



**ROCKBEARE
PARISH COUNCIL**

Appendix A

Chairman: Jeremy Wollen

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MINUTES OF ROCKBEARE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2017

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

Also in attendance – Ed Freeman (Head of Planning EDDC) and Thea Billiter (Cranbrook Manager EDDC) and five members of the public

Carolyn Y. May: Clerk

APOLOGIES: None

224.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

225.0 Cllr. Wollen welcomed Mrs. Janette Kirk-Willis, as a new Member of the Parish Council and invited her to join the Members.

226.0 CRANBROOK PREFERRED EXPANSION PLAN

226.1 Cllr Wollen welcomed Mr Ed Freeman and Ms Thea Billiter (EDDC) and invited them to address those present, in relation to the Cranbrook Preferred Development Plan.

226.2 Mr Freeman explained that the proposed South-East expansion plan for Cranbrook was the preferred option of the development consortium. He acknowledged that the plan would impact on the Parish of Rockbeare but added that the development would not be 'significantly visible from the village'.

226.3 Mr Freeman explained that there was a belief that London Road needed to be brought into the tow' and discuss the issues n of Cranbrook to enable local businesses to benefit from passing trade.

226.4 Members were advised that the consultation process for the proposal would run until the 8th January 2018 and that there would be a stand at the Rockbeare Christmas Market on [date], where Parishioners could examine the plan and record their views in relation to the same.

- 226.5 Cllr. Readman stated that the Cranbrook Plan did not sit well with the Rockbeare Neighbourhood Plan and requested to know what evidence there was available to support the need for the expansion of Cranbrook. Mr Freeman stated that the EDDC policy decision was for the East and West expansion plans of the area to be implemented and for the provision of a further 1,500 homes to be built.
- 226.6 Cllr. Readman raised the point that all of the required development of new homes, seemed to be taking place in one corner of the county and asked why? Mr Freeman responded with the following observations;
- Noise impact;
 - Landscape impact;
 - Sustainability;
 - Employment/ jobs;
 - Access to the rail network;
 - The need for housing on the edge of Exeter;
 - Quality of landscape in other areas of the county and building restrictions relating to the same.
- 226.7 Cllr. Readman stated that there was a limited amount of housing that could be sustained by the area. He pointed out that the EDDC Local Plan was barely two years old and that it was already being altered. He alluded to the promise made previously, that there would be no development to the west and to the south-east of Cranbrook (south of the A30). Yet, it now appeared that these promises were being broken. The proposals represented a clear contradiction of the undertaking given.
- 226.8 Cllr Readman alluded to the preservation of the 'green wedge' which parishioners had voted for (by 112 to 2) during the NP consultation. He asked Mr Freeman what notice should be given to advise EDDC that the steering group would wish to address these concerns and how should the group do it? Mr Freeman stated that he wished to 'sit down and discuss the issues' with the relevant bodies.
- 226.9 Cllr Readman stated that the parish was 'a long way along' the NP process and that the consultees did not to agree to a development of the size presented by EDDC. Mr Freeman stated that the NP had to conform to the Local Plan, which took precedence. The NP would only be considered after the LP.
- 226.10 The issue of Traveller Sites was alluded to. Mr Freeman advised the meeting that the identified problems (litter/ conduct) generally arise from unauthorised sites. He added that authorised sites do not generally experience the same problems. Mr Freeman continued by stating that Travellers use London road as a corridor to other parts of the county, so by placing traveller sites in areas where travellers want to be, travellers will use the sites provided and refrain from creating unauthorised sites, thus reducing the problems highlighted. Cllr. Kirk-Willis asked Mr Freeman if he had any statistics to support that assertion. Mr Freeman admitted that he did not.
- 226.11 Mr Freeman alluded to the infrastructure of the area, stating that parts of London Road were very narrow and may require remodelling, he conceded that this matter had not been addressed in the proposal under discussion.

