

## IDDESLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Prior to the meeting commencing the Chairman invited the following people to address the meeting:

There were no public present at the meeting therefore the Public Session was closed.

**Minutes of the Iddesleigh Parish Council Meeting that took place on Monday December 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

**Present:** Chairman Councillor E Sweet, Vice Chairman Councillor J Moore, Councillor J Davidson, Councillor G Ward, Councillor B Down, Councillor G Reddaway.

**Also present:** Borough Councillor B Ratcliffe

- 1. To receive apologise for absence and consider if the reason for the absence should be formally approved by the council:** none
- 2. To receive any Declarations of Interest from members:**  
Councillors are reminded to declare any personal or prejudicial interests they may have in any agenda items: none declared
- 3. To receive the Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on Monday October 4<sup>th</sup> 2021:**  
Copies of which have been previously circulated to members and are to be agreed and signed as a true record of the previous meeting held on October 4<sup>th</sup> 2021. These were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
- 4. Report by West Devon Borough Councillor:**  
Councillor Ratcliffe reported that he has now got the Housing Portfolio, which covers social housing. The lack of housing in the greater south west is compounded by second home owners and rental properties being used as holiday lets and this is pushing locals out of the area. The government is trying to close the loophole that allows this. Two bed houses are needed for families on social and for many young families wish to remain in their home areas to work and raise their families. Many people work from home now leaving some office blocks empty which could then be converted into flats. Councillor Ratcliffe also suggested that Iddesleigh might have a small area for one or two homes to be built. It was reported that the Methodist Church would be closing and it could easily be converted into one or two homes.
- 5. Past Subject Matters for further discussion:**
  - 5.1 [5.1] New Road sign: this still has not been replaced and the clerk has been asked to chase this up.
  - 5.2 [6.5] Queens Jubilee: It was decided to make a list of all the under 16's in the parish. Councillors Down and Reddaway will prepare this and give to the Clerk. In the past the council have provided mugs and/or medals. The clerk was asked to find out the costs of these. It was suggested that planting a tree for the village would be appropriate but where would it go? It was then suggested that every child be given a tree especially if an area of land was put aside for these and create a mini woodland for the future. The woodland trust has a scheme for giving children trees to plant. The clerk was asked to look into this. It was suggested that each child receives a mug or medal plus instructions on how to plant and look after their tree, with a possible name tag attached to it.
  - 5.3 [9.1] Booking form [kitchen] review dates (6.2): The clerk has received the form and will fill in agreed dates.

Signed:

Dated: 7/2/2022

- 5.4 [9.4] War memorial: The lettering needs touching up and the council need an estimate for a replacement in case of an accident. The clerk was asked to contact Andrew Gist.
- 5.5 [9.2] The Pump: This is now back in situ. None the worse for its removal.
- 5.6 [9.8] New bench: progress: the clerk spoke to Mrs Nielson about having the bench insitu for the Queens Jubilee. She thought it was a great idea and is contacting her son to try and finish it in time.
- 6. Clerks Report and Correspondence received:**
- 6.1 Highways – (1) pot holes (2) Neighbourhood Officer: (1) some have been repaired but some still remain. (2) at the moment this post is vacant.
- 6.2 Meeting dates for 2022 -ref: booking form for kitchen hire: the clerk read out the future meeting dates for Councillor’s diaries and will inform the Village Hall Secretary.
- 6.3 Jennie Scott – war horse sculpture: she contacted the Clerk and has now found a new home and hopes to now get her grant and start on the sculpture. She requires more scrap metal for this sculpture and Councillor Downs says she has plenty to donate.
- 6.4 WDBC household support: the clerk will put the information on the noticeboard.
- 6.5 Trees ref: insurance: the clerk will chase up the work still to be done to the trees.
- 6.6 Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service: they have completed a draft five-year strategic plan and have put it on their web site for comments.
- 6.7 Civility and Respect project: this has been put together with the collaboration of SLCC, NALC and county associations. It has been suggested that the Council Code of Conduct be updated to take this into account. The clerk was asked to work on this.
- 7. Planning:**  
None received
- 8. Finance:**
- 8.1 Statement of Accounts: Current Account: £10,120.35 Reserve Account: £6,050.52
- 8.2 Precept: the clerk passed the precept forecasting sheet to the councillors showing expenditure during 2020/2021, the estimated expenditure for 2021/2022 and a forecast for 2022/2023 with a 2% raise of the precept. Borough Councillor Ratcliffe said that WDBC was suggesting a 4% raise but the council felt this was too much. It was proposed by Councillor Davidson, seconded by Councillor Moore and agreed by all to raise it by 2% to round it to £5,000.
- 8.3 Grass Cutting: no invoice for work completed last summer as he has been ill. However, when the invoice arrives the clerk will pay it.
- 8.4 Clerks Salary: this was circulated to the councillors with the detailed extra time sheet. It was agreed to pay.
- 9. Matters for further reporting:**
- 9.1 It was reported that the ‘BBC money’ will be distributed to the church, chapel, village hall and the defibulator fund. The balance will be used for something on the village green to celebrate the Queens Jubilee in June.
- 9.2 Notice from the DALC that from recent court judgements all council meetings must be held as physical face-to-face meetings. Council meetings are defined as work for councillors and clerk. They should be organised in accordance with government guidance and the Covid principles of hands, face, space and fresh air. Only decisions taken by the council at face-to-face meetings, or under the Scheme of Delegation will be lawful.

Signed:

Dated: 07/02/2022