

Stokeinteignhead Parish Council Minutes 14/02/17

1. Apologies
Cllr Stanley, Cllr Small.
2. Interests
None.
3. Public Question Time
Matthew Fearn explained that he is now maintaining the defibrillators on his own and maybe they should now become a Parish Council asset. £300 is in the account and could be ring fenced by the PC for future maintenance. Matthew is happy to continue but would welcome others to work with him. Add to next month's agenda. Heather Smith asked if there had been any developments with regards to the public telephone box. We need to prove the need for it . If the phone does go the box could be maintained and used for another purpose i.e. library. The phone box is old and a village feature worth protecting. Item for next month's agenda.
- 3a. Councillors and District Councillors' Report
9% increase in council tax to Teignbridge, update on this next meeting.
Enforcement team looking into development on Commons Lane. Possible breach of planning permission.
Francis Robinson is a new solicitor at Teignbridge and is looking into the rules regarding retrospective planning.
- 3b. Police Report
Nothing to report.
- 3c. Neighbourhood Watch Report
Nothing to report.
4. Approve minutes
Approved and signed.
5. Flooding
No update.
Cllr Horton noted that the stream is still dry and is no threat to the village at the moment.
Cllr Stoneman will tidy up silt trap.
6. Planning Applications
Certificate of Lawfulness for two existing holiday chalets [16/03369/CLDE](#)
Cllr French explained the history of the chalets, always animal use. Now in danger of residential development.

Cllr French was asked to write a letter to the Teignbridge Council against this application because of misrepresentation of the history of the chalets.

Cllr French stated that the Parish Council can't object to certificate of lawfulness but strongly object to it being turned into residential use. The chalets have only recently been developed without planning permission.

Cllr Stoneman asked what the certificate of lawfulness for? The chalets or the cattle sheds. The certificate only goes back ten years.

Cllr Clarence said that the Parish Council can object to a certificate of lawfulness.

Teignbridge will want to have full information about the background facts and then can be asked that with this information do they still intend to give a certificate of lawfulness.

It was added by Cllr French that access to the site would be on a bend and a drive would have to cut through the field.

Cllr French proposed, Cllr Dagworthy seconded, unanimous refusal

Fell three holly trees and prune one at St Andrews Church [17/00313/CAN](#)

Cllr Horton said the trees were good as have a non-evasive root system, drink up water so helping flood defence.

60 to 70 years growth and once removed will not be replaced.

A holy tree evident in church yards.

The council recommended pruning of trees.

Objection proposed by Cllr Simmons seconded by Cllr French

Unanimous refusal

If the proposal goes through the council would propose a meeting with Doug Pratt the tree officer to discuss.

7. Finance

Accounts agreed and signed.

Fresh applications should be made annually for Parish Council grants. The proposed pro forma was approved.

The sale of the lawn mower was agreed to be put up for public tender.

The new notice board is still a matter in hand. Cllr Dagworthy will organise putting it in place next to the war memorial.

8. Village Green

Cllr French has been approached by Playdale but have been stalled by the need to see the situation regarding the attenuation pond at the bottom of Pools Weir.

A positive report from the RSPB has been received about the bird boxes and more owls have been noted in the area.

A complaint has been received from Sylvia Hodge that her letter about previous consultations re; the play area were not acknowledged. Cllr French will reply.

9. Village Hall Report

Attachment to minutes.

It was suggested that the Annual Parish Meeting follow on from the Village Hall committee AGM. The role of the Village Hall Committee could then be discussed. The committee could have their monthly meeting before the AGM.

10. Twinners Report

Attachment to minutes.

11. Highways and Hedges

Salt Warden: Nigel Small has a problem insuring his present vehicle for use with the salt gritter. It would be more satisfactory for two people to take on this voluntary role.

Cllr Clarence said that Devon Highways have to grit primary highways and these stop at Combeinteignhead, so villages have to do their own.

Bags of salt can be dropped off but mole valley salt clogs up the gritter. We need a snow warden to take on the job for early mornings with a proper vehicle. There should be a black ice alert. Cllr French suggested paying farmers to do this job. This will be discussed at the next meeting for the agenda.

Cllr Horton noted that the hedge at Avalon needs trimming before next month, Cllr Stoneman will do this and it was agreed to pay him £30.

Also hedge ploughing is needed at Gabwell House

Meadow Field, Higher Rocombe: Cllr Simmons was alerted by a parishioner to approx. 160 metres of Devon hedge being cut down to the base. Over 100 4" circumference stumps and bigger trees including a 3" wide circumference beech tree have been counted.

Cllr Simmons spoke to Mark Waddams from Teignbridge Heritage Dept. He informed her that Devon Highways would only act if the hedge needed trimming because obscuring a view and his dept could only act if the whole tree including roots had been dug up. He said he would make a site visit though to ascertain the damage. He had come across a large number of trees dug up near Radley in Gabwell while trying to find the site in question and he was going to look into that as well. Cllr Stoneman pointed out that planning permission had been applied for at Meadowfield for stables so replanting the hedge could be one of the requirements. Notification of the planning request is on display but has not come up in front of the Parish Council. Chairman will look into this.

12. Clerks Report

Absent as unwell.

13. Correspondence

Cllr French said that a member of the parish has drawn attention to the recent legislation stating that all domestic poultry, including geese, are to be kept under cover to avoid the spread of the recent outbreak of Avian Flu. A member of the public said he would help in alerting people of this.

14. Emergency Plan
Ongoing.

15. Public Question Time
No more questions.

16. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 14 March 2017.
Noted.