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**ROCKBEARE
PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman: Jeremy Wollen

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MINUTES OF ROCKBEARE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15TH MARCH 2017 AT MARSH GREEN VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllr Jeremy Wollen (Chairman) and Cllrs: Mark Readman, Colin Please, David Mason and Jonathan Allen

Also in attendance – Two members of the public

Carolyn May: Clerk

131.0 APOLOGIES: Cllr David Mace

132.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: none

133.0 MINUTES: The Minutes of the last meeting of Rockbeare Parish Council held on **Wednesday 15th February 2017**, at Rockbeare Village Hall were considered. It was **proposed by:** Cllr Please, **seconded** by Cllr. Allen and **RESOLVED** that these represented a correct record of that meeting and should be accepted by the Council. Unanimous. **Carried.**

The Minutes were duly signed by Cllr. Wollen (Chairman)

134.0 REPORTS:

134.1 The Chairman reported that, on 23rd February 2017, he had attended a meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee.

It has been reported that passenger numbers have continued to grow, reaching 850,000 over the past twelve months and that, for the past four years, passenger numbers have increased year on year.

Concerns have been raised over the proposed FAB Converter Plant, which is to be sited close to the Airport. In particular, the issues of size, density, electro-magnetic interference and the high volume of construction traffic on Long Lane.

The Chairman has suggested that a joint meeting with Clyst Honiton Parish Council and the FAB Project Consortium, for further information, should be convened. It is felt that both Parish Councils should press for an exclusion of any construction and/or workforce traffic using Silver Lane, into Rockbeare.

The coach link from Plymouth to Bristol Airport, bypassing Exeter Airport, was discussed and it was noted that this service appears to be heavily subsidised.

On 24th February 2017, the Chairman met with one parishioner and three Representatives from DCH/ Devon Highways, to discuss the flooding issues at Birch End, Rockbeare. Devon Council Highways Department have stated that it is not willing to create a permanent barrier across the entrance to Birch End. Cllr. Wollen suggested the provision of a temporary barrier, to be used when needed. Cllr Wollen was asked to contact Devon Community Housing (DCH) for further discussions on proposal, to date there has been no response from that organisation.

134.2 No Police Report had been received.

134.3 The Members received a service update, in relation to the Rockbeare Youth Club, from Cllrs Allen and Readman.

Cllrs. Allen and Readman met with Mr Gareth Sorsby (YMCA Representative) on the 10th March 2017, to discuss the future of the Youth Club in Rockbeare.

There was an acknowledgement by Mr Sorsby that the Youth Club, in its current form, was failing. Despite the recent changes made to the targeted age group, the service continues to experience reduced numbers of attendees. It was reported that the Co-ordinator is leaving the service shortly and that there will be no Youth Leader until a new person is appointed.

Mr Sorsby advised Cllrs. Allen and Readman that he was struggling to maintain the Service 'as is' and that he felt a new direction for the service in Rockbeare is required.

Mr Sorsby provided, for the benefit of the Parish Councillors, a framework document entitled "Rockbeare Vision for Youth & Community Work", in which he detailed a vision of the re-modelled service. The model is based on a programme of task orientated/ skills-regeneration for attendees, which has been, successfully, implemented in another area. A copy of this document is attached at 'A'.

Essentially, the programme will seek to promote a mind-shift in the expectations and attitudes of young people towards being proactive change agents within the community. The service provider, in partnership with the attendees, will create a syllabus, which the attendees will develop and lead on. For example: leading the community in keeping the village tidy and clean; initiatives whereby the activity is to offer to serve others (e.g. gardening for the disabled or elderly).

It is anticipated that the syllabus will include one internal youth club and three community activities per month, the latter of which would be overseen by a new 'Countryside Activities Co-ordinator'. Rewards, such as 'Achievement Certificates' and meals together will be used to encourage participation.

Members discussed the proposal and felt that it provided a positive means of continuing to provide a youth service in the village. Cllr Readman suggested that the Parish Council could finance some of the activities.

Members were aware that this proposal amounted to a second re-modelling of the service and that the changes would take some time to 'bed-in'.

The issues of Health & Safety and Parental Consent were discussed. It was felt that the YMCA would be required to address the same and that the responsibility would be emphasised in both the proposal on this matter and in any Service Level Agreement.

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Please, **seconded** by Cllr. Wollen and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council intends to continue to finance the Youth Club up to December 2017. At that juncture, a review of the success of the re-modelled service will be undertaken. The YMCA is to ensure that all Insurances, Risk Assessments, Health and Safety issues and Parental Consents are in place prior to commencing activities. Unanimous - **Carried**

134.0 To consider and make comment on planning applications as follows:

17/0343/FUL – Use of buildings and land as a builders' store and yard at Brickyard Farm Whimple, Exeter EX5 2PR

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Wollen, **seconded** by Cllr Please and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council does not object to this application. Unanimously **CARRIED**.

17/0404/FUL - Siting of 6kW ground mounted solar PV array 1.1m in height and 21m in length. The proposed solar PV array would be situated in the garden to the west of the house along the edge of the hedge paralleling the road. Location: Ghyll Cottage Rockbeare Exeter EX5 2EL

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Wollen, **seconded** by Cllr Please and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council does not object to this application. Unanimously **CARRIED**.

19.52 hrs Cllr. Mason entered the Meeting

Received after the publication of the Meeting Agenda.

17/0622/V106 – Section 106A application to discharge planning obligations associated with the delivery of a railhead related to planning application 10/2184/MOUT and the S106 agreement dated 15 September 2011. Location: Land at Hayes Farm, Clyst Honiton.

This matter is to be discussed at the Parish Council meeting on the 19th April 2017.

