WEST HATCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of the West Hatch Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 24th November 2015

**15/56 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

**Councillors: K Read (Chairman), M Biccard, N Harrison-Sleap, G Knight, D Lodge**

**Public: 2 members of the public**

**Apologies: M Middleton, M Nicholls**

**15/57 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

**There were no declarations of interests.**

**15/58 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting, held on 1st October 2015, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**15/59 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

1. **Traffic Issues (15/44)**

**The Chairman has written to Rebecca Pow (MP) to ask for her assistance with regard to traffic issues and she has contacted SCC on the Council’s behalf. No further response has yet been received.**

**With reference to the problems caused by agricultural vehicles, the Clerk has learnt from the PCSO that North Curry PC has carried out a survey on this issue and it was agreed that the Clerk would make contact with North Curry to ascertain what measures have been considered as a result of this.**

**SALC do not wish to become involved in this issue.**

**Cllr Harrison-Sleap suggested that the Parish Council explore the cost of ‘SLOW’ markings on the highways and this suggestion was agreed.**

1. **West Hatch website (15/48)**

**An article will appear in the January edition of the Parish magazine advertising the new website.**

1. **Neighbourhood Watch representative (15/46)**

**It is understood that Peter Baverstock has been acting as the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator for West Hatch. It was agreed that he should be invited to the next meeting to clarify his role and responsibilities.**

**15/59 PARISHIONERS' FORUM**

**No matters were raised from the parishioners present.**

 **15/60 TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR CIC’s HERITAGE PROJECT**

**The Council has received a request from the Creative Innovation Centre (CIC) for support of their new project entitled ‘A Pictorial History of the Borough of Taunton Deane’**

**The project relies on members of the community providing images to be scanned and Parish Councils have been asked to become involved by promoting the project within their communities.**

**It was agreed to send a letter of support and assist where possible.**

**15/61 QUEEN’S 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS – TO CONSIDER COUNCIL’S INVOLVEMENT**

**It has been suggested by the Village Hall committee that a celebration should be held in the Parish to commemorate the Queen’s 90th Birthday in 2016.**

**A working party is being formed with a meeting to be held in January, after which it is likely that a formal approach to the Parish Council for funding will be made.**

 **15/62 TO AGREE BUDGET AND PRECEPT REQUIREMENTS FOR 2016/17**

**The Parish Council agreed the budget as attached.**

**It was agreed to maintain the precept at £2330.**

**It was agreed to increase the Election Reserve fund to £1000.**

**15/63 FORMAL EXPENDITURE APPROVAL**

**The following cheques were approved**

**Clerk's** salary £248.32

**Clerk's expenses £ 45.00**

**TDBC – Election costs £100.00**

**West Hatch Village Hall £ 60.00**

**RBL – Poppy Appeal £ 20.00**

**15/64 PLANNING MATTERS**

1. **Application 47/15/0002 –Erection of scout hut at Slough Green- consideration of further plans**

**Further plans have been submitted that address issues previously raised; a new gateway has been proposed together with an increase in the size of the car park.**

**The Council considered that despite these amendments it would not alter its decision to object to the application.**

1. **Change of tenancy at Slough Green Caravan Park**

**The Council has received notification of a change of tenancy at one of the plots at Slough Green Caravan Park. The Council has no objection to the change.**

**15/65 REPORTS OF PARISH COUNCIL WORKING PARTIES**

**Report from Footpaths leader :**

**Nothing to report**

**Report from Trees/Conservation leader:**

**Ash die back has been identified in Thurlbear Woods and the affected trees have been marked for felling. For every tree felled, a further three will be planted.**

**A large number of trees have been removed at the top of Griffin Lane as part of a replacement programme**

**Report on Highway matters**

**No fresh supplies of de-icing material are required this year as 18 bags are still available from previous years. Supplies have also been left by the roadside at certain points in the Parish.**

**Report from SALC representative**

**The minutes of the AGM are still awaited.**

**15/66 CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION**

* **Bus subsidy and concessionary fares consultation**

**SCC is reviewing the bus services that it subsidises and its concessionary fares policy and has launched two consultations.**

**The details can be found on:**

<http://www.somerset.gov.uk/concessionaryfareconsultation>

<http://www.somerset.gov.uk/bussubsidysurvey>

* **Vacancy for Parish Council representative on Standards Advisory committee**

**A vacancy exists on the Standards Advisory Committee for a Parish Council representative.**

**Applications need to be submitted to TDBC by 31st December 2015**

**15/67 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday 26th January 2016**

**The meeting dosed at 8.55 pm**