

**DRAFT**

**AYLESBEARE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the Meeting of Aylesbeare Parish Council held at Aylesbeare Village Hall on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021** at 7.30pm.

**PRESENT**

Cllr Nick Warren (Chair)  
Cllr Anna Thompson  
Cllr Jacky Owen  
Cllr Kirsty Trude

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Jim Roberts (Clerk and RFO)

**Others present:** 3 members of the public.

**7:15pm Public Forum**

The Queen's Jubilee was discussed. The national events for the 4-day weekend next year include Trooping the Colour on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, a service in St Paul's on 3<sup>rd</sup>, Derby Day on the 4<sup>th</sup> and a party at Buckingham Palace (and possibly a pageant). In 1953 Aylesbeare celebrated the coronation with a tea party and the children had tea and an entertainer at school. The few televisions in the village were shared so as many as possible could watch the ceremonies.

For the Jubilee suggestions were made including:

- Red, white and blue flowers in front gardens/verges.
- Decorations on the bridge railings
- Collect reminiscences from older villagers, perhaps on video
- Memorabilia for the children (and possibly adults)
- A competition to make a card to send to the Queen
- A film evening/beetle drive

It was agreed that the Council would consider a village meeting to get the planning underway.

In 2023 it will be the centenary of our village hall. The ideas for celebrations were discussed including:

- A 1920s-themed party and/or a tea-dance
- Fetes to fund-raise with traditional stalls (eg pound of butter, beetle drive)
- Encourage children to get hold of 2 or 3 items from each of the decades
- Celebratory memorabilia (the children received a mug when the school was 100-years-old)

The Chairman started the meeting at 7:30pm.

**1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bailey, Branson & Owen. The Council unanimously accepted the reasons offered.

**2 Declarations of Interests in Items on the Agenda**

No declarations were made.

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### 3 Chairman's Remarks – Opening Welcome

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everybody to our first face-to-face meeting after lockdown.

He said a big 'thank-you' to all the litter pickers in the Keep Britain Tidy Spring Clean; noting that many collected litter all year round.

He also thanked all the land- and property-owners who had kept their ditches, culverts and watercourses clear. He was pleased to report that DCC Highways has cleared the grips after the recent heavy downpour and reminded everyone to report any blockages using the Report-a-Problem DC webpage.

Parishioners will have noticed that the verges are more colourful and the grass is longer than usual. This is a deliberate plan this year to encourage wildlife and absorb emissions from vehicles.

The Chairman and Cllr Branson had attended an EDDC meeting online about the new Local Plan. Development is needed for 928 new homes each year. Many owners had offered land for development and a big item of expenditure would be the infrastructure.

He was pleased to see 30 mph stickers the Council had purchased on display on wheelie bins. The Council asked the Clerk to order 20 more.

**Clerk to action**

### 4 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021

The minutes were accepted as a true record by the Council and the Chairman was authorised to sign on their behalf (unanimous).

**Clerk to action**

### 5 Matters Arising

5.1 The Chairman had investigated electronic banking but Nat West would only offer this with a single 'signature' to authorise. Alternative banks will be investigated.

5.2 The Chairman had visited Rosamondford Farm with Cllrs Branson & Thompson at the request of the farmer who had explained the presence of the additional static caravans. He had also pointed out that any flooding affects his home most of all and he still had rooms that weren't completely dry from this winter's rains. He showed the mitigation work that had taken place with extra ditches re-routing the water away from houses to the stream. He was happy to be contacted to clear up any mud that his farm equipment may leave on the road. The farmer also accepted that there was no planning permission for the flooring company and that activity had ceased. Retrospective permission will be sought for the other farm building.

The Cllrs had found the visit very useful to understand all the current issues and were pleased that the farmer had been open and amenable.

### 6 Reports of County and District Councillors.

Cllr Bailey is now both our District and County Council representative. Her report was read out by the Chairman and is attached at appendix A.

The Council will seek her help in getting the debris of recent floods cleared from Perkins Village, both from Rill Corner to the village and from Rosamondford House to Clarendon Farm.

