

Minutes of Yarnscombe Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 19 April 2023

Present: Cllrs. Brice (chair), Jeffery, Newberry and M. Dymond (Clerk)

23.31 Apologies, Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations

Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllrs. Cooke, Pengilley, Williams, Farr, Saywell (Devon County Council / DCC), Lock and Clarke (Torridge District Council / TDC).

There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensations had been received.

23.32 Public Participation and Feedback

Goal posts and grass cutting — Parishioner had contacted clerk to say that goal posts in playing field had been moved and could pose a potential obstacle should Air Ambulance need to land. Also, grass in playing field had been cut, but grass was still long.

Actions taken: After meeting councillors will inspect goal post and correct position if needed. Also, if possible, clerk to contact Cllr. Williams, as he liaised with Air Ambulance and would know exact location of agreed helicopter landing site. Regarding the length of grass, councillors pointed out that it had been a wet March and cut had been first cut of the year. Clerk to include in next Eagle article that goal posts, although portable, should be put back into correct position.

23.33 Representatives Reports

1) County/District Councillors — None

2) Village Hall / Social Club — Coronation events as outlined in “Eagle”, Coronation lunch to be held over Coronation weekend. No further news.

3) Youth Club — None

4) PCSO / Police Report — Councillors are from now on invited to take part in online meetings where they can share concerns and PCSOs update them on recent incident logs/crimes. So far no invitation received as yet.

Actions taken: None at present.

5) Playing field — The next cut is scheduled for end of month, weather permitting. Parishioner had also observed children climbing on and up storage container/shed. Clerk will include this item in next article for “Eagle” and in the meantime write up short article for village Facebook site, reminding children and parents that container and shed are for storage only and are not play equipment.

Actions taken: Clerk to write article for village Facebook site and include issue in next article for “Eagle”.

23.34 Minutes of Meeting from 22 March 2023

Minutes were approved and signed off as true record by Cllr. Newberry who attended last meeting, as Cllr. Farr who had chaired last meeting had sent his apologies for this meeting.

23.35 Matters arising from last Minutes

Hedgehog Highways Project — Councillors decided that due to its rural location there was no need to purchase “Hedgehog tunnels/pathways”, as hedgehogs had already established natural connecting pathways between individual properties.

Actions taken: Reply to project, explaining why council has no need to purchase hedgehog pathway tunnels. Router/Giffgaff — Cllr. Pengilley is making progress; hopefully router will be able to be used in near future.

23.36 New Matters

Cleaning of bus shelter — Clerk suggested to have bus shelter cleaned before Coronation weekend; last time it was cleaned was over two years ago. It was suggested to ask Cllr. Williams whether his children were willing to take on this task. A payment of £50 was suggested, Cllr. Brice proposed, Cllr. Newberry seconded. All agreed.

Actions taken: Clerk to contact Cllr. Williams.

Resignation of Cllr. Williams — Cllr. Williams had informed clerk that he would not be standing for election of new council. Clerk had included a “thank you” on behalf of the council in last edition of “Eagle”. Councillors agreed to decide on a Thank you gift at next meeting.

Actions taken: None at present.

DALC Membership Renewal 23/24 £93.35

Cllr. Brice proposed, Cllr. Newberry seconded. All agreed to pay invoice for DALC Membership Renewal.

Actions taken: Cheque written out, signed by Cllr. Brice. To be countersigned by Cllr. Pengilley and to be sent off by clerk.

Parish Salary Recharge 1 October 2022 to 31 March 2023 £1353.04

Cllr. Jeffery proposed, Cllr. Brice seconded. All agreed to pay invoice for Parish Salary Recharge.

Actions taken: Cheque written out, signed by Cllr. Brice. To be countersigned by Cllr. Pengilley and clerk to send off.

23.37 PROW — Monthly Report

End of year financial forms and bid forms for P3 grants.

Clerk had meeting with local PROW. Together they filled in end of year forms, PROW pointed out some work that needs to be done. Grant bid forms filled in and sent off to Ros Davies at DCC.

Actions taken: Await result of grant bid.

23.38 Planning

[1/0066/2023/FUL](#), Demolition of agricultural building and erection of new building and associated works, Alcombe, Yarnscombe, EX31 3LU — Application permitted

Permission was granted due to certain conditions being adhered to. Natural tree/shrub boundary has to be planted before habitation, construction has to start within 3 years of application being permitted. Working hours during construction are restricted (9am to 7pm weekdays, 9am to 1pm Saturdays, no work on Sundays or Bank Holidays). Councillors expressed concerns, as the above permitted application differs from the original application which referred to conversion of redundant agricultural building under class Q. This was approved, site was sold and amended application now refers to a new building being constructed on a different location on plot, which would go against class Q policy.

Actions taken: Clerk to write to planning department, as council’s comments and concerns were not considered or published.

23.39 Additional Planning

Building plot next to “Hillside” had gone up for auction; at time of meeting result of auction not known.

Actions taken: None at present.

23.40 Accounts

DALC Membership Renewal 23/24 £93.35 — see item 23.36

Parish Salary Recharge 1 October 2022 to 31 March 2023 £1353.04 — see item 23.36

Bank reconciliation January to March 2023

Bank reconciliation January to March 2023 had been carried out, also end of year reconciliation. Chair signed cash book and end of year bank reconciliation.

Meeting closed 8.10pm.

5th May 2023