

**WEST HILL PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 16th FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.30PM**

**** The meeting was held by video-conference due to the Covid-19 situation**

Present:	Chairman Cllr Margaret Hall (MH), Cllr Alison Carr (AC), District Cllr/WHPC Cllr Jessica Bailey (JB), Cllr Della Cannings (DC), Cllr Margaret Piper (MP), Cllr Amanda Townsend (AT), