

DRAFT

AYLESBEARE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of Aylesbeare Parish Council held at Aylesbeare Village Hall on **Wednesday 1st December 2021** at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Cllr Mark Branson (Vice-Chair – Chair for the meeting)
Cllr Anna Thompson
Cllr Jacky Owen
Cllr Kirsty Trude
Cllr Tracie Cooke

IN ATTENDANCE: Jim Roberts (Clerk and RFO)

Others present: 5 members of the public

Open Public Forum

A couple from Perkin’s Village addressed the meeting to put their case for the actions taken (including erecting posts in his driveway and installing CCTV) in answer to comments made at Parish Council meetings and in the Topics reports.

The banks on their property had been damaged, hence the posts and the CCTV was to help reduce this damage, identify the culprits and cover damage behind his shed.

Since taking action horns had been blasted as vehicles went past the house. This had been witnessed by the local PCSO who had warned the offenders.

Now the posts are in place vans and lorries delivering to their property have to stop in the lane causing blockages, but they are always ready for the lorry deliveries and minimise the time taken.

The couple presented documents confirming that all the action they had taken was legal and within their powers to do so.

The Council confirmed that this was a two party issue and the owners confirmed that they were open to mediation to resolve any differences before they escalate. The PCSO will be contacted about mediation.

Clerk to action

The owners of the redundant telephone box advised the Council that they were chasing Amazon as the damage was caused by an Amazon driver. They had finally identified someone at the distribution centre who would deal with the case. They are hoping to identify the postman who witnessed the accident to progress the case. They also confirmed they supported the plan to use the kiosk as a swap shop.

The Council thanked them very much for their attendance and the action they were taking.

[After the Open Forum 4 members of the public left.]

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Chairman
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The Chairman started the meeting at 7:48pm.

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Warren who is unwell. The Council unanimously **resolved** to accept the reasons offered.

2 Declarations of Interests in Items on the Agenda

No declarations were made.

3 Chairman's Remarks – Opening Welcome

The Chairman was unable to attend but submitted remarks in advance, which Cllr Branson read out.

Good evening and welcome to our last parish council meeting of 2021.

What a year it has been and here we are facing a new variant of COVID and we need to continue to carry on taking sensible precautions.

A meeting with Devon Highways bridge department took place at Rosamonford Ford footpath bridge, kindly arranged by Cllr Jess Bailey. It would appear that the bridge was not on DCC Highways register but is now. It was agreed that the bridge team would cut back more of the undergrowth, repair rotten posts and install new bars, not as many as you would think, and set stepping stones in the bank to aid access. No date given as to when this would occur but the inspector did clear the surface of the bridge. There was talk of a grid underneath to prevent livestock escaping but that is the landowner's responsibility.

Cllr Bailey has asked Highways to look at the new road side warning posts at the Farringdon end of the road as these are preventing lorries/vans turning into the driveway meaning they are stopping in the road causing an obstruction. Maybe she will have an update.

The telephone kiosk has had a piece of wood with strong backs fitted in way of the damage panel which has pulled the frame back into shape. It might be possible to weld the aluminium frame.

The seat at Madges Cross where there was a loose seat bar has been repaired.

Cllr Branson did not read out the next paragraph as DCC has refused planning permission today for the Straitgate Farm quarry.

[The Straitgate Farm quarry has been approved by DCC officers and I am sure Cllr Bailey will update if the DCC planning committee agreed. The 100 acre quarry located between The Exeter Road B3174 from Ottery to Daisy Mount & the A30 will produce 1.5million tons of sand & gravel over 10-12 years and then have to be transported 23 miles by road for processing which equates to a vehicle movement every 3 minutes and cows crossing the B3174 four times a day for milking. Not to mention the issues with water sources/flooding & pollution. This has been heavily objected too by local and district councillors, our MP, and many residents.]

A village hall management committee meeting has been held to discuss building maintenance and the question of rising damp in the original end wall in way of the snooker room. Quotations to be obtained to rectify. It was also pointed out that the footpath around the snooker room & toilets is above the damp proof level.

Discussion on decorations also took place and employing a cleaner.

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It was good to hear that bookings are up but still needs to be increased to improve income. Ideas sought as how to advertise the hall.

