

WINKLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Wednesday 8th December 2010, 7.30pm in
Winkleigh Community Centre

Present: Cllrs Bowers, Johnson, Holman ,Judge, Cooper, Gledhill, Stutt, Griffiths & J.Turner

Apologies: Cllrs N.Turner & Hodgson

Public Period

1.12.10 **MATTERS ARISING**

a) **Guest Speaker: Mr J.Anstee : Devon County Council Highways Department**

Mr Anstee of Devon County Council Area North Highway Management addressed the Council regarding the proposed Traffic Calming Scheme for Townsend Hill Winkleigh. Councillors were each given a plan of the proposed scheme , advised of the position with the funding of the scheme and given an explanation as to why the costings have greatly increased with the necessity for street lighting. Cllrs were informed that DCC are currently looking at all their reserve schemes (of which Winkleigh is one) and checking which have good community support in order to concentrate on these schemes. Cllrs were advised that the scheme is designed to reduce speeds and improve pedestrian safety in line with the School Transport schemes.

Councillors were then given the opportunity to raised questions with Mr Anstee:

Cllrs were advised that funding for traffic calming on the upper part of this route from Folley to Seckington cross was not available and the costs would be very high due to the need for a complete lighting system on a currently unlit road. Mr Anstee commented that he did not believe that the scheme itself would prevent everyone from using the “cut through” and onto the bypass but it would definitely reduce the speed of traffic on this section of road. Cllrs raised concerns over the location of the speed bump at the bottom of Townsend Hill itself (first in proposal scheme) as it was felt that large lorries and agricultural vehicles needing to use the route could be hindered with having to negotiate the hump. Mr Anstee stated that DCC had taken this issue into account .

Cllrs were advised that the first step forward was for the Parish Council to write to DCC confirming that this scheme is fully supported by the Parish Council and local community. DCC would then contact all the neighbouring properties advising them of the proposals and giving them opportunity to comment , this would be in conjunction with a formal advertisement which would run for 3 weeks to inform the wider community of the proposal.

Following discussions [Cllr Griffiths proposed that the Parish Council write to DCC advising that the Parish Council is in full support of taking forward the proposed traffic calming scheme for Townsend Hill – 2nd Cllr Cooper: voting 6 for, 2 against, 1 Abstention: MOTION CARRIED.](#)

b) **Guest Speaker: Mr M Lowe: Torridge District Council Planning Department**

Mr Lowe addressed the Council advising that he is the interim Development Manager for Torridge District Council and oversees Planning & Enforcement issues . Mr Lowe gave an outline of his

role and that of his department following which he addressed a number of specific issues previously raised by the Council.

Mr Lowe discussed in detail the issues around complaints of lack of permission for the Control Tower site on Winkleigh Airfield. Cllrs were advised that he and Dale Helsby the Enforcement Officer have visited on a number of occasions and are in direct communication with the landowners. Cllrs were advised that the site is starting to tidy up and a planning application has been submitted for the storage shed on site. Mr Lowe agreed that the application should in-fact read “Retrospective Application” and confirmed the PC have securing an extension to response deadline. Mr Lowe conceded that although the lorries have been moved from this site they are now located on another area of land on the Airfield which he is also now dealing with.

Mr Lowe apologised for the situation that had occurred over “Thistledown Farm” and advised that systems were now in place to ensure that this did not happen again. The Chairman queried why the PC had received no response from TDC regarding their formal response to the latest draft of the Airfield SDB. Mr Lowe agreed to investigate this issue and ensure that a response is received.

Cllrs discussed with Mr Lowe various procedural matters around planning such as extensions to response deadlines, officer delegated powers and “calling-in” of applications.

Mr Lowe thanked the Council for their time and stressed that if the PC requires assistance with planning issues he would be more than happy to be contacted and attend a meeting should it be required.

c) **TDC Environmental Protection**

The Clerk read the formal response from TDC’s Environmental Protection department following the Councils letter stating that the plant should be shut down due to frequent breaches of the Environmental Permit. Cllrs were advised that TDC do not intend to take this course of action at this time and continue to visit and monitor. TDC also stated that they had received no complaints since 17th November. Cllrs discussed. Cllr Cooper stated that he had personally telephoned TDC on 3 separate occasions to complain about the obnoxious smells and was promised a call back which has not been received. Cllr Stutt stressed that it is essential that all complaints are verifiable and confirmed with e-mail or letter and advised Cllrs to ensure that all complainants are advised of this. Following lengthy discussion [Cllr Gledhill proposed that the Parish Council invite the responsible officer from TDC’s Environmental Protection to a meeting as soon as possible- 2nd Cllr Stutt: A.i.f: MOTION CARRIED.](#)

2.12.10. **Finance**

a) [Cllr J.Turner proposed that the following cheques be issued – 2nd Cllr Cooper: A.i.f: MOTION CARRIED.](#)

Winkleigh Community Centre (Hire)	£ 16.50	Cheque 1387
Arcofast (Dehumidifier for Cemetery Bungalow)	£ 183.30	1388

PUBLIC PERIOD II

3.12.10 Late Items at the Chairman’s discretion

- a) Cllrs were advised that the pipes had broken in the public toilets and that the water has been turned off and the toilets closed while TDC arrange repairs.
- b) The Chairman read a draft letter of thanks to Winkleigh Fair Committee which was approved by the Council.

- c) Cllr Cooper suggested that the maps of the traffic calming scheme be sent to the Primary School and pre-school asking them to consider and agree support.

Part II

Cllrs were advised that the dehumidifier had been installed at the Cemetery Bungalow as agreed at the last meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Cooper that the Parish Council reduce the rent by £2 per week for 6 months on condition that the dehumidifier was used daily throughout daytime hours- 2nd Cllr J.Turner: voting 5 for , 2 against, 1 abstention: MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting was declared closed at 9.31pm