

COFFINSWELL PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES
THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2019 – ST BARTHOLOMEW’S CHURCH, COFFINSWELL

Present: Cllrs Wills, Berry, Brent and Parkes
 Cllr Dewhirst (DCC) and Cllr Mike Haines (TDC)

Apologies: Cllr Hermsen

Also present: Rachel Avery (Clerk)
 3 members of the public

No	Subject	Comments
1	The Chairman will open the Meeting and receive apologies.	Cllr Wills opened the meeting at 19.29. It was RESOLVED to APPROVE apologies from Cllr Hermsen.
2	To declare any interests arising at this meeting.	There were no interests to declare.
	<i>The Council will adjourn for the following items:</i>	
3	<p><u>Public Question Time:</u> A period of 5 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> <u>NHW Report</u></p>	<p>No members of the public wished to speak.</p> <p>County Cllr Dewhirst’s report forms part of the minutes. District Cllr Haines reported that the appeal at The Bothy has now closed for comments and will be considered in due course by the Planning Inspector. There was nothing further to report regarding Connybeare Wood. It was NOTED that TDC has lost an enforcement officer.</p> <p>There was no police report.</p> <p>Sheenagh Orchard stated that a copy of the insurance policy has been provided and the clerk would hold a copy for council records. It was NOTED that she also awaits her DBS check.</p>
	<i>The Council will convene to conduct the following business:</i>	
4	Approval to consider, amend as agreed by the Council and approve the minutes of the following minutes: 18 July 2019 04 August 2019 (Planning)	<p>It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the minutes.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to APPROVE the minutes.</p>
5	<p>Enforcement Issues-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gateway opening concerns 	<p>Cllr Brent had provided the clerk with photographs of two new access gateways.</p> <p>A new access has been created at Pitland Lane, which has damaged both a Devon bank and hedgerow. This access was created during the bird nesting season. Action: Clerk to contact TDC and the police.</p> <p>A new access has been created at Footland Lane. This is on a junction at St Marychurch Road, and is very dangerous. The original access has been sealed, and there has been a huge amount of damage to the hedgerow which has destroyed animal habitat. It was NOTED that there had been a death in the vicinity of this opening 18 months ago. Action: Clerk to contact TDC, DCC and the police.</p>
6	To consider Safer Together proposals from D&S Fire & Rescue Service on changes to the service.	Cllr Parkes expressed concerns that there is no mention of standards of cover. In the past, guidelines stated that rural areas be provided with a pump for a house fire within 20 minutes. That became a risk-assessed approach, which is now being applied to all aspects of the fire service. He asked what cover will be provided, given the amount of new housing being created in the area. There will be longer waits for pumps and

		<p>figures are going to get worse. In the long term, there is no link to these proposals and the anticipated growth within the area.</p> <p>County Cllr Dewhurst had attended a briefing, and he stated that there are not enough crew to man pumps. There have been changes to employment and people are no longer within 5 minutes of the station in order to be a retained firefighter. Moving stations will hopefully recruit more people. It was NOTED that Newton Abbot is a volunteer crew but have been dealing with 600 incidents per year. Torquay, a full-time paid station, has only dealt with 500.</p> <p>Cllr Parkes stated that the guidance document doesn't reflect the changing environment of local authorities and the primary purpose of the fire service. The wait on units for rural communities will be detrimental and he asked if attendance times will be longer than they were prior to these proposals. It was RESOLVED that these comments would be made on behalf of the council.</p>
7	<p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To agree accounts for payment To consider the purchase of a multi-tool strimmer 	<p>It was RESOLVED to APPROVE accounts for payment.</p> <p>It was NOTED that this item would cost £677.50 and County Cllr Dewhurst had offered £350 from his DCC Locality budget. Cllr Wills PROPOSED that this quote be accepted. This was SECONDED by Cllr Berry and APPROVED (5:0). It was NOTED that the old strimmer is broken. It was NOTED that this would be donated to a charity in the hope that it can be repaired and used in the National Park and at National Trust properties. Action: Cllr Brent to donate strimmer.</p>
8	Update on The Well.	<p>Cllr Berry suggested that a plaque be added to the area for visitors and to recognise the work undertaken by the community. It was NOTED that Cllr Parkes would undertake some research for the wording and Cllr Brent would obtain some information on designing a plaque. Action: Agenda item for November.</p>
9	Funding and Grants.	There was nothing to discuss.
10	Engaging with the community.	It was NOTED that Cllr Hermsen had been contacted by the clerk regarding the website.
11	<p>Footpaths and Highways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No parking sign at Princess Cottages 	<p>It was NOTED that the clerk had ordered two signs for the wall at Princess Cottages. The clerk also provided some no parking signs for councillors to put under car windscreen wipers if there is inappropriate parking in the village.</p> <p>Cllr Brent requested that a poster be created requesting a new Footpath strimming volunteer, as Tony Hermsen was no longer living in the village. Action: Clerk to create poster and advertise.</p> <p>There was also discussion regarding the health of ash trees in the village, which would require vigilance to ensure they remain safe. It was NOTED that Cllr Wills had an ash tree on his land next to a footpath, which would be felled to ensure public safety.</p>
12	To note any correspondence received.	The clerk had circulated an email regarding Climate Emergency. Action: Agenda item for November.
	<i>The Council will adjourn for the following item:</i>	
13	Public Question Time: 10 minutes.	<p>Concerns were raised regarding an additional opening at Normans, Dacombe. It was NOTED that the parking space made requires reinstating or retrospective opening, however the owner has stated that this is not the case. The clerk had also reported the removal of trees, but not received an update from TDC. District Cllr Haines stated that there are not enough officers to investigate and enforce.</p> <p>It was NOTED that there is a real issue with communication between the Parish Council and District Council. A very recent example of this was with the campsite, where TDC were not supportive to members of</p>

		the public and little was done to mitigate their concerns. Whilst new conditions have been added to the campsite, if there are so few officers, it is concerning that these conditions will not be enforced.
	<i>The Council will convene to conduct the following business:</i>	
14	To note the date of the next meeting: Thursday 21 November 2019.	This was NOTED. The meeting was closed at 21.00. It was NOTED that the meeting in November would commence at 19.00 as the Parish Council will start its winter evening meeting times.