

Abbotsham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Abbotsham Parish Council held on Tuesday 23 January 2018 at The Vicarage, Shepherds Meadow, Abbotsham

Present: Parish Councillors Wilson, Bone, Mullins, Street, Mrs Tolley, Fuller, White

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence – Cllr Marlow, Cllr Boyle (TDC)

2. To Register Members New Interests – circulate current interests, and forms

3. Items raised by members of public

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

4.1 Declarations of interest by Councillors within agenda - Grants

4.2 Minutes of previous meeting held on 12 December 2017 – all agreed

4.2.1 Matters arising not covered by Agenda

Bus service – response from Cllr Inch, currently it is considered to be a safe walking route from Bideford College to village for child accompanied by adult. Appeal is pending and they will then look at that again.

5. Report by Councillor Alison Boyle

Not present – report submitted

1. Following national legislation there will be an increase of 20% in the fees for planning applications. This decision is not one which has been made by TDC and I personally am concerned that it might fuel the number of people who do not follow the regular legislation but rely on retrospect grants.

2. NDC and TDC have held a combined meeting of the two councils on 6th - 8th January focused on 5 year supply of the Local Plan. I have requested the date of when minutes will be supplied of this meeting. I am also going to speak with Cllr Watson and Dawn Burgess in TDC.

3. Jon Walter at TDC has stated that there will be a review of the boundary at Kenwith Castle.

4. I called in a planning application for a stable block at Abbotsham Court Ref. No 1/1058/2017/FUL. I was concerned in particular with the access to the site and the drainage of water. I had spoken with Mr Howard Davey, Mrs Sue Collins and Mr. Dave Edgcombe (AONB) before I spoke at the Planning Meeting. The application was passed with conditions.

5. Cllr Whittaker recently spoke to me about the work on Bideford Bridge. To reduce the amount of time required the work has been scheduled for the night and a visit was made to the site by the Devon County Council Cabinet Member for Highways,

Cllr. Stuart Hughes.

6. Dr John Wormsley CCG attended a TDC meeting of External and Scrutiny Committee to discuss the Sustainability Transformation Programme. I am currently not on that committee but have requested a set of minutes from the meeting.

7. Finally, I would like to remind councillors to submit applications for my councillor grant. This year each TDC councillor receives £2,000 pot for their ward and £10,000 New Homes Bonus. I have asked Peter Soper at TDC to confirm availability of the funds for Kenwith. As you will be aware the ward for Kenwith comprises Abbotsham, Alwington and Parkham.

6. Report by Councillor T Inch

Not present – no report submitted

7. Pigstock Festival at The Big Sheep

Pigstock been running for 4 years, started as small event, slowly grown, last year 1700 – 2000 people. Have outgrown site. Developed as family friendly festival. Give Bideford people a festival. Runs from 11 to 11. Spoken to Rick who has field opposite Big Sheep. Licence granted for 5000 people. Good security, likes to work with locals. Expanding, but understand village may have concerns. Still only 1 day but billed to 2 days, 2nd day will be within Ricks side for upto 2000 people. Weekend ticket to include Sunday (capacity to The Big Sheep) keep some of the infrastructure in place for the Sunday. There will be road closure as likely to be 1000 children. Road closed from Big Sheep car park to Ultimate Adventure entrance. One way system in place through the village for festival traffic (signage will be in place). Signage will be provided by Holsworthy signage (to DCC standard). Villagers shouldn't be affected too much. Likely to be when festival starts, families leave earlier and everyone else leave at end. Stagecoach will be providing a bus service from Bideford and Barnstaple. Working with Stagecoach regarding regular bus service. Saturday 12th May. Noise issue likely to be biggest issue in the village. Sound directed towards link road so sound towards village won't be too bad. Last band finishes at 10. Saturday will be ticket holders only for The Big Sheep and not open to general public. Offering 25% discount to people in the village will be dealt with by postcode. All ticket sales in advance.

8. Planning

- 8.1** 1/1058/2017/FUL – Stable block, new access to field and creation of muck storage, Land at Tower House, Abbotsham – Approved with conditions
- 8.2** 1/1156/2017/FUL – Erection of boundary wall, 8 St Helens, Abbotsham – Refused – Ryan Steppel advised agent that the application would be refused and would require amendments.
- 7.3** Floodlights at Kenwith Castle, Abbotsham – case closed by planning as they are largely ground mounted and therefore no planning and listed building consent required.

9. Clerks Report

- 9.1 VAT registration – vat application submitted.
- 9.2 TAP funding – Speed sign, Julie Pepworth – Advised that SCARF needs to ask when monitoring will be carried out. Speak to Peter Soper.
- 9.3 Confirmation of acceptance of receipt of Good Councillors Guide - agreed
- 9.4 Transparency Code – Application for costs to be submitted

10. Chairs Report

- 10.1 VIPS/maintenance in the Village – nothing been done since last meeting. Maintenance team on Village Welcome Pack with Martin's contact details. Fallen tree in churchyard to be removed by Graham and Paul. Paul has meeting with Ian who did vegetation clearance. Need to get like for like quote from ISS and Ian Woollacott. Roger and Paul discussed what was needed. Roger to contact ISS.
- 10.2 Monitoring development activities in the parish - none
- 10.3 St Helen's School proposal to form a Multi Academy Trust – will become a multi academy trust with other primary schools, Dolton and Clinton at Merton. Reason to be in charge of their own destiny. Doesn't want to fall in with someone trying to take them over. We can make comment as parish to Chair of Governors (Gill Marlow), already has a conditional pass. St Helens don't want to make wholesale changes, will share administration and teaching practices. Still have own governing body with umbrella governing body overseeing all. Each school will keep its identity. Martin to submit comment about communications – why last plan didn't work and that this one will.
- 10.4 Abbotsham Allotments – defer awaiting developments.
- 10.5 Post box – No ombudsman for Postal services. Martin has contacted post box contact. The team that were supposed to be doing something weren't doing anything. New team now dealing with it – need to obtain permission from landowner and then it will be a priority.
- 10.6 Village Welcome Pack – Graham has volunteered to be contact for NDJ. Need to add in FOSH and tradespeople/services
- 10.7 Village Fete – Parish council managing it this year, 23 June. Parish need to come up with 3 raffle prizes

11. Finance

- 11.1 Grant applications – village hall, church and memorial plaque. Amounts to be allocated once we receive precept.
- 11.2 Agree Precept for 2018-19 – All agreed to keep precept at current level of £9000

12. Correspondence

Round Robin Items – emails sent – Village Hall week can apply for grant – see RCN newsletter.

13. Any Other Business

Noise from Roller coaster – still no response from Environment Protection or Cllr Inch.

Trees in overflow car park now becoming overgrown, vegetation/hedgerows in his ownership in and around the village. Outline issues to Rick Turner. Offer him invitation to come to our meeting or a representative from The Big Sheep.

Are we going to continue using the Vicarage? We will use the skittle alley for future meetings.

Unveiling plaque will be on 24 February. Ruby will be unveiling and have a child from the school. Coffee/tea to be provided by village hall and PCC

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