

WASHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 16th July 2019 in Washfield Memorial Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllr's M Balment (Chair), J Boundy, J Mock, Mrs A Taylor-Ross and R Webber.

In attendance: District Cllr A Moore and the Clerk, Mrs J Larcombe.

14/07/19. To receive apologies. Apologies were accepted from Cllr R Arnold. Apologies were received from District Cllr R Stanley.

15/07/19. Disclosure of interest in item on the Agenda. Cllr M Balment and Cllr J Boundy declared a personal and pecuniary interest in item 21/07/19 a) as Cllr Boundy's business carried out most of the work and Cllr Balment supplied the wood for a new arm on the fingerpost sign..

16/07/19. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 21st May 2019 as an accurate record of the Meeting. The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by Cllr Balment as Chair of this meeting.

17/07/19. Matters arising from the minutes. There were no matters arising.

18/07/19. Parish Council Vacancy. There is still one vacancy on the Parish Council but no one has shown an interest in being co-opted. It is hoped that someone might come forward but further notice of the vacancy will need to be given to the parish with the opportunity for ten parishioners to request an election.

19/07/19. Planning

a) To make a recommendation on any planning applications received before the meeting.

19/00889/Full Retention of change of use of agricultural land to residential garden and erection of a domestic building (Revised Scheme – additional drawing) Kensington Farm Bungalow, Washfield Tiverton.

Comment: Washfield Parish Council has no objections to the granting of conditional approval.

19/01053/Full Erection of a dwelling following demolition of barn at Pilemoor Barn Cllr Moore will speak to the planning officer to find out more about this application. It is not a Class Q application and there was concern about the criteria.

b) To note any decisions on planning applications made by MDDC.

There were no decisions.

c) Any other planning matters. There were no other planning matters

20/07/19. Highways

a) To report on any highways work carried out in the parish and to note any highways work needed. Ditches and gutters around the parish have been cleaned out but Councillors were concerned about the quality of the work. Some ditches and

gutters were missed. A drain cover was damaged on the road between Moorhayes Cross and Pilemoor Cross.

One grit box, at Badcott Hill, has been strimmed around.

Cllr Balment has reported the potholes at Washfield Bottom but they have not been repaired yet.

At Emmerford Cross tarmac has been placed around a drain making it higher than the road surface.

The parapet wall on the bridge at Badcott is still damaged.

A bridge is missing on the footpath from Washfield to Long Lane.

b) Update on refurbishment of fingerposts signs. The refurbishment of one fingerpost sign has been completed and the bits are all ready to complete the second. The post box on the fingerpost sign at Cotleigh Cross has been repainted.

c) Any other highways matters. There were no other highways matters.

21/07/19. Finance

a) To approve any payments. It was resolved to approve the following payments. Mrs J Larcombe - £74.70 Clerk's salary and expenses (Part of Chq no 514)

Cllr Balment and Cllr Boundy declared a personal and pecuniary interest in the following payment and took no part in agreeing the payment.

JB Services - £1,800.00 refurbishment of fingerpost signs (Chq no 515).

b) Renewal of annual insurance. The insurance was renewed with Zurich and the annual premium was £167.454. The Clerk made the payment and was refunded (Part of Chq no 514).

22/07/19. County & District Cllr Reports. There was no County Councillor Report.

Cllr Andrew Moore and Cllr Ray Stanley were re-elected as District Councillors for Clare and Shuttern Ward in May. The District Council now has 18 Conservative, 12 Lib Dem, 10 Independent and 2 Green Party councillors. The Conservatives did not have the majority and the Council is being run by the Lib Dems and the Independents with the Conservatives forming a constructive opposition. Cllr Moore sits on the Audit Committee and the Scrutiny Committee and in his role as a District Councillor acts as a bridge between the local community and MDDC.

There was an extraordinary Council Meeting on 26th June to discuss the Boundary Commission Review and agree a Climate Change Declaration. DCC's Climate Change Declaration was adopted and there is a target to be carbon neutral by 2050 and an aim to do this by 2030. Every decision made by MDDC should take climate change into consideration. The Environment Committee will look at how this can be done and it will involve direct operation changes; policy change ie housing and an indirect appeal to the electorate.

Cllr Mrs Taylor-Ross asked if MDDC would provide climate change guidance to Town and Parish Councils. Cllr Moore said that could happen in the future. Cllr Mrs Taylor-Ross said now that MDDC has agreed a Climate Change Declaration it will give them more power but it will take time to bring it in. Cllr Moore and other Councillors are keen to say they haven't declared a climate change emergency but recognise that urgent action needs to be taken.

Cllr Balment asked how do housing developments meet building control responsibility.

23/07/19. Chairman's Announcements and Correspondence. There were no announcements and no further correspondence.

24/07/19. Public Questions. There were no members of the public.

25/07/19. Date of the next meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th September 2019 at 7.30pm.