

IDEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on 13th April 2023 at 7:56pm

Present:	Cllr David Fox – Chair Cllr A Carter-Woodwark Cllr H Bellamy Cllr J Gardner	Cllr T Hill Cllr M Batting
In Attendance	Cllr R Peart	Mrs J Thompson - Clerk Seven members of the public

Item (a)	Discussion and Decisions (b)
	PART ONE (OPEN TO PRESS AND PUBLIC)
027/23	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:56pm. Apologies were received from PC C Orchard and PCSO S Bunce.
028/23	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING It was proposed by Cllr A Carter-Woodwark, seconded by Cllr M Batting and agreed by all to accept the minutes of the meeting of Thursday 9 th March 2023 as a true and accurate record.
029/23	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS Cllr A Carter-Woodwark as Village Hall trustee. Cllr T Hill as Millennium Green trustee. Cllr J Gardner for Sustainable Ideford.
030/23	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None
031/23	REPORTS None
032/23	PARISH MATTERS 032.1 It was proposed by Cllr A Carter-Woodwark, seconded by Cllr D Fox and agreed by all (Cllr T Hill abstained from the vote) to agree in principle to contribute to the Millennium Green hardstanding, but to defer decision on an amount and timescale. It was proposed by Cllr D Fox, seconded by Cllr J Gardner and agreed by all (Cllr A Carter-Woodwark abstained from voting) to agree in principle to contribute to a replacement boiler in The Village Hall, but to defer decision on an amount until a third quote has been sought. Clerk to find out if a litter bin could be put at the bottom of Rixafer Road. Clerk to arrange for PSPO and clear up after your dog notices to be put up in Town Farm Lane. 032.2 It was agreed by all to purchase Coronation medallions. 032.3 Contributions towards any summer fete plans were deferred. 032.4 Ideford has an uncontested election, with one new Councillor joining in May. The Chair reminded all that ID was required for voting. 032.5 There were no updates or reports on roadworks, highways or parking issues. 032.6 There was a brief discussion about giving Sustainable Ideford delegated powers to spend their budget how they see fit; to be brought back to the June meeting due to Jim Gardner absence at May meeting (work commitment). 032.7 It was proposed by Cllr A Carter-Woodwark, seconded by Cllr D Fox and agreed by all to purchase a wildlife camera using the DCC grant already received. 032.8 It was agreed to carry on promoting the Hedgehog Highway Project. 032.9 The Wildlife Wardens thanked everyone for their support over the last twelve months.
033/23	PLANNING 033.1 Planning application: 23/00520/HOU – The Glasshouse, 9 Higher Colleybrook Conservatory attached to existing garden room It was proposed by Cllr A Carter-Woodwark, seconded by Cllr J Gardner and agreed by all to support the application. 033.2 To note the following planning application has been withdrawn: 22/02196/HOU – Homefield Garage/implement store 033.3 There were no updates on any planning enforcement issues.

