

COFFINSWELL PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES
THURSDAY 16 JANUARY 2014 – ST BARTHOLOMEW’S CHURCH, COFFINSWELL

Present: Cllrs Harrington (Acting Chairman), Berry, Hermsen and Winchester
 Cllrs Dewhirst (DCC), Haines (TDC) and Ballinger (TDC)

Apologies: Cllr Wills (Chairman)

Also present: Rachel Avery (Clerk)

No	Subject	Comments
1	The Chairman will open the Meeting and receive apologies.	Cllr Harrington opened the meeting at 19.33. It was RESOLVED to approve the apology of Cllr Wills.
2	To declare any interests arising at this meeting.	There were no interests declared.
	<i>The Council will adjourn for the following items:</i>	
3	<p><u>Public Question Time:</u> A period of 15 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make comment regarding the work of the Council or other items that affect Coffinswell.</p> <p><u>County and District Councillors' Reports</u></p> <p><u>Police Report</u></p>	<p>There were no members of the public present.</p> <p>Cllr Haines explained that TDC’s Local Plan will be found sound with some modifications. None of these modifications affect Coffinswell and Dacombe. The Plan now holds significant weight and can be used when considering planning applications.</p> <p>Cllr Dewhirst’s report forms part of the minutes.</p> <p><u>Logs and crimes for Dacombe and Coffinswell area between 14/10/13 to 15/01/14</u></p> <p>Cold callers/fraud – On 16/12/13 a local resident in Coffinswell was approached by 2 men claiming to work for a landscaping and tree surgery company. The home owner gave the men £900 to complete work outside of the address and left with payment before completing the tasks agreed on. This is clearly a case of fraud and the resident in question was preyed upon due to age and vulnerability. This case has been allocated to ‘Action-fraud’ who investigate on a national scale to prevent incidents like this and hold people willing to extort others to account.</p> <p>All transactions should be invoiced for tax purposes and NOT paid for cash in hand or without receipts/proof of purchase etc.</p> <p>Please can everybody be wary of cold callers in general.</p> <p>Some callers may have ID, pedlars’ licences and sell legitimate goods at competitive prices, others may ask for a donation to charity via debit/credit transaction, this is acceptable BUT you should use your own discretion as whether to donate or make a purchase. It is an however an offence for callers to collect money on doorsteps for charities regardless of whether they have closed lid buckets and ID etc. If you are unsure of a cold caller’s legitimacy you can also report this to us on our non-emergency number 101.</p> <p>Severe weather – Recently we have had numerous calls about flooding, trees falling down and severe weather. We would like to remind everyone to be cautious while driving on fast roads bearing in mind the hazards of aquaplaning and the reduced ability to stop and slow down quickly in wet conditions. There have also been issues in other areas with agricultural sheet style sheds blowing away and into roads. Please can everyone ensure items left outside in the elements such as sheeting/roofing materials are properly secured to avoid these dangerous occurrences. As for flooding it is advised to not drive through</p>

10	Footpaths and Highways.	<p>Cllr Harrington explained that the telephone box's hinge has fallen off- he would report this to BT.</p> <p>He also explained that there has been flooding outside School House, mainly due to the BT manhole cover. This is an annual occurrence and would be reported to the DCC Highway Officer.</p> <p>The gully opposite Pitt House requires attention and would be reported to DCC.</p> <p>Cllr Winchester requested that Orestone Lane requires resurfacing. It was NOTED that future patching has been cancelled by DCC due to the current road network situation.</p> <p>Cllr Harrington explained that a footpath inspection would take place by 14 February 2014.</p>
11	To note any correspondence received.	Clerks and Councils Direct, SLCC's Clerk Magazine, letter from Devon Countryside Access Forum and Devon Senior Voice.
12	To note the date of the next meeting: Thursday 20 March 2014 at 19.30.	<p>This was NOTED.</p> <p>A planning meeting would take place on Thursday 23 January 2014 at 19.30.</p>