

WEST HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Interim Parish Council held at West Hill Village Hall

on Thursday 13th April 2017 at 7pm

Present:

Cllr Christopher Hall

Cllr Jo Talbot

Cllr Jessica Bailey

Also present:

Cllr Claire Wright (DCC)

Margaret Hall (Minute-taker)

17/01. Election of Chairman for the meeting

It was proposed by Cllr Jo Talbot and seconded by Cllr Jessica Bailey that Cllr Christopher Hall be Chairman for the meeting. Cllr Christopher Hall was duly elected.

17/02. Code of Conduct & Standing Orders

A draft Code of Conduct, and Standing Orders had been circulated prior to the meeting. These are both based on the NALC model. It was agreed to abide by these until they could be agreed and adopted at the Annual Meeting of the new Parish Council.

17/03. Appoint a Minute-taker for the meeting

Margaret Hall volunteered to be Minute-taker for the meeting.

17/04. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Robin Mitchell and Cllr Paul Carter (EDDC).

17/05. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Jessica Bailey declared a personal interest on Item 13, Planning Application 20 Eastfield as she is friends with the applicants. She remained in the room but did not take part in discussion. (Cllr Claire Wright declared a personal interest for the same item.)

17/06. Exclusion of the public

Members agreed there were no items to be discussed after the exclusion of the public and press.

17/07. Public speaking

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

17/08. Police Report

- i) PCSO Maria Clapp reported that during March 2017 there was 1 reported crime, compared to 2 in March 2016, in West Hill. This was criminal damage to a vehicle at the Body Repair Garage. There was a newspaper appeal for information.
- ii) There is no further information regarding the future of PCSO's in the area.
- iii) The car park area at McColl's is untidy. A litter-picking and weed-clearing session could be arranged. Equipment will be supplied.

17/09. Reports from EDDC and DCC Councillors

No EDDC councillors were present.

Cllr Claire Wright reported:

- i) The major concern of local residents is the future of Ottery Hospital. DCC Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee had required the CCG to provide their reasoning for closing 72 beds. The CCG did not appear to be confident about availability of services at home, nor how many staff would be needed, etc. This will be followed up after the DCC elections, and if nor satisfactory replies are received, it will be referred to the Secretary of State. NHS Property Services now own the premises, and are charging market rents. They are making a list of properties surplus to requirement. It is not known whether Ottery is on this list.
- ii) Straitgate – consultation on the application for a sand and gravel quarry has now closed. Application should go to DMC in the summer.
- iii) Cllr Wright has submitted a motion to Full Council on 27th April regarding the position of EU protected sites after Brexit, and requesting that the Government maintain the same level of protection. This motion has had support and is likely to be passed.

17/10. Arrangements for the new Parish Council

- i) Public liability insurance and insurance for the Play Park is being continued by OSMTC until the end of May. There is currently a problem with a frayed rope, which has been reported to Streetscene by OSMTC.
Cllr Talbot will obtain a quote from Zurich Life. A list of property to be insured is needed. A decision on insurance will be taken at the Annual Meeting of the new Council.
- ii) Members agreed that a temporary clerk should be appointed, if possible in time for the Annual Meeting. Cllr Bailey will contact Nick Randle, or alternatively one of the locum clerks advertised by DALC.
- iii) A bank account will be needed. Members agreed to contact various banks (NatWest, HSBC, Barclays) to see what they can offer. A decision on this will be needed at the Annual Meeting.

17/11. East Devon Villages Plan consultation

While members of OSMTC, members had supported the reduced BUAB, and had suggested minor changes. The submission draft plan has now included Ford Lane, and Birch Grove, and the upper end of West Hill Road. Members agreed to support the Villages Plan, but wished to ensure that there were no discrepancies between the inset plan and the site-by-site assessment. Cllr Bailey will compile a response on behalf of the Council.

17/12. Neighbourhood Plan report.

Cllr Talbot provided an update report on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan. (Report circulated with Agenda.) The Plan is about to enter the pre-submission consultation, and there will be several drop-in events at West Hill and various sites in Ottery St Mary parish. Following this the Plan can be submitted for examination, and then referendum

17/13. Planning Applications

The Council considered the following applications and made comments to be submitted to EDDC:

Reference	Applicant	Details
17/0611/TRE	Mr Nick Parsons	T1 Oak - Remove 1 X split limb hanging over garden side of tree, reduce crown over garden by 1.2M, dead wood T2 Beech – Remove smaller stems around large beech, crown lift large beech by 1.5m. T3 Bay – Reshape and Reduce by 1.2M. T4 – Remove Rhododendron under Beech T5 – Prunus Reduce and Reshape by 1.2M T6 – Apple Fell Rucel Bendarroch Road West Hill Ottery St Mary EX11 1UR

Parish Council comments:

No information has been provided on the reasons for the tree work.
Cannot support because non-compliant with requirements to provide reasons.

Members wished to request that EDDC screen all tree applications to ensure that the required information is provided. The Tree Officer will be invited to attend a meeting with the new Council.

17/0605/TRE	Mr C Keane	T1, Pine: Remove damaged limbs. T2, Beech: Dismantle as is competing with T1 and has no amenity value. T3, Pine: Remove approx 1-1.5, lengths from lower crown and limbs close to the property, remove lower limb (see picture). Remove branch tips approx 1.5m lengths maximum. T4, Pine: Remove branch tips approx 1.5m (see picture). Woodhayes Brackendown West Hill Ottery St Mary EX11 1NT
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Parish Council comments:

Cannot see the justification for felling T2 Beech, which would seem to have high amenity value. Insufficient information supplied. Support other maintenance work.

17/0649/FUL	Mr & Mrs Coppell	Extension to existing garage to provide car port and store and construction of porch. 20 Eastfield West Hill Ottery St Mary EX11 1XN
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Parish Council comments:

Concern about effects on trees beside the car port. Support providing Tree Officer is content.

17/0677/FUL

Mr & Mrs Wilson

Design amendments to Approved Application 16/1218/FUL for proposed ground floor extension, internal alterations, dormers and master bedroom alterations

Bishopsgate West Hill Ottery St Mary EX11 1UY

Parish Council comments:

Support

17/0753/RES

Mr Tim Wright

Construction of a dwelling (approval of matters reserved under application 16/1039/OUT)

The Old Vicarage Bendarroch Road West Hill Ottery St Mary EX11 1UW

Parish Council comments:

Not supported. Concerns of Tree Officer noted. Tree Officer has requested further information on sections, which will be provided shortly. Members understand the applicant is engaged in discussions to amend the application if necessary. Further comments will be submitted if the plans are amended.

17/0835/FUL

Mr Bennett

Alterations of the front porch to create a required space for a utility room.

12 Moorlands West Hill Ottery St Mary EX11 1UL

Parish Council comments:

Support

17/14. TPO notification

The provisional TPO at Altnaharra, Elsdon Lane has not been confirmed. No information provided on reasons. EDDC Tree Officer will be invited to attend a future meeting of the Council (see 17/13 Rucel comments)

17/15 Matters of urgency

- i) **Play Park.** Cllr Bailey reported on the progress of the Play Park improvements. After slow progress, a Deed of grant has been issued between EDDC and OSMTC, but this should vest with West Hill Parish Council after 16th May 2017. The Council may need to register for VAT once a bank account has been set up, in order to reclaim VAT. The Trustees of the Village Hall need to consent. Cllrs Bailey and Talbot will discuss with Ian Heard.

17/16. Correspondence

None.

17/17. Councillors' questions

None

The meeting closed at 7.52pm

Chairman..... Date.....