<p>034/23</p>	<p>CONCERNS RAISED BY PARISHIONERS TO COUNCILLORS</p> <p>Voluntary statement given by Councillor Angie Carter-Woodwark regarding a complaint made against her, received by Teignbridge District Council.</p> <p>For over 20 years I have had the honour of being elected as Parish Councillor for my community and during that time have never been the subject of an official complaint. I was therefore both shocked and distressed to receive news of such a complaint from the Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer at Teignbridge District Council. I am under no obligation to share this, but being a straightforward person who believes in transparency and honesty, I have decided to make the details public at this meeting. All quotes are taken from the original communications. The complainant is a parishioner who has not attended a Parish Council meeting in several years, they have made the complaint concerning another resident landowner in the Parish. When asked on the form, the complainant did not want their name and address etc kept confidential, so I do know both their identities.</p> <p>Can you provide the date of the alleged incident? Yes, 11 03 23 in fact our meeting was on the 9th of the month.</p> <p>Were there any witnesses? Yes</p> <p>Please give names and details, all present at the PC meeting</p> <p>Complaint details, ' personal vendetta against.....the other resident named in this.</p> <p>How can we resolve your complaint? ' Get her off the Council'.</p> <p>The Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officers reply ' I have considered the complaint as detailed on the attached form. Unfortunately, you have not provided any details relating to your complaint, in particular with regards to what it is the Councillor is alleged to have done which might amount to a breach of the Parish Councils Code of Conduct. In addition to that, the remedy you seek is not something I can deliver.' Although there will be no further action taken, this has been a most unsettling and unnecessary experience for myself and fellow Councillors. As some of you may know, as part of my job as Councillor I concentrate on areas of planning and enforcement where difficult issues need to be followed up and resolutions need to be found. All communications from Teignbridge are shared with every Councillor. I do not work in isolation. Updates are agendered and shared in Council meetings. We are here to help, support and encourage, to move our Parish forward. However, there are times when difficult issues have to be faced and difficult discussions may follow. However, finally I must add that were these Teignbridge departments working properly and following up with 'real' enforcement, when necessary, our Council would not need to continually pursue them for fair and just results. But, being duly elected for another term, I will continue to serve this Parish to the best of my ability with objectivity and honesty. Thank you.</p> <p>The Chair, Cllrs and Cllr R Peart supported Cllr A Carter-Woodwark and her statement.</p> <p>A report was received of rooks being unsettled from a rookery (during nesting season) near to Higher Colleybrook although no actual evidence yet.</p> <p>A further report was received of Peacocks being out (prior to the lifting of avian influenza restrictions) also at Higher Colleybrook – Clerk to inform APHA / DEFRA.</p>												
<p>035/23</p>	<p>AUDIT 2022 / 2023</p> <p>035.1 The Certificate of Exemption was approved and signed by the Chair and the Clerk.</p> <p>035.2 The Summary of Receipts and Payments was approved and signed by the Chair and the Clerk.</p> <p>035.3 The Fixed Asset Register was approved and signed by the Chair and the Clerk.</p> <p>035.4 The Fixed Asset Risk Assessment was approved and signed by the Chair and Vice-Chair.</p> <p>035.5 The Annual Return Explanation of Variance was noted.</p> <p>035.6 The Statement of Internal Control was approved and signed by the Chair and the Clerk.</p>												
<p>036/23</p>	<p>CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCE</p> <p>036.1 The balance of accounts on 31st March 2023 was £14,723.10. The bank reconciliation for March 2023 was agreed by all and signed by the Clerk and the Chairman.</p> <p>036.2 It was agreed by all to approve the following payments.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="284 1975 1487 2123"> <tr> <td>£119.54</td> <td>DALC</td> <td>Membership</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£22.50</td> <td>Village Hall</td> <td>PC & PACT Venue Hire</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£106.80</td> <td>Community Heartbeat</td> <td>Annual Support Fee</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£1109.01</td> <td>Staff</td> <td>Salary, PAYE, Expenses & Mileage</td> </tr> </table> <p>036.3 The final quarterly budget for the year ending 31st March 2023 was noted.</p>	£119.54	DALC	Membership	£22.50	Village Hall	PC & PACT Venue Hire	£106.80	Community Heartbeat	Annual Support Fee	£1109.01	Staff	Salary, PAYE, Expenses & Mileage
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	036.4 Legal and administrative update: LTN 76 on energy performance requirements has been reissued by NALC.
037/23	TO DISCUSS AND AGREE HOLDING A PART TWO MEETING It was proposed by Cllr D Fox, seconded by Cllr A Carter-Woodwark and agreed by all to hold at Part Two meeting to discuss notification of a complaint and also discuss confirmation of emails regarding planning and enforcement issues.
038/23	DATE OF NEXT MEETING Thursday 11 th May 2023. The Annual Parish Council Meeting to include election of Chair, Vice-Chair and welcoming newly elected members. The Chair closed this part of meeting at 9:13pm.
039/23	PART TWO MEETING (CLOSED TO PUBLIC & PRESS) It was agreed to share responsibilities and support Cllrs in their roles. This part of the meeting ended at 9:24pm

Signed:

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Dated:

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