

# OFFWELL PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT 7.30PM

### ON MONDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2019 IN THE SOCIAL CLUB

**Present:** Cllrs A Small (Chair), M. Brake, P. Tuke, J. Tristram, ,  
C. Whithear, M.Mulrain, S Patch, P. Hopkins

**In Attendance:** EDDC Cllr. H. Parr, DCC M. Shaw, A Jenkins (Clerk)

**Members of Public:** 3

### OPEN SESSION

No matters were raised.

### COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Cllr. J. Tristram and Cllr. P. Hopkins signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office. The Clerk advised that Cllr. V. Smth had already signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2. **Apologies**

Cllr. V. Smith

3. **Declaration of Interests**

None

4. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

The minutes were declared a true record of the proceedings, proposed by Cllr. Brake, seconded by Cllr. Tuke, all in favour.

5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

None

6. **Reports**

a) **Police:**

The Clerk reported that PCSO England 30017 had sent a report which showed that there had been two recorded crime for the period 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019 as compared as to no

recorded crimes during May 2018. The two recorded crimes were a Burglary Non-Dwelling and an Other Theft.

During the same period this year there had been 6 recorded incidents (1 recorded crime, 4 Public Safety and 1 Transport) , whereas in May 2018 there had been no recorded incidents.

#### **b) District and County Councillors:**

EDDC Cllr. Parr reported that following the May District Council Elections the Independents are the largest group on the Council, with 20 Cllrs. The Conservatives have 19 Cllrs and are the official opposition. However, the Independents and Conservatives are working together.

The Leader of the Council is Cllr Ingham, Independent Group and the Chairman of the Council is Cllr Stuart Hughes, Conservative.

She advised that following the Annual Council meeting she was appointed Lead Member for Design and Heritage and also to the AONB Partnership. She continues to be a member of the Development Management Committee and the Housing Review Board.

EDDC has adopted 'The East Devon Guide for the listing of Local Heritage Assets'. The guide explains how a structure of local historic value can be proposed for inclusion in the List of Local Assets, and the criteria which should be met.

The recycling rate remains around 60% which is excellent and well above the government target and in response to a query from Councillors, she advised that there was available an EDDC phone app. for reporting incidents of flytipping.

DCC Cllr. Shaw advised that following the DCC Annual Meeting he remains a member of the Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee, which covers a range of services including Highways and Libraries, and also broadband roll-out through Connecting Devon and Somerset.

Cllr. Patch raised the matter of the large 40 mph speed sign on the lefthand side of the A35 as one approaches from the Honiton direction, the cross road junction with the turning to the right towards the East Devon Business Park. She explained that the sign presented a serious hazard to vehicles exiting the unnamed lane on the left and prevented drivers having a clear view of traffic approaching on the A35. It was very dangerous and she asked if Cllr. Shaw could approach Highways England to request that the sign be moved to another location so as to remove the hazard. Cllr. Shaw said that he was unaware of the problem but would investigate.

Cllr. Shaw said that Highways England were still conducting their evaluation report on the matter of changing speed limits and introducing a series of Average Speed Cameras on the A35 from Charmouth to Honiton.

#### **c) Other Reports**

None

## **7. Correspondence**

The Clerk advised that there had not been much correspondence since the last meeting but had forwarded on to Councillors all email correspondence received. However he had received earlier that afternoon a further item of correspondence:

Correspondence from EDDC attaching information from Devon Air Ambulance Trust (DAAT) that if communities currently want night landing sites the air ambulance is part funding them but that this financial support would come to an end in early 2020. Several community night landing sites have been set up in East Devon part funded by DAAT and by EDDC Parishes Together Fund and the Communities Together Fund. Those funds no longer exist. However, both DCC and EDDC both have money available for community projects through crowdfunding.

The Clerk advised he receives Devon & Cornwall Police Alerts but suggested that Councillors also sign up to receive these alerts. It is a free community messaging system to inform members of the public about crimes and incidents affecting their local area.

Recorded messages are sent by telephone, email or text message to individuals or groups/businesses.

It is a two-way messaging system which helps the Police to connect with their communities; it tells people what is happening in their area and allows them to respond directly with any information.

The system is designed to allow people who register to choose the type of information they would like to receive concerning crime and anti-social behaviour, witness appeals, crime prevention, community events and local good news.

Subscribers will not be notified about every crime or incident that happens in their community. The aim is to send relevant information where the Police believe to do so will reduce the opportunity for crime and anti-social behaviour or will help them solve a crime.

Councillors can visit [Devon and Cornwall Alert](#) to find out more and to sign up.

