

# Abbotsham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Abbotsham Parish Council held on Tuesday 23 February 2021 on Zoom

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

Cllr T Inch (DCC)

Cllr P Pennington (TDC)

**1. Apologies - none**

**2. To Register Members New Interests - none**

**3. Items raised by members of public – (item to be covered in Cllr Inch section)**

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

4.1 Declarations of interest by Councillors within agenda – Jenna (Grants)

4.2 Minutes of previous meeting held on 15 December 2020 – all agreed  
No matters arising

4.3 Minutes of previous meeting held on 19 January 2021 -

4.3.1 Matters arising not covered by Agenda – Woodlands – Hugh and Philip carried out one assessment of one section of woodland

**5. Report by Councillor Philip Pennington or Robert Hicks**

Full Council meeting last night, maximum increase £5 on band D property. Report to follow

Had complaints come in re helicopters coming into Abbotsham, concern about impact on livestock.

Road to Greycliff full of surfers.

Hugh what is situation for 2<sup>nd</sup> home owners in Torridge. Will get an answer to us.

Can possibly be let again from 12 April

Philip Marlow – feels most people like helicopters coming over the village. Cllr Pennington get most complaints from people at top of Westward Ho!

**6. Report by Councillor T Inch**

DCC budget meeting, has raised council tax by 4.9% (1.9% on Council tax 3% on adult care) £28 per year, DCC and TDC have reserves but not taken into account.

Puddles near Kenwith, DCC know about the collapsed drain, may be done in next years finance. He has resigned from Conservative party and will be standing as an independent in the DCC election

Martin – from resident, accident up towards roundabout, debris left for some time, who's responsibility to clear it. Believes its for highways to make sure that it is clear. Emergency services should call highways out

Hugh – Money spent on new bridge, pot holes appearing everywhere, surely that something should be done about them, impossible to see them sometimes. – Cllr Inch - it is unacceptable, Gove giving £6million to highways, it's a low priority, some roads now just look like tracks. Keep reporting them on the website. All of his parishes have the same complaints, doesn't have an answer

Hugh is there no account of GDP in North Devon as South Devon. Tony - Need to look at way government gets funding, need a review.

Roger – DCC HW sent letter to Big Sheep, Still not done anything, legal thing going on, and eventually DCC will do it and then bill Big Sheep. Road narrowed by 4 – 5ft. Big branches coming out. It is a safety defect in that people have to go over white line. Been close situations where accidents have nearly happened. Tony – bring it up in a HATOC meeting

Cllr Pennington has quite a few areas in his parishes and DCC highways not listened. Have to log accidents and record it on parish meeting and then highways will do something. Why don't we write to Mrs J Turner, Jacqui Willoughby and Rick Turner as the Turner Trust. Draft letter and circulate to parish councillors

## **7. Planning**

- 7.1 1/1012/2020/FULM - Change of use of land from agricultural to recreation for the purpose of camping and retrospective works of on site tracks (Additional Information) | The Ultimate Adventure Centre Abbotsham Bideford Devon EX39 5AP – Philip, understand position he's in, should be a fixed number of pitches, Martin commented that the number of pitches is 50. Philip would still like it to be a 3 year period as it will affect the visual aspect from the village. Sharon – traffic/access issues combination of camping/yurts and the holiday block. Comment – limited to 3 years and welcome improvements to the entrance as shown on the most recent plan

## **8. Clerks Report**

- 8.1 Defibrillators – Jenna meeting SW Ambulance on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>, Philip and Hugh commented that surely Ambulance Trust had input when it was installed.
- 8.2 Highway issues – covered under Tony, Spring outside Jenna's house is getting worse. Roger raised it with Kieran – says it's not a safety issues as it doesn't pond, it is a safety - issue as it freezes.
- 8.3 Dog bins – Philip will resend the location, top of Rocky Lane on seaward side, DCC post (not suitable for traffic post) – Clerk to request a dog bin
- 8.4 Co-option of parish councillor – advertise and put it on email circulation

## **9. Chairs Report**

- 9.1 Bus stop swap shop – no update, all running ok
- 9.2 Village hall damage – all sorted
- 9.3 Rural broadband – The lady has confused people and can we have a response as we believed we should have been involved. Cables being installed at the moment, contractors doing it. All around Greycliff. Poor communication, time related. Losing credibility with village as no one knows where they stand. Jenna – diary agree that we should include parish council summary of the situation. Hugh – people not going to commit until they know clear information,

can't recommend until we fully understand. Write to Airband and ask for clarification

- 9.4 VIPS – maintenance around the village – Philip circulated list which is very detailed, Micky if had a couple fixed dates in month then people that turn up would get into a routine. He doesn't mind organising what needs to be done but doesn't want to circulate emails. Change name – Abbotsham Volunteers?, should it just be in week or Saturdays as well. Agree 1 morning a week in month and 1 Saturday a month. Circulate in email, Abbotsham **Absolutely** and on website. Philip and Micky to put together something and any volunteers to email Philip. HW have done some edging in Keene Lane
- 9.5 Village Grass cutting 2021/2022 – Waiting for cost from Northam Town Council

## **10. Finance**

### **10.1 Grants**

- 10.1.1 Grants in 2021/22 – defer, Hugh and Roger feel that the priority should be to the village hall. Only small number of parishioners visit the church. Sharon – visitors do go to the church. Philip – 2 church facets, one for church and management of churchyard, and other day to day running of the church. .Maintenance of the building which is part of the village history.

What was grant to church last year

Maintenance around the back of village hall £500

Hugh – Parish hall should be priority

Jenna – gift something to all the organisations in the village

## **11. Correspondence**

- 11.1 Round Robin Items – emails sent -

## **12. Any Other Business**

Salt bin outside Jenna's – where to store it – can keep it at Jenna's

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