- 226.12 Cllr. Allen alluded to the poor record of EDDC, in relation to fulfilment of undertakings. He reminded those present that an undertaking had been given that Cranbrook town would not be built if there were 10,000 objections received to the same. In total, EDDC received 17,000 objections to the plan, yet the development went ahead. Cllr Allen added that a promise had been given by EDDC, that all properties on the proposed site would form part of Rockbeare Parish, this had now changed, and they would now be classed as being in Cranbrook (this has financial implications for Rockbeare Parish).
- 226.13 Cllr Allen also referred to the traffic predictions for Junction 29. It has been predicted that the level of traffic will exceed the junction's capacity in the next 5 years. Mr Freeman responded by stating that the promises made had not formed any part of EDDC's plans/ policies and that it would be up to the EDDC Members if they wished to honour the same – or not. He added that EDDC would consult with Highways on the issue of Junction 29
- 226.14 Cllr Allen enquired as to the status of the NP, if approved? Mr Freeman advised that the terms within a NP are not absolute and can be overridden. Cllr. Kirk-Willis asked how many NP's had been overridden. Mr Freeman responded by advising that these were 'early days' but that nationally there had been instances of NP's being overridden. Cllr. Allen enquired if a senior authority NP overrides an NP, then submits a planning application, would it be open to the Parish Council to appeal, if the plan is not considered acceptable? Mr Freeman stated that there was no right of appeal in those circumstances.

227.0 MINUTES: The Minutes of the last meeting of Rockbeare Parish Council held on **Wednesday 18th October 2017**, at Rockbeare Village Hall were considered.

Cllr. Allen suggested that an amendment should be made to the wording of para. 217.0, to clarify the agreement reached in relation to the M&T Group future funding.

It was **agreed** that the wording of the paragraph should be amended to read:

'M&T Group – Cllr. Allen raised the issue of funding for the Mother & Toddler Group, which has re-started (September 2017). Cllr. Forrest advised the Members that he had attended a group meeting, where a request had been made for a payment from the Parish Council, for a sum equating to 50% of the hall rental charges (£250.00). If the group ceases to operate, the balance of this sum will be refunded to the Parish Council.

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Forrest, **seconded** by Cllr. Please and **RESOLVED** that the sum of £250 would be made available to the M&T Group and that, in the event of the group ceasing to operate, all the existing funds of the M&T Group should be returned to the Parish Council, where it will be ring-fenced for another M&T Group in the village to call upon. It was also **agreed** that a sum, representing 50% of the hall rental charges for such a group would be made available, by the Parish Council, to any future M&T Group.' Unanimous. **Carried.'**

- 227.1 It was **proposed by**: Cllr. Wollen, **seconded** by Cllr. Please and **RESOLVED** that, with one amendment, the Minutes 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)

228.0 REPORTS:

- 228.1 The Chairman reported that on 31st October 2017, he met with Janette Kirk-Willis, in order to discuss her Co-option to the Parish Council.

- 228.2 On the 10th November 2017, the Chairman, accompanied by Cllr. Forrest, attended a meeting at the Knowle, to meet with Sir Hugo Swire. The meeting was chaired by Mark Williams, Leader of EDDC. Also in attendance were representatives from Clyst Honiton and Broadclyst. The Cranbrook masterplan was discussed.

- 228.3 No other reports had been received.

229.0 PLANNING MATTERS

- 229.1 To consider planning application **17/1973/MRES** - noted

- 229.2. **Planning Determinations** – none

230.0 BUSINESS & FINANCE:

- 230.1 To receive the I&E Statement for October 2017

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Please and **seconded** by Cllr. Forrest and **RESOLVED** that the accounting statement for May 2017 should be approved. Unanimously **CARRIED**

- 230.2 **To approve payment of the following invoices:**

400506	Rockbeare Village Hall	55.00
400507	Rockbeare Village Hall	35.00
400508	C. Y. May – salary	345.48
400509	C. Y. May – expenses	82.70
400510	Wm. Pollard Printing	360.00
400511	RBL – Poppy Wreaths	50.00
400512	John Robertson – Grass Cutting	150.00
400513	C J Please – Grass Cutting	125.00
	TOTAL	£ 1,203.18

It was **proposed** by Cllr. Allen and **seconded** by Cllr. Wollen and **RESOLVED** that the payment schedule for (including two additional payments appended at the meeting) November 2017 should be approved. Unanimous. **CARRIED**

231.0 Correspondence

- 231.1 **Village Hall** – a letter was received from Mark Cornish in response to the Clerk’s letter, relating to the possible provision of a multi-sports pitch. – **noted**.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk would correspond with Mr Knowles to thank him for the offer of the land for a sports area and to advise him of the PC’s difficulty in garnering support for the same. It was suggested that she should ask Mr Knowles if he was able to generate support for the project, so that it might be progressed.