17/0532/MOUT – No documents were available on the EDDC Planning website, in relation to this application. Therefore, no decision could be made.

It was **agreed** that the Parish Clerk would raise this matter with EDDC Planning.

20.07 hrs Cllr. Allen left the Meeting

135.0 Planning Determinations

17/0362/HRN – Removal of 130m length of hedgerow at the land south of Lions Far, Rockbeare, Exeter EX5 2LT. Applicant: Delia Griffiths, Lion Farm, Rockbeare, EX5 2LT – Approved

Members discussed the decision in relation to this item. It was **agreed** that the Parish Clerk would correspond with EDDC Planning, expressing the Parish Council's disgust with the decision.

136.0 Neighbourhood Plan Update – Cllr. Readman reported that since the last Parish Council meeting, two Neighbourhood Plan meetings have been held. The initial draft Neighbourhood Plan has been approved for viewing. However, the group is still awaiting receipt of maps of vistas. It is anticipated that the document will be uploaded to the Parish website in early course and that a period of six

weeks will be made available for comments from the public, following this part of the process, a pre- submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan will be drafted and the completed final Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted to EDDC in the Summer of 2017.

Cllr. Wollen publicly acknowledged the hard work of Paul Weston and Cllr. Mark Readman in relation to the compilation of the Neighbourhood Plan and thanked them on behalf of the Parish Council.

137.0 BUSINESS & FINANCE:

137.1 To receive the financial statement for February 2017

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Please and **seconded** by Cllr. Wollen and **RESOLVED** that the financial statement for February 2017 should be approved. Unanimously **CARRIED**

137.2 To approve payment of Invoices as follows:

40058	Rockbeare Village Hall (Youth Club)	£50.00
40058	Rockbeare Village Hall (M&T)	£40.00
40058	Rockbeare Village Hall (Parish Council)	£10.00
40059	C Y May (Salary)	£382.68
40059	C Y May (Expenses)	£41.50
40060	ADS Plant Hire	£300.00
TOTAL		£824.18

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Please and **seconded** by Cllr. Wollen and **RESOLVED**, that the schedule of payments should be approved. Unanimously **CARRIED**

138.0 Internal Audit Arrangements

The Parish Clerk reported that an Internal Auditor has been appointed.

139.0 On-going Flooding Issues

139.1 The Parish Clerk reported that following the last meeting of the Parish Council, she contacted Helen Selby (Devon Council Highways) to discuss the ongoing flooding issues in Rockbeare village and at Westcott Lane.

The Clerk reports that Helen Selby was receptive to the proposal that the Parish Council and her department should work in partnership to address the issues at Westcott Lane. It was however emphasised by Ms Selby that because we are now approaching the end of the financial year, no decisions could be made at present.

It was noted, at that juncture, that the works required to gullies in Westcott Lane had already been carried out and an invoice for the same received.

The Parish Clerk also reported that the issue of the blocked drain in Rookwood Lane was also discussed with Ms Selby. It was acknowledged that the drain was indeed blocked. However, Devon Highways will only clear drains that continue to pool for a period of 24 hours after rain and where vehicles are forced to pass on the wrong side of the road.

Ms Selby advised the Clerk that it was possible to make application to the Community Enhancement Fund for monies with which to employ an independent contractor to clear drains in the villages of Rockbeare and Marsh Green.

The Parish Clerk advised Member that she had submitted an application to the fund in the sum of £2250.00, which will provide for one and a half days' work to be carried out. We are currently awaiting the outcome of this application.

The Clerk is to research the availability of flood prevention funding for the purchase of appropriate flood barriers for the area.

139.2 Westcott Lane

Cllr. Forrest was not available to provide an update on this matter.

140.0 Parsons Lane (litter).

The Clerk reported that she had spoken with Janine Green Clerk at Cranbrook Town Council in relation to the littering in Parsons Lane. The Clerk for Cranbrook stated that she would correspond with a local organisation which undertakes litter picking duties and would then revert to the Clerk.

Cllr. Wollen told Members that the littering was, essentially, confined to one side of the lane and it had been suggested to him that a recycling lorry may have shed part of its load. However, this could not be commented on due to lack of evidence.

The new Youth Club remit was alluded to at this point and it was suggested that this task may form part of their remit. It was also agreed that the issue of littering in Parsons Lane, along with the incidents of overgrown hedges in the village, would be highlighted in the next edition of the Parish newsletter.

141.0 FAB Project

Cllr. Wollen advised Members that, during a recent Neighbourhood Plan meeting, the issue of the converter Station at Long Lane was raised. In particular, it would appear, that Parishioners are not aware of the project and its ramifications in relation to the village.

Cllr. Wollen emphasised that the difficulties did not arise from the building itself. Rather, problems will arise as a result of the construction of the site and the laying of cables.

It was agreed that the matter would be raised in the next Parish magazine.

142.0 Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were considered:

(a) Letter of resignation- Cllr. David Mason

Cllr. Wollen stated, in relation to this matter, "It is with sadness and dismay we learn that we are to lose Cllr. Mason from the Parish Council. I have been able to rely on his expertise and advice since taking the Chairmanship. Thank you immensely for the work that you have done for the Parish".

143.0 Clerk's Actions update – Appendix 'B' – noted

144.0 TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr Ivan Randall advised the Council that;

- (a)** The Women's Institute has started to meet at Cranbrook;
- (b)** The Post Office is now open at Cranbrook;

He also asked about the progress on the proposal to form a Marching Drum Corps in the village. Cllr. Mason advised him that this was a declining activity nationally.

The meeting closed at 20.52 hours.

SIGNED _____ **Date:** _____