

FENITON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 14th September 2009

Present: Cllr M Smith (Chairman)

Councillors: Mr Pete Privett, Mrs B Powell, Mr G Preston and Mr M Jolly.

In Attendance: Cllr Roger Giles (DCC), Mr D Carter (Environment Agency), 2 members of the public and J Masters (FPC Clerk).

63. Questions from the public:-

Mrs Pamela Daniels from 1 Gray Gables said that EDDC in Sidmouth informed her that the boundary had moved and her house is now within Feniton Parish. The Chairman said that the Parish Council was not aware of any boundary changes and had not yet been informed of any changes.

Mrs Daniels went on to say she wrote to Escot before Beautiful Days asking them to monitor the parking in her road which is private and very narrow and is soon blocked by cars illegally parked there, Escot never replied to her letter.

A general discussion took place about the irresponsible parking in the village during Beautiful Days the main area for concern is at Tool Gate Cottage at the junction of Green Lane and Ottery Road where it is narrow, with parked cars the local bus service struggled to get round the corner, as mentioned above Gray Gables, The Burlands where residents struggled to get in and out of their drives and The Signals where cars were arriving at all hours of the day and night.

The Clerk was instructed to contact DCC Highways and the Police to see if the Parking Restrictions next year could be extended into the Village.

64. Apologies for absence: - Cllr P Blackmore, Cllr G Brown (EDDC)

65. Confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2009:-

The minutes were agreed and the Chairman initialled each page and signed the last page.

66. Declarations of Interest from Members and Officers:-

J. Masters, Clerk to Feniton Parish Council, interest in Item 8.j on the Agenda (70.j in the Minutes) Allotment Sheds Planning Application.

67. Police Officer's Report:-

The Police Report for July and August is as follows, albeit I am glad to say that things have been very quiet over the summer holiday which is a real bonus for the residents of Feniton.

In July there were just 5 reported incidents to the Police and no recorded crime.

In August there were 6 reported incidents to the Police and one recorded crime which was criminal damage to property, namely red paint daubed on a shed. Enquiries have so far not located an offender.

Apart from the above there is nothing else to report at this time.

68. Environment Agency:-

The Chairman welcomed Mr Carter from the Environment Agency who told the meeting that in February this year he was called in to look at the problem of 'Soil Compaction' in local farms around the Ottery and Feniton area. He has worked closely with five land owners in Ottery and five more land owners around Feniton and had a very favorable co-operation from them, a total of 250 acres were surveyed and an action plan was put in place for the land to be worked after the harvest instead of being left until the spring this will allow more water to be absorbed into the soil and cut down on run off. The extra work by the farmers does have a cost implication and there will be some funding available. Mr Carter went on to say that this work will not cure the flooding problem but with other measures being taken it will help to reduce the threat, however with all the schemes in place they still would not be able to cope with the one in 50 year threat of seven inches of rain in such a short time as we had on the 30th October. The Chairman thanked Mr Carter for his report and he left the meeting.

69. County and District Councilors' Reports:-

Cllr Giles referred to his previous report about the Temporary Rail Time Table due to the installation of track at Axminster and the temporary bus service.

There were only 4 noise complaints received about Beautiful Days 2 from Payhenbury, 1 from Curscombe, and 1 from Talaton.

Road repairs are to be carried out on the C129 A30 to Buckerell Junction on the 29th and 30th September.

Footpath 2 is always wet and is being attended too.

Cllr Giles left the meeting at 20.30hrs to attend another meeting.

70. Finance: – The following September payments were authorized:-

- a) 1670 Mr A Spry, Village Handyman. £504.00
- b) 1671 HM Revenue & Customs, Income Tax on Clerks Salary. £76.40
- c) 1672 Mr J Masters, Clerks September Salary. £306.23
- d) 1673 Mr J Masters, Clerks July/August Expenses. £86.25
- e) 1674 Society of Local Council Clerks £116.35
- f) 1675 Audit Commission £155.25
- g) 1676 Mr David Brain £153.90
- h) 1677 MNR Mowers Ltd £261.00
- i) 1678 DAPC £15.00
- j) 1679 EDDC, £167.50

71. Finance Received:-

EDDC, BACS Remittance Advice, 6 month Precept £7,000.00

72. Correspondence:-

a) Devon wheels 2 work, thank you for S137 Donation

b) Tale Valley Trust, thank you for S137 Donation

c) EDDC, New updated Website for Planning Online, invite to presentation on Delivering E-Government

d) EDDC, Sustainable Communities Act

e) Audit Commission, Audit of 2009 Annual Return for Feniton Parish Council requesting further information on the Councils Reserves.

The Clerk told the meeting he sought advice on this from the SoLCC and wrote back to the Audit Commission with the extra information.

f) EDDC, Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Licensing Principles – Statutory Consultation

g) Devon Rural Network.

h) DCC, 20mph Zones and Limits

The meeting discussed this letter and were very disappointed that it did not give any information about 20mph Zones and Limits as the letter title suggested, the Chairman asked Cllr Giles to pass on the Councils comments to the DCC department concerned.

i) Environment Agency, Emergency Planning event held on 1st July follow up letter.

j) DCC, Footpath Closures and Road Restrictions prior to and during Beautiful Days Festival

k) EDDC, Tell Us What You Think, invite to meeting on 14th September

l) Follow up exchange of Emails, will take our comments by Wednesday 16th September

m) DAPC, AGM and Conference Saturday 26th September 2009 invite. Copies of this year's Agenda and last years minutes available to Councillors, DAPC Annual Subscriptions 2010 – 2012.

