

**Minutes of Yarnscombe Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 25 January 2017**

Present: Cllrs. Brice (Chair), Cooke, Farr, Martin, Pengilly, Stephens, Williams, Morrish (Torrige District Council / TDC) and M. Dymond (Clerk)

17.1 Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Apologies had been received and accepted from PCSO Brown and Cllr. Boyd (Devon County Council / DCC). There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensations had been received.

17.2 Public Participation and Feedback

None

17.3 Representatives Reports

1) County — None

District — Cllr. Morrish apologised for his poor attendance of Yarnscombe Parish Council Meetings last year and promised to attend more often. He updated councillors on the following issues:

Torrige Budget — Torrige had a surplus of £50,000, hopefully enabling them to propose a 0% rise in council tax, although Devon County Council will increase council tax.

Business rates — Overall there had been a 10% increase in business rates in the Torrige area. Rates are calculated based on rent and area of property in square metres; for pubs they are based on turnover. An appeal against the increase can take up to three years. Payments have to be made in the meantime, and only when appeal has been granted can business owners ask for reimbursement. TDC will put in a corporate appeal for over 200 businesses. The cost of appeal will be covered by TDC. Also, local MP will be contacted and asked to offer support for business owners.

Assembly for Devon and Cornwall / Boundary Commission results — The issue of creating a “Devon and Cornwall Assembly” had been raised, but to succeed a mayor for the whole area was needed; this was an unlikely prospect. The Boundary Commission had published its final results and Yarnscombe will be part of “Two Moors and Three Rivers” ward, as council had suggested during consultation period. This ward will have two councillors. Consultation is ongoing regarding the reduction of number of MPs in Devon: Yarnscombe parish council would most likely be part of Mid-Devon.

Deep Moor / Waste and Recycling — Regarding planning application, DCC had asked for an extension of two years; composting centre to re-apply.

At the last meeting of full council, TDC had decided that within the next 6 months black bag collection will be done fortnightly. It was also decided that public had to “get something back” in return. A dedicated officer will therefore be available to visit parishes to listen to ideas and feedback of public. At present, TDC has three depots for waste and recycling trucks. The plan is to sell all three and have one depot with own storage area in the Stibbs Cross area. This should add up to savings of £592,000.

Actions taken: Clerk to contact Harry Roper and invite Richard Haste (Waste and Recycling) to next meeting; public discussion to be included on next agenda.

Grants — Cllr. Morrish confirmed that for the present financial year, Yarnscombe would still be able to apply for grant for sum of £350. This money could be used for playing field equipment. From 1 April 2017 another £3000 would be available.

Actions taken: Clerk to contact Cllr. Morrish re. application form, copy to Peter Soper.

2) Village Hall / Social Club — None

3) Youth Club — None

4) PCSO/Police Report — Over the past 30 days Yarnscombe has had one crime: burglary other than dwelling with intent to steal. One call where a log has been generated. The breakdown is as follows: 1 call reporting a burglary.

5) Playing Field — Goal posts are ready for collection; also, strimmer has been purchased. Should enough funds be available, councillors felt it would be a good idea to order extensions for goal posts to use them as

rugby posts.

6) Snow Warden Report — Gritter working well, at present grit supplies are sufficient. Member of public noted concern about water flowing across road between Cogsworthy and Netherne. In icy conditions this could freeze and cause dangerous driving conditions.

Actions taken: Clerk to contact DCC to find out whether more grit is available in case of prolonged spell of bad weather. Contact DCC re. flowing water on road.

17.4 Minutes of Meeting from 21 December 2017

Minutes were approved and signed off as a true record.

17.5 Matters arising from last Minutes

Transport to Petroc College — Post-16-year-olds do not qualify for free college transport; they can apply for a bursary from college though. If bursary not approved then parents have to pay for taxi.

Grantcape Application — New revised application had been submitted (£8,000).

17.6 New Matters

Public Consultation:

Traveller Accommodation and Community Infrastructure Levy — DCC had invited voluntary suggestions for possible sites and/or offers of land that could be developed into traveller sites. Council had asked public for feedback but no suitable sites suggested/identified.

Actions taken: Clerk to send reply to DCC.

Quotes re. Cutting of Playing Field — Cllr. Martin to present quotes at next meeting.

Update re. Liaison Meeting at Deep Moor Landfill Site — see item 17.3/1

17.7 Planning

None

17.8 Additional Planning

None

17.9 PROW Monthly Report

P3 return has been sent in. Cllr. Williams asked clerk to contact Ros Davies at DCC to establish what exactly needs to be submitted.

Actions taken: Clerk to contact Ros Davies and inform Cllr. Williams of outcome.

17.10 Accounts

Quarterly bank reconciliation / Cash book October to January 2017

Bank reconciliation carried out by Cllr. Pengilly and cash book signed off by Cllr. Brice.

Reimbursement to Cllr. Brice for:

1) Security bollard £30.55

2) Goal posts £267.99

Actions taken: Cheques written out, countersigned and given to Cllr. Brice. (Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10.)

Finalised Budget 2017/18

Precept of £6000 had been decided at December meeting; clerk had filled in relevant forms. Forms had been signed by clerk, countersigned by chair and sent off.

Actions taken: Finalised Budget to be circulated by email.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.

31st January 2017