

COFFINSWELL PARISH COUNCIL - MINUTES
THURSDAY 19 JANUARY 2017 – ST BARTHOLOMEW’S CHURCH, COFFINSWELL

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

Also present: Rachel Avery (Clerk)

No	Subject	Comments
1	The Chairman will open the Meeting and receive apologies.	Cllr Wills opened the meeting at 19.29. There were no apologies.
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>County Cllr Dewhirst’s report forms part of the minutes. District Cllr Haines reported that TDC have received a revenue support grant of approximately £850,000 (a reduction of £750,000). In addition, the government have changed the way the new homes bonus is allocated. The forecast for these funds is £3.44m, which is a reduction in £400,000 on what was initially anticipated. This money is offered by the government as a way of achieving new homes being built. TDC have benefited, but the sudden drop has been a shock with the money saved being redirecting to the social care budget. There will be a council tax increase of £5, which is equivalent to 3.22% on a band D property. This proposal will be put forward to Full Council in February. Over the last year, money has been wisely invested with funds being raised through room rental in Forde House. Rooms have become available due to reduction in employment. He also explained that County Council elections are looming. He expressed concerns that TDC have been criticised for electoral reasons, in ‘fake news’ stories. The Chief Executive’s salary, recycling and money spent on improving furniture within the council chamber are some of the targeted subjects, and asked people to take these stories with ‘a pinch of salt’. As a District Councillor, he felt that these stories had been politically unfair. It was NOTED that County Cllr Dewhirst disputed the statements made by District Cllr Dewhirst.</p> <p>There was no police report.</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 meeting: 17 November 2016.	The minutes were approved.
5	To discuss arrangements to view planning applications at Parish Council meetings.	It was NOTED that the Clerk had a projector, which she would bring to council meetings.
6	Enforcement Issues.	<p>The Clerk had received an email from enforcement officer Carlo Josi, outlining the current situation with regards to current and outstanding issues within the Parish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downaway Lane (burning of commercial rubbish)- this is an Environmental Health issue and had been forwarded for investigation. Cllr Wills and District Cllr Haines explained that

		<p>there may be people living on site due to waste collections and this would be investigated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connybears Wood (large scale building works)- this issue is outstanding and would be investigated by TDC • Connybears House (swale)- A site inspection took place in November 2016 and the works were discussed with one of the site operatives. It is claimed that work is on-going to construct the below ground drainage system and swale for Connybears House (as per planning application 16/00365/FUL). It appears from the site inspection that the location of the swale and below ground drainage system has been sited in the correct location and that the works are being undertaken in accordance with the approved plans of application 16/00365/FUL. The site operative did advise that the excavated soil has been temporarily heaped on the land and is to be regraded back over the land once the drainage systems are in place. It is anticipated that the works are to be completed next year. Whilst it is considered that no breach is occurring in this instance, it is proposed that another site inspection be carried out in the first quarter of this year to ensure compliance • Pathfield, Dacome (storage of vehicles and caravans)- A further site inspection was carried out in December 2016. It was noted from the site inspection that the number of caravans and motor homes being kept on the land has increased. As such, it is proposed that the Council again write to the land owner advising that he remove the vehicles from the land and the Parish Council would be updated in due course.
7	Defibrillator.	<p>Thanks were extended to the County Cllr Dewhurst for the defibrillator. It was NOTED that there are batteries and a heater within the box which would require charging if there is no electricity source, both of which run on 12v batteries.</p> <p>It was AGREED that the Linny was a central place to site the defibrillator, and this had been informally discussed with the landlord. The siting and power source would have to be considered. It was AGREED that costs for electricity would be considered.</p> <p>It was NOTED that the defibrillator will require a monthly check and it was NOTED that there is a company that can do annual checks for a fee.</p>
8	Neighbourhood Watch.	<p>Cllr Wills had nothing to report, but is awaiting further information on the current status of the Neighbourhood Watch within the area.</p>
9	<p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To agree accounts for payment • Precept 2017/18 	<p><u>Payments-</u> Mrs R Avery - Clerk's Expenses - £14.00 Mr A Hermsen - Clerk's PAYE - £67.40 Mrs R Avery - Clerk's Salary - £269.46 DCC – grant repayment for defibrillator - £1100.00</p> <p><u>Bank Balances -</u> Main Account £5179.10 Parish Paths £1350.88</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to APPROVE accounts. The proposed budget for 2017/18 was considered. Cllr Hermsen PROPOSED an increase of £40. This was SECONDED by Cllr Wills and APPROVED.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion of CDEC and its status. It was NOTED that the committee had been disbanded. District Cllr Haines explained that</p>

		he had provided money from his budget for the PA equipment, which was for use in Coffinswell. This was NOTED.
10	Funding and Grants.	It was NOTED that the Parish Council had been awarded a grant through the Transparency Funding and the Clerk would purchase a new laptop.
11	Engaging with the Community.	There was nothing to report.
12	Footpaths and Highways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpath No 2 	There was nothing further to discuss.
13	To note any correspondence received.	Devon Senior Voice.
14	To note the date of the next meeting: Thursday 16 March 2017 at 19.30.	This was NOTED. The meeting was closed at 20.28.