

Inwardleigh Parish Council Meeting
Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall on
Wednesday 15th November 2023 at 8:00 pm

Present: Cllr. Timms (Chair), Cllr Dennis (Vice-Chair), Cllr Piddington, Cllr Henderson, Cllr Ions, Cllr Hooper, Cllr King, Cllr T. Leech, Mrs Clarke (Clerk), no members of the public

01/23 Welcome and apologies for absence:

The Chair opened the meeting at 8pm. Apologies were received from Cllr Dexter, and Sgt Otley

02/23 Declaration of Interests/Dispensations: None

03/23 Public Participation: none

04/23 Reports from County Councillors Cllr Dexter and Cllr Leech:-

Cllr Dexters report was read out, There is a WDBC reported underspend of £79k for 2022/23, which was helped by the interest rates. The finances for the current year are under control. However, there are significant challenges for 2024/25 in the up budget. One challenge is the new audit fee resulting in an 151% increase in fees for all councils. For WDBC an additional £100k.

Presentation of WDBC new strategic plan is on 5th December. **Okehampton Parkway Station.** The detailed design should be completed by May 2024 followed by construction which should finish in August 2025. DCC Priorities and Budget zoom is on 12th December.

Cllr Leech talked about the community safety partnership, with its ties with Teignbridge and South Hams. They work with schools and community protection police use this to deal with anti social behaviour, it has been used in 2 situations in Okehampton.

Flooding, Parishes and towns to work together to stop the flooding or abate it, there is talk of conversing with farmers about clearing the ditches. WDBC will be contacting the clerk. Two consultations, first is the council tax reduction scheme for the carers, which has been extended and the other is dog control orders.

05/23 Minutes of the last meeting of Wednesday 20th September 2023 were approved and signed.

06/23 Matters Arising:

Speedwatch update, Cllr Timms updated the council on the situation, all the volunteers are happy to go in with other groups. Cllr Leech indicates the Hamlets are running the speedwatch, along with Sticklepath, chair wants the clerk to speak to the clerk at hamlets, with a view to joining them.

07/23 Updates on matters from the last meeting.

clerk indicated IPC is on the new leds and the street lights switch off over night. Internet - airband are carrying out further work, Cllr King indicated that they are still waiting to hear from them regarding moving the poles. Cllr Piddington indicated they have done work around the parish. Cllr Henderson theory was the internet speeds etc never improve. He provided a rundown of how the various systems work, mention was made of BTs continual failure. Bank transfer, no one has heard from natwest after the letter was sent. Clerk will contact the complaints person within NatWest. Lloyds the complaint is being re-opened. Sept card has been cancelled as it turned up in October, still waiting for the next card.

08/23 New Planning applications -no new applications.

Updates on other planning matters:-

Slurry at Curworthy councillors thought there should be some rules or restrictions on a slurry area. However there is no objection to this.

Mr. Matthews solar panels has been past. The Waterhouse matter has been moved to Hatherleigh (its correct location)

Cllr Leech and Dennis, attended the Preston Moor site meeting, subsequently the planning has been refused. Concern has been raised about a proper were it is believed it is being turned into ancillary use of the house, a discussion was held on the situation that an extension is larger than the without planning allowances. Cllr Leech will discuss with the enforcement officer.

09/23 Finance

Budget, the clerk provided the figures and sought the councillors views. A discussion was held on the amounts including donations figures over the years. Cllr. Ions queried the hall payments and let us know there will be an increase in the charge for the hall to £84.00 for the year. Queries were raised on various aspects and any inflation has been considered. A few matters are in contingency. £5400 proposed Cllr Dennis, Cllr Timms all the councillors were in support.

Cheques for signing, included DALC (training), HMRC (clerks tax on Wages), Training for the clerk. Current Balances were discussed with the accounts. Cheques for the donations to citizen advice, Odctg and the church fund were provided. Cllr Leech took the donation to Odctg, church fund was taken by Cllr Hooper and the parish newsletter cheque was taken by Cllr Ions.

10/23 Matters Brought Forward by the Chairman

Parking outside the hall, a discussion was held and as the Hall AGM was being held the next evening, (on the 16th November) this matter was raised there. A result of which a letter has been sent by the hall committee to the various car owners.

11/23 Matters Brought Forward by the Councillors

The drain at Narratons, between Elmead Cross and Narratons, the water goes in one manhole and comes up the next one, then with ice accidents occur on that corner. The clerk will report this to highways. New houses designs etc was raised by Cllr Henderson, a discussion was held on them.

12/23 Clerk's Correspondence:

WDBC have requested we clear the grass around the bus shelter. Correspondence has been received as regards flooding and fire safety. Homelessness Wdbc is writing to the chancellor about this. Councillors are invited to a 20 is plenty meeting in Edinburgh, no zoom or teams mentioned in it. Needless to say this is too far to go. The aims and ambitions meeting at WDBC was mentioned. Exeter city council, have made enquiries about the allotments, IPC have answered the queries and subsequently replied.

13/23 Date of the next meeting: 17th January 2024

14/23 Meeting closed at:- 21.23pm

_____ Chair

_____ Dated