## **8. Finance**

Cllr Whithear proposed, Cllr. Brake seconded, all in favour that:

- a) £288.05 be paid to EDDC for the Dog Waste Bin Collection for 2019/20. This is based on pro rata amounts for the twice a week collection and then for the reversion to the three times a week collection.
- b) £24.00 be paid to A Dimond Stationers for stationery.
- c) £250.12 be paid to the Clerk for salary
- d) £48.80 be paid to HMRC for PAYE

## **8. Bank Statements**

The Clerk advised that there was £8,703.93 in the current account (after allowing for uncleared Cheques but not allowing for the above payments) and £2,260.31 in the dedicated CIL account. He passed for Councillors perusal the Bank Statement dated 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019.

## **9. Planning Applications**

### **18/2657/ADV – Non illuminated hoarding sign for the Grazing Cow situate (A35 Opposite) Windmill House, Offwell, Honiton**

The Clerk advised that the planning application had been withdrawn.

## **10. Funding Request from ORG &VHC for grant towards Playground Project**

The Clerk advised that a funding request had been received from Offwell Play Park Project, part of Offwell Recreation Ground and Village Hall Charity No. 300915. They had requested a grant of £2,250 towards the £60,000 cost of the project. They have raised £7,019.79 at present and this money is held in a separate ring fenced account set up purely for the Play Park Project. Mrs Richards also advised the meeting that in the event of the project not going ahead any monies donated from identifiable donators would be returned to them in full and a Public Meeting would be held to discuss what would happen to any remaining monies.

The £7,019.79 had been raised through various fund raising events and donations from Aviva Insurance, Tesco's bags for help, the Lions Club and the County Councillor Locality fund.

The £2,250 grant request if granted would enable them with some other fund raising to reach £10,000 when they could start applying to larger funding organisations who required match funding.

The Charity had supplied copies of their bank statements as supporting documents.

Councillors had previously indicated that supporting the Playground project was their preferred use for the CIL money the Council had received. The Clerk advised that he had written the previous week to EDDC asking for their confirmation that use of the CIL receipt monies for a new playground would be regarded as acceptable and in accordance with Regulation 59C of the CIL regulations. However, he had not received a reply to date as the person who deals with such matters is away at present.

Councillors discussed the matter and Cllr. Small proposed, seconded by Cllr. Brake that a grant of £2,250 be given from the CIL account to the Offwell Play Park Project, subject to EDDC confirming that this was acceptable and in accordance with the CIL regulations. Cllr. Mulrain also asked for EDDC to confirm that making a grant payment rather than purchasing a specific item of play equipment would be regarded as an acceptable spend under the regulations. All Councillors in favour.

The Clerk said that he would seek confirmation from EDDC.

## **11. Parish Council Precept for 2019/20**

The Clerk advised that he had included this on the agenda as no member of the Public had attended the May meeting when it had been specifically put on the agenda. As no one present had any queries on the matter, the Chair moved next business.

## **12. Colwell Finger Post**

The Clerk advised that DCC Highways had confirmed that the total cost of the sign to the Parish Council would be £120. Cllr. Tristram proposed that the Parish Council go ahead on this basis and instruct Highways to install the sign. Seconded by Cllr. Tuke, the majority in favour.

**13. Dog Waste Bin Collection Service**

The Clerk reported that that Councillors had reported to him that the dog waste bin which EDDC empty was overflowing. He had spoken to the Recycling Officer regarding the matter. The problem had possibly occurred due to a combination of the Parish Council decision to reduce the collections from three times a week to two times a week and that particular week being a bank holiday week which affected the collection days and there being a lot of dog walkers out and about.

However, no matter how it occurred, it was obvious that the two collections a week can be insufficient at certain times of the year so he had asked EDDC to immediately revert back to the three collections a week. This should then avoid a reoccurrence of the unpleasant and unacceptable matter of the overflowing dog waste bin.

He had emailed Councillors to advise them of the course of action he had taken and asked Councillors to support his decision. Councillors supported his course of action..

**14. Councillor Training**

The Clerk advised that DALC were holding being a Good Councillor Course at the Beehive, Honiton on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July and at Exeter Court Hotel on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Both courses 9.45am to 4.00pm.

There is also a Being a Good Councillor Evening Short Course at the Beehive on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019. 6.30pm -9.00pm.

He had spoken to DALC and they hoped to arrange some further courses in the East Devon area. The Clerk would give some further information at the July meeting.

**15. Gypsy and Traveller Forum for East Devon**

The Clerk advised that Cranbrook Town Council had suggested the creation of a Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Forum for East Devon similar to the one currently operating in Teignbridge. Ottery St. Mary Town Council had supported the creation of the forum and other Councils were being approached as to whether they would support it and participate. Councillors noted the matter.

**16. Agenda Items for next meeting**

**17. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

7.30pm on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019

The Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed..... Dated.....