### 7 Playing Field, Play Area Lease and s106 Funding

7.1 The tenders had gone to the 4 companies. 1 has declined (Haag), 1 has yet to reply, and the other 2 are visiting the site. Cllr Trude will contact EDDC to see if another firm should be invited to tender. The Council discussed the fence around the play park and whether this is necessary as both Otterton & Newton Poppleford don't have one.

**Cllr Trude to action**

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## 8 Grass Cutting & Lengthsman

8.1 The advertisement has been published in Topics and on noticeboards. Once the tender document is finalised the advert will be promoted using social media. **Clerk to action**

8.2 Scotchmead footpath needs weedkilling and the footpath to the play area needs clearing.

## 9 Speedwatch

Cllr Trude is registered as the Co-ordinator and has completed the eLearning course. Set locations in the Parish will be risk assessed and then registered. Our group is linked to Police Station in Ottery St Mary. Volunteers will need to have online training and will work in pairs at the specific sites. The Co-ordinator logs onto the system with days and times of planned Speedwatches and then completes the data which will generate the letters to drivers from the Police. Cllr Trude will put a map in Topics showing the 30mph limit. **Cllr Trude to action**

## 10 Flooding

The clerk reported that a resident had written again to ask for recompense for having the culvert under his property professionally jetted in December 2019 at the cost of £552. Council asked the clerk to confirm their earlier decision to the resident that they could not pay this and the Council supported the clerk's email in full. **Clerk to action**

## 11 Upcoming Celebrations - 2022 Queens Jubilee & 2023 Village Hall

This had been discussed at length during the Open Forum (above) and the clerk will email the VHMC to see how they feel about a village meeting. He will also put the issue in Topics to generate discussion. **Clerk to action**

## 12 Planning

### 12.1 Regulation 16 Consultation Colyton Neighbourhood Plan

### 12.2 Regulation 16 Consultation Dalwood Neighbourhood Plan

Council supports both of these and has no representations to make, wishing the Parish Councils well with their plans.

### 12.3 20/2506/CPE The Oaks (Equestrian Purposes)

The applicant joined the meeting to observe the Council's deliberations and the Chairman suspended Standing Orders [at 8:53pm] to allow him, his wife and another member of the public to contribute.

The owners explained that they had known the property for a long time and one of them had learned to ride there. They had brought the property as a last-minute decision as it would be a dream 'forever' home to bring up their children and encourage their love of riding.

As The Oaks has 20 acres and 18 stables it was more than they needed domestically. They hoped to continue the activity that had always taken place there, ie rent out a few stables, have a few hours riding lessons held each week and occasional Pony Club events. They firmly believe this has happened there for decades (which was confirmed by a member of the public present). This small amount of activity is necessary to pay the costs of the property.

The owners outlined the evidence they had presented of previous business use and emphasised that they had been completely honest in presenting everything and avoided any subterfuge. They also explained why the mature oak tree had to be felled. The Cllrs raised the issue of the shop and the access for traffic.

The owners explained that, while not part of this application, they have planned a new vehicular access to the property with much better visibility along the B3180 where the traffic has been surveyed. DCC Highways had been contacted.

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They also advised the Council that they have just bought the Halfway Inn and intend to reopen it. The equestrian shop at the Oaks will move to the pub, where a similar business had operated before.

The Chairman resumed Standing Orders [at 9:32pm].

The Council congratulated the owners on their purchase of the pub and wished them every success with this new venture.

After discussion of the application the Council unanimously agreed that the following comment – in the light of the new evidence, including the likely move of the shop which is subject to separate planning permission, Aylesbeare Parish Council have no objection to the application.

**Clerk to action**

### 12.4 21/1469/FUL Rosamondford Farm (agricultural building)

The Council hopes that the other planning issues at this property can be resolved before this permission is given. The Site Plan doesn't show all the boundaries or the rest of the buildings that provide the context for the siting of the new barn. We hope the planners take these observations into account but have no objection to this specific application.

