, sign should be on verge on opposite of where the vans park. If not Barry is happy to have it on verge outside his hedge. Sign on verge opposite Philip's. Quote to be sent to clerk and then get quote for 2 speed signs and 3 batteries (check if charger provided)

10.0 Chairs Report

- 10.1** VIPS/maintenance in the Village – postponed, until 9 November,
- 10.2** Photos 2020 project – is it worth doing? Objective – historical record for future. What is the best format – is it printed or digitised. Probably both. Philip proposed that it be done, all agreed. Next part is getting group of people to do photos
- 10.3** Monitoring development activities in the parish – plan circulated as to what was final approval on Ultimate Adventure
- 10.4** Rural Broadband – Martin had meeting with Adrian and new person from Airband. Asked for email by yesterday from project manager but nothing received. No other options available currently.
- 10.5** Parish Questionnaire – Sharon, Jenna and Chris met to discuss. Should rural broadband question be added and question on rural housing.

Community survey out for 4 weeks (includes 2 coffee mornings), copies behind the bar and ask if Paul Warychek if flyer could be included with the Link. Does anyone have contact with Paul.

10.6 Climate Emergency – Philip had meeting with Pete Jollands, how many people have got electric hybrid cars and how many have solar panels

11.0 Finance

11.1 Payment of clerk expenses £45 for half year

11.2 Payment of grants
Grant for school for banner £100
Grant of £237.50 for FOSH PTA
Grant of £250 for WINGS
Grant for £1250 for Church

12.0 Correspondence

12.1 Round Robin Items – emails sent – rural bus campaign
Marie curie request for volunteers
Email from Alice Fuller creating a pavement from verge behind houses along from Philip, Roger's and Jenna's

13.0 Any Other Business

DCC Conference Martin attended –

Issues raised:

Request from teacher for walk to school – highway consider it too hazardous

Anti idling banner – highways suggest we just go ahead if not on highway

Zig Zag markings – not enforceable (no sign so no order)

Parking on junctions a police matter (obstruction) not a civil enforcement matter (nor is parking on pavements)

Julian Roskilly will be off work for at least 12 months – a temporary 12 month replacement officer is being sought with interviews next week.

Landscape character assessment information includes wildflower verges.

Health and safety advice – On line Highway safety course available – certificate issued, I recommend all our VIP volunteers do this.

Problem reporting – more than just potholes – I have reported the PROW through the churchyard.

Community Road warden scheme revised – I have the paperwork

One network for interrogating road problems throughout the county.

Dragon – (2 + 1 small one on order)

Roger organised high cut and asked to go ahead. Ian Woollacott will do it when its dryer.

Barking dogs at Big Sheep – Other residents will visit Big Sheep regarding noise

Sharon went to meeting about NDDH – group liaising between Exeter and surrounding hospitals. Well attended, angst from past about changes upsetting people. Improvements made in last 18 months. No NHS mental health in North Devon

14.0 Items raised by Councillors for inclusion on the next agenda