

**Minutes of Yarnscombe Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 22 February 2023**

Present: Cllrs. Brice (chair), Cooke, Jeffery, Newberry, Pengilley, Williams and M. Dymond (Clerk) and one member of the public (Representative of Village Hall / Social Club Committee)

Note — Cllr. Pengilley joined meeting at 7.40pm

23.11 Apologies, Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Farr, Lock/Clarke (Torrige District Council / TDC, Saywell (Devon County Council / DCC) and PCSO Brown.

Cllr. Newberry declared a personal interest regarding item 23.13/2. No requests for dispensations were received.

23.12 Public Participation and Feedback

None

23.13 Representatives Reports

1) County/District Councillors

County —

Budgets — The budget for next year was passed last week and will see an uplift in overall funding for Adult Social Care, Children's Services and Highways. DCC's share of the council tax precept will go up by 4.99% (2% specifically for adult social care). The overspend for this current financial year has now come down to £3.5 million, from a projected £40 million last summer had we taken no action.

Potholes — still a lot about though Highways are slowly clearing through the backlog.

Locality Budget Grant — please note that my Locality Budget grant closes midnight this Friday. If the Parish hasn't already applied for a grant for the Coronation please do so as soon as possible.

District — No report received.

2) Village Hall / Social Club — Grant for Coronation events

The committee is in process of applying for grant from district and county (£250 each) and asked parish council for contribution of £200. Cllr. Brice proposed, Cllr. Williams seconded. All agreed. With the help of grant monies, the committee will purchase commemorative coins for the coronation for children of parish. The VH/Social Club Committee will meet on 19 March 2023 to discuss coronation events. For now, on 8 May a celebratory lunch will be held.

Actions taken: Cheque written out and countersigned, cheque passed to member of Village Hall / Social Club Committee. Further coronation events/celebrations to be publicised in due course.

3) Youth Club — None

4) PCSO/Police Report — No crimes reported, one incident logged. Highway disruption due to broken down vehicle on blind bend.

5) Playing Field

Repair of fence — This is concerning fence running along houses. Prices for wood have increased significantly and approximate cost for this project will be around £650. It is expected that project will be started in May/June (depending on weather). At the same time storage container will be painted. Cllr. Brice proposed, Cllr. Cooke seconded to go ahead with purchase of materials. All agreed.

Fred Turner has agreed to mow playing field for another year; he has put his price up by £1.

Actions taken: Cllr. Cooke to purchase necessary materials and keep council updated.

6) Snow Warden

Distribution of salt grit bins / delivery of additional salt grit — 3 tons of additional salt grit have been delivered and further salt grit bins will be delivered throughout parish. Secondary gritting route through Yarnscombe — Twenty percent of the primary routes are regularly gritted. If there are several days of icy weather DCC gritters will treat main thoroughfare through Yarnscombe.

Actions taken: Salt grit bins to be distributed as and when councillors are available. Snow warden to continue gritting as usual.

23.14 Minutes of Meeting from 11 January 2023

Minutes approved and signed as a true record.

23.15 Matters arising from last Minutes

Councillors Grant for fence in Playing Field — £200 had been received towards fencing project. (See item 23.11/5)

Herds Lane Residents Meeting — No official meeting as yet; for foreseeable future nothing is going to change.

23.16 New Matters

Black toner for printer £109.99

Black toner is running low and clerk had sourced high yield toner which provided much better value than standard toner. Cllr. Brice proposed, Cllr. Williams seconded. All agreed.

Actions taken: Clerk to order toner online from HP store, payment via debit card.

23.17 PROW — Monthly Report

Annual survey had been carried out. The bridge handrails on Path 6 adjacent to Cleave Farm had deteriorated and are rotten in places. Ros Davies from DCC will arrange professional survey and contractor for repair.

Actions taken: Clerk to contact Ros Davies regarding grant in new financial year.

23.18 Planning

Erection of single storey building to the front and rear of property; Luckaborough Farm, Yarnscombe, Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 3NF — Application permitted

1/1253/2022/FUL, Demolition of redundant rural building and erection of new dwelling following class Q approval (1/0427/2022/AGMB) and associated works; Barn At Grid Reference 253321 122636, Yarnscombe, Devon — Councillors looked at application and decided it no longer fulfilled criteria for class Q. New proposed building consisted of two storey building with a larger footprint than original building.

Actions taken: Clerk to forward relevant comments.

23.19 Additional Planning

None

23.20 Accounts

Bank reconciliation and signing of cash book October to December 2022 — Bank reconciliation had been carried out and chair signed off cash book.

Black toner £109.99 see item 23.16

Meeting closed 8.05pm.

6th March 2023