It was agreed that the Clerk should attend the AGM to represent Feniton Parish Council and after a short discussion agreed that the small increase in the annual subscription was acceptable and the Clerk was instructed to inform the DAPC of this.

n) DAPC, Devon Car Free Day Tuesday 22nd September 2009

o) EDDC Planning Department, Allotment Sheds. EDDC offered three alternatives for this project to go ahead, it was agreed to go with No 2 and instructed the Clerk to complete the application.

p) Audit Commission, Completion of Annual Audit

q) Honiton Town Council, request for Agenda Items for Local Parishes Meeting on 30th September

The Council did not have anything to add to the agenda.

r) East Devon Tree Surgeons, Quotation for removing Horse Chestnut tree and Stump Grinding

This letter was moved to Agenda item No 16 and these Minutes No

s) EDDC, Annual Meeting of the Parish Councils 3rd November, invite to follow with agenda

t) EDDC, Returning Officer, CASUAL VACANCY in the Parish of Feniton

This was discussed in Agenda item No 12, and these Minutes No 74.

u) Mr Gary Broom, would like to be considered for the Parish Council vacancy

This letter was moved to Agenda item No 12, and these Minutes No 74.

73. Late Entry Correspondence:-

a) DAPC, There is ONE vacancy on the County Committee for representatives from East Devon

It was agreed that nobody from Feniton Parish Council would stand for election.

b) Feniton C of E Primary School, Mr Colin Butler (Headteacher) would like to speak to the Council

The Council agreed it would be very good for the Council to have the chance of meeting Mr Butler and the Clerk was instructed to formally invite Mr Butler to the next Council Meeting.

c) Society of Local Council Clerks, Notice of Annual General Meeting 24th October 2009.

The Clerk said that he had another engagement on the 24th and would not be able to attend the AGM.

74. Casual Vacancy - Feniton Parish Council:-

Upon the resignation of Mrs Tomkins the Council have a Vacancy for one Councillor. The Clerk told the meeting that the statutory notices had been posted in the village and the council were now in a position to co-opt a new councillor. A letter has been received from a local resident saying he would like to put his name forward for consideration for the vacancy.

It was agreed to put a notice in the Parish Magazine advertising the vacancy with the council.

75. Planning:-

09/1737/LBC, Mr K Hunt, Combe House Hotel, Gittisham EX14 3AD Repairs works to doors and windows.

It was agreed that this application was nowhere near Feniton and EDDC should not have even sent it as a consultation.

09/1032/VAR, Mrs E Hutchinson, 2 Whites Cottages, Feniton EX14 3DB, removal of condition No 4 on planning permission 90/P2213. EDDC Refused.

76. Village Handyman's Report: -

July, extra time working in and around the Old Village

August, extra time working in and around the Old Village grass cutting and trimming Copper Beech

Tree, extra time working in and around QEII and Allotment area.

77. Clerks Report: -

22nd July I attended the DAPC Conference in Exeter at Sandy Park: - Empowering Communities in Devon.

29th July I attended the Feniton Emergency planning Meeting at Rev. Cate Edmonds house, only 4 committee members were present due to holidays, the plan is coming together, the date for the next meeting was not fixed as we felt it important that every one is available for the next meeting.

I now have 1,000 Sandbags for free distribution to Feniton residents, so far one resident has contacted me and they have ordered 18 Sandbags.

4th September I attended the quarterly SoLCC meeting in Exminster.

78. Chestnut Tree in Old Feniton:-

The Clerk has received three quotes for the removal of the Chestnut Tree in the Old Village and for the stump to be ground down, the Clerk also said a discussion had taken place with EDDC Tree Preservation Department, they said there was no TPO on the tree and after inspecting it agreed it should be taken down. After a discussion it was agreed that the Contract to remove the tree would go to East Devon Tree Surgeons. A notice will be placed in the Parish Magazine give an estimated date for its removal. It was agreed that a section of the Tree be kept to make a Seat or some other small item as a reminder of the tree.

79. Bus Shelter

It has been reported that the Bus Shelter has been vandalised, the rear window has been broken. The council discussed the possibility of replacing the bus shelter with a larger one. The Clerk was instructed to ask the Village Handyman to carryout remedial work to make it safe and to obtain an estimate for repairs.

80. Individual Member responsibilities:-

Cllr Preston said the previously reported sunken manhole cover located at the junction of Station Road and Colestocks Road in getting worse and rattles every tome a vehicle drives over it. The Clerk was instructed to chase this up with DCC Highways Department.

Cllr Jolly gave his apologies as he is unable to come to the next meeting on the 12th October.

Cllr Smith (Chairman) said that the court case between the Sports and Social Club and the owners of the land the Ackland family has now been decided in favour of the S&SC in that the building is owned by the S&SC therefore the rent will be greatly reduced.

81. Date of next full Parish council meeting: - Monday 12th October 2009

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.25hrs