**Clerk to action**

## 13 Finance

13.1 The Council noted the current balances as follows:

Current Account	£ 9857.21, less uncashed cheques (£1952.88) =	<b>£ 7904.33</b>
	Reserve Account	<b>£ 4847.92</b>
	Recreation Fund Account	<b>£ 694.49</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 13446.74</b>

13.2 The Council unanimously authorised the payments listed:

To J P Roberts (Clerk) for pay (£221.75) & expenses (£4.95)	£ 279.42
To DCC Pension Fund	£ 69.22
To HMRC for PAYE Income Tax	£ 49.20

**8 Date of Next Meeting** – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7:30pm at the Village Hall.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:49pm, thanking the Cllrs for their hard work.

Signed .....  
Cllr N. R. Warren, Chairman

Date .....

## Appendix A

### Report to Aylesbeare Parish Council Cllr Jess Bailey

#### Election News

I am thrilled and delighted to have been elected as the new Devon County Councillor for the Otter Valley on 6th May 2021. I was elected with 3,224 votes (65% of the votes), the Conservatives received 1,281 votes, Labour 134 votes, Green Party 204 votes and Liberal Democrats 80. The Otter Valley ward had one of the highest voter turn outs in Devon at 43.5%

I am honoured that the people of Aylesbeare have put their trust in me to be their County Councillor for the next four years. I would like to thank Claire Wright for all her hard work as the previous Devon County Councillor and I will certainly be continuing where she left off, in putting the interests of residents at the forefront of all that I do.

#### Annual meetings of East Devon District Council and Devon County Council

Both Devon County Council and East Devon District Council held their annual meetings in the last week of May.

Due to the government failing to pass legislation to allow meetings to continue of zoom etc, both councils were forced to hire large venues at the tax payers' expense to accommodate the councillors and at the same time meet social distancing requirements. East Devon District Council's meeting took place at Westpoint and Devon County Council's took place at Sandy Park. At Devon County Council, I will sit on the Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee and the Standards Committee.

At East Devon District Council, I will sit on the Strategic Planning Committee. I will also be sitting on the Scrutiny Committee.

#### Devon County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority

When EDDC planning officer Ed Freeman recently attended an Aylesbeare Parish Council meeting we talked about concerns around planning permissions exacerbating flooding issues. The Parish Council were keen to meet with representatives from DCC. If the PC could let me have a list of the specific issues, then I can contact the officers at DCC and arrange for someone to come and meet with us.

#### Broadband

I am aware that although many Aylesbeare residents have been upgraded via Jurassic, some residents still have very poor broadband.

In the three weeks since the election I have already held meetings with Jurassic and Connecting Devon and Somerset. This is a complex picture however and I need to seek further clarity from senior officers at DCC to ensure that I am fully briefed in order to advise residents further.

#### Planning – East Devon District Council

The planning application for the new cattle crossing at Straitgate Farm (ref 20/2542) is to be decided by East Devon District Council's planning committee on 9<sup>th</sup> June. It is recommended for approval 20/2542. The report can be found here [Agenda for Planning Committee on Wednesday, 9th June, 2021, 10.00 am - East Devon](#)

The planning application for the erection of the dwelling Tatry and Panorama and public footway adjacent to the B3180 (ref 1618) has been refused by East Devon District Council.

### Planning – Devon County Council



Devon County Council is the planning authority for minerals and will be deciding the planning application for the 100-acre quarry at Straitgate Farm (on the road between Daisymount and Ottery St Mary) (ref DCC/3944/2017). This planning application has been live since 2017 but now the applicant, Aggregate Industries have asked for this planning application to be determined.

As the new ward councillor for Devon County Council I have submitted my objection. My objection can be found on my blog [Objection to 100 Acre quarry at Straitgate Farm \(deadline today\) – Jess Bailey \(home.blog\)](#) on my councillor facebook page and at the end of this report.

### Repairs to Entrance to Scotchmead

I continue to chase up the repairs to the potholes which require fixing on the driveway to Scotchmead car park. I am sorry this is taking so long to resolve.

### Speedwatch

I am aware that Aylesbeare would like to start a community speedwatch group. I have been speaking to PCSO Jonathan Simms about this. A small group of four or five people is needed - with one person needed to carry out the co-ordination role. I do not believe that the co-ordinating role is especially onerous. The starting point would be for the co-ordinator to register the group here. <https://communityspeedwatch.org/FRONT-v2-Home.php>. Please let me know if I can assist further.

Cllr Jess Bailey  
2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021.