- 231.2 Cllr. Wollen stated that he had received a message from a parishioner, who resides at Marsh Green. The parishioner stated that trees had been cut down on the Millenium Field, that the fence had been replaced and a gate into the area installed. The complainant advised that he was annoyed because he had been sanctioned for cutting down trees in the area. – Noted
- 231.3 Cllr. Wollen advised Members that he had received an letter from Devon Council, Flood and Coastal Risk Officer, in which the transfer of ownership of the Local Flood Warning System and Maintenance Contract was effected.

232.0 Neighbourhood Plan Update

- 232.1 Cllr Readman advised the Members that the NP is now three weeks into its consultation period. He referred to the response received from Cranbrook Town Council to the document – which was broadly in favour of the same.

It was **agreed** that the Parish Clerk would correspond with the Clerk for Cranbrook Town Council. to request their support in not adding to the flood risk of the Rockbeare area.

- 232.2 The NP Steering Group has been invited by EDDC to discuss the Cranbrook Plan.
- 232.3 Cllr. Forrest suggested that all parishioners should be invited to a meeting to discuss the Cranbrook Plan and that the Parish should become proactive on the matter to obtain sufficient objections to the Cranbrook Plan. Cllr Allen advised that alterations to the LP would take several months and that our NP would be considered against the existing Local Plan, therefore the parish should push ahead with its NP.

233.0 Highways

- 233.1 Cllr. Forrest raised the issue of the unrepaired bridge over the A30. It was acknowledged that this had been reported to Highways England on three occasions, by the Parish Clerk. It was therefore **agreed** that the Clerk should correspond with Sir Hugo Swire MP, in respect of the matter.
- 233.2 It was **agreed** that the Parish Clerk should correspond with Exeter Airport Management to request the implementation of a half hour, free parking concession to alleviate the parking issues discussed previously. It is to be requested that the concession might be granted for the duration of the FAB project construction phase.
- 233.3 It was **agreed** that the condition of local lanes would be discussed at a meeting on 16th November between Helen Selby of Devon Highways and Cllr. Wollen.

234.0 Flooding Issues – Update

- 234.1 Mr Ivan Randall reported that work had commenced at Silver Lane Bridge.
- 234.2 Mr Randall advised that he had recently taken a few people around the area to show them the undulation of the land. He believes, should the development go ahead, water will run away from the village, not into the same.
- 234.3 Mr Randall discussed the area of Rewe Lane, at the gate of Rockbeare Grange.
- 234.5 Mr Randall reported that the bridge, at Gribble Lane, had been knocked down, surmising that it may have been hit by a vehicle. It was **agreed** that this matter would be discussed with Helen Selby (Devon Highways) the following day.

222.0 Public Session

It was **agreed** that Cllr Wollen would look into the provision of a notice board at the triangle.

It was **agreed** that the Parish Clerk should look into registering the land at the triangle in the name of the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 21.30 hours.

SIGNED _____

Date: _____

CLERKS ACTIONS

Minute	Action	Status
Public Session	The Clerk to obtain quotations for painting the bus shelter – approach YMCA to carry this out.	Request sent to Gareth Sorsby 071117.
Correspondence 231.1	It was agreed that the Clerk would correspond with Mr Knowles. Draft to Members.	
232.1	It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would correspond with the Clerk for Cranbrook Town Council. to request their support in not adding to the flood risk of the Rockbeare area.	
233.2	It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should correspond with Exeter Airport	

	Management to request the implementation of a half hour, free parking concession	
Public Session	It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should look into registering the land at the triangle in the name of the Parish Council.	
Planning	Note support for Appeal 99/2017 - Tree	Not on website, as at 071117/ 081117/ 141117

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