On Monday an extraordinary parish council meeting was called and well attended to discuss the Half Way House/Hidden Oaks redevelopment. The applicant attended and a Q&A session followed where it was revealed that the plans on EDDC website had been modified following discussions with local residents. The Parish Council's comments can be found on line on our website or EDDC's.

With the onset of colder weather please remember to keep an eye open on the more vulnerable and remember the Aylesbeare ALERT scheme. Please ask for assistance.

Apologies again for not being able to present and take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful relaxing Christmas and may the New Year bring us all that we wish for. Nick

4 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – 8th November 2021

The minutes were accepted as a true record by the Council and the Vice-Chairman was unanimously authorised to sign on their behalf.

5 Matters Arising

5.1 Bus in Withen Lane – The Chairman had not had a positive reaction from the driver. The visibility is the problem with half a dozen near misses with pedestrians and cyclists being nearly hit. Commercial vehicles aren't allowed in Bramblemead under the Housing Association rules.

The company will be contacted for help.

Clerk to action

5.2 Vision ICT and the new website – Clerk had emailed but had no reply. He will phone the company to progress the issue.

Clerk to action

5.3 Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Branson has attended a NP meeting with all the planning councils re East Devon New Local Plan.

5.4 Jubilee & VH Centenary celebration preparations – Cllr Trude will post on the Buzz and Cllr Owen will contact the Nightjar.

Cllrs Trude & Owen to action

5.5 Winter preparations - One parishioner asked for sandbags and has been supplied. Sandbags will be offered in Topics and given to all Cllrs.

Cllr Trude & clerk to action

6 Reports of County and District Councillor.

No report this month.

7 Telephone Kiosk

See Open Forum.

8 Playing Field, Play Area Lease and s106 Funding

A meeting was held with EDDC and the next steps are to

- Remove the rocker (£1k)
- Hexagonal climbing block (£6k) replaced with a climbing wall.
- Remove the wooden equipment ourselves.
- Seek funding from Awards for All and Cllr sBailey' Locality budget

Cllr Trude & clerk to action

9 Grounds Maintenance

Cllr Warren had asked for this item on the agenda but was absent for the meeting. Carried forward to January meeting.

Contact Streetscene will be contacted re charges for 2020-21 and the new contractor arrangements.

Clerk to action

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10 Other Issues

10.1 Noticeboards – Cllr Warren has pursued, postpone to next meeting.

10.2 No Parking signs at the Junction of Withen Lane and Village Way – Yellow lines are only allowed if there is an Enforcement Officer. Parked cars make the junction very difficult and block tractors and would possibly block fire engines. Cllr Owen will speak to the Nightjar.

The Council **resolved** to buy 3 posts and 2 ‘No Parking’ stickers with Aylesbeare Parish Council written on them. **Cllr Owen & clerk to action**

11 Budget 2022/23

The Council accepted the details of the budget as presented but would consider the following before finalising the precept at the next meeting

- Purchase new or repair of noticeboards.
- Consider staff cost of living plus spinal increase.
- Raising additional funds for the play area refurbishment.
- The Flower and Produce show has limited income due to no entry fees which makes donations to charity impossible. The Council felt this is an important community event and asked for the Donations budget to be increased to £1000. **Clerk to action**

12 Planning - 21/3022/PDQ Greenfields, Sidmouth Rd – Conversion of barns to dwellings.

The Council unanimously supports this application. **Clerk to action**

13 Finance

13.1 - The Council noted the current balances as follows:

Current Account	£12,221.03 less uncashed chqs (£ 672.57) =	£ 11,286.74
	Reserve Account	£ 4,848.16
	Recreation Fund Account	£ 694.55
	Total	£ 16,829.45

13.2 - The Council unanimously **resolved** to make the following payments

- 13.2.1** – To J P Roberts (clerk) for pay (Nov) £ 221.75 + Expenses (£ 7.65) **£ 229.40**
- 13.2.2** - To DCC Pension Fund (clerk’s pension for November) **£ 69.22**
- 13.2.3** - To HMRC (clerk’s PAYE Income Tax for November) **£ 49.20**
- 13.3** - Churchyard upkeep donation - The Council **resolved** to donate £350 to the upkeep of the churchyard. **Clerk to action**

8 Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 12th January 2021 at 7:30pm at the Village Hall.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:51, thanking the Cllrs for their hard work and wishing all a Merry Christmas, and hoping that 2022 will be more inspiring than 2021.

Signed
Cllr N. R. Warren, Chairman

Date