

# PETROCKSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Annual Meeting held in the Baxter Hall on  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 7.30pm.

Councillors present: I Fisher (Chair), J Harris (Vice), D Kelsey,  
A Hunkin, B Cameron, CC A Saywell, DC R Wiseman,  
F Lowe (Clerk), 2 members of the public

13. **Apologies of Absence.** Apologies were received from Cllr J Jeffs, M Busby and PCSO Baker.
14. **Declarations of Interest.** None
15. **Public Session.** A parishioner commented on the number of lorries getting stuck on Brandize Hill. This item is on the agenda.
16. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of the Annual Meeting and the Parish Council Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017, having been previously circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record.
17. **Planning.** It was noted that applications 1/0071/2017/FUL and 1/1109/2017/LBC had been granted permission. Following a discussion on the application of 10 houses on Syncocks land, comments (appendix a 2017-07-18) was sent to the Planning Office by the Clerk.
18. **Councillors Reports.**
  - a. **Recreation Ground.** The PSSC in conjunction with the Cricket Club held a meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> June. The new NatWest (corrected 19/09/2017 fjtl) account is being set up and funds from the old Rec Grd account are being transferred. The alcohol licence, Water and Electric accounts are being transferred. There is concern about the rising costs for Firework insurance and if held, Fireworks will be on the Rec Grd this year. It is undecided whether to have overwintering sheep this year due to the cost of fencing. The entrance gate posts will be replaced and the external car park enlarged this year. The skate ramp has been removed. There was a successful Fete which was well supported. Thanks to all. The agreement to run the Rec Grd has not been finalised. The PC Chairman emphasised that this must be in place and wording can be discussed if necessary.
  - b. **Play Area.** Cllr Jeffs provided the following report in her absence: The gate has been paid for and TK Play have attended to the items highlighted in the ROSPA report.
  - c. **Baxter Hall.** There is a Car Treasure Hunt and buffet lunch this Saturday, and the Flower Show is in August. It will be the halls 40<sup>th</sup>

anniversary in 2018 and plans are to have a large event to celebrate this. The roof is ongoing with various options being discussed.

- d. **County Report.** Cllr Andrew Saywell thanked the parishioners of Petrockstowe for their part in electing him and gave a summary of his background. He has 18 parishes in total so may have to send reports as he will not be available for every meeting. Thanks to Andy Boyd for his hard work over recent years. Cllr Saywell set out his aims: 1. Roads – he will try to get necessary work done and has already been in communication with Highways. 2. Education – The South West is currently underfunded and he will be campaigning hard to try to improve this. 3. NHS - local services and acute services – waiting for details and will keep the PC informed. It is difficult to intervene as CC has no responsibility for NHS. 4. Torrington – DCC were unaware of all the banks closing and Cllr Saywell will campaign to have a 24hr cash machine reinstated in Torrington. He will also endeavour to get TDC, DCC and Torrington Council to work together on the regeneration of Torrington.
- e. **District Report.** Currently there is a lot of emphasis on Bideford and Westward Ho! within the council. There is a Police briefing tomorrow which may give information on numbers etc.
- f. **Police Report.** PCSO Baker provided the following reports for the last 3 months: Logs – 3 nuisance anti-social behaviour, 1 intelligence report, 1 concern for welfare, 2 personal anti-social behaviour, 2 highway disruptions and 1 missing person. Crimes – 1 theft of wheelie bin.
- g. **Local Plan.** In Cllr Busby's absence, Cllr Wiseman was able to advise that Torridge still has no Local Plan but it should be adopted by the end of 2017.

19. **Correspondence.** Cllrs agreed that they had received the correspondence as listed (appendix b 2017-07-18) and no queries were raised.

20. **Matters arising from previous minutes**

- a) The Clerk advised that the paperwork has been received from Land Registry regarding The Square.
- b) Play Park – The wall still needs repairing and no one has been found to carry out the work. Cllr Kelsey will ask Mike Stapleton.

21. **Current Business.**

- a) HGV's. A local parishioner contacted Cllr Saywell regarding another lorry stuck on Brandize Hill. Cllr Saywell has spoken to Highways who are not prepared to put up another sign but have advised that the PC

can arrange for a blue “Unsuitable for HGV’s” sign. It was thought this would be ignored by lorry drivers. Several suggestions were made and Cllr Saywell will go back to Highways and Cllr Hunkin will contact Sibelco to see if they will put a “directional” sign at Friars Hele junction.

- b) The Clerk explained that the War Memorial and The Square are not currently on the Assets Register and are therefore not covered under the PC Insurance for Public Liability. It was proposed by Cllr Cameron and seconded by Cllr Harris to add these.

**22. Financial Items.** Payments for the following were approved and raised.

- a) Clerk’s Expenses - £23.44. Cheque no 349 signed by Cllrs Fisher and Hunkin.
- b) VAT reclaimed for Play Area in December 2016 - £2898.80. Cheque no 351 signed by Cllr Fisher and Clerk.
- c) ICO Membership renewal- £35.00. Cheque no 350 signed by Cllr Fisher and Clerk.
- d) Insurance renewal. The Clerk had acquired 2 quotes and advised on the costs and benefits of each. It was proposed by Cllr Kelsey and seconded by Cllr Cameron to accept the quote from Came & Company for £341.24 (3-year LTA). Cheque no 347 was signed by Cllr Fisher and Clerk. This change incurred a £50 penalty with First Community Insurance. Cheque no 348 signed by Cllr Fisher and Clerk.
- e) Audit Fee. The invoice for £240 has not yet arrived. Cllrs gave agreement to pay this once received to meet the payment deadline.

A provisional Planning Meeting to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> August if required and the next PCM to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

With no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Chairman ..... Date .....

Initials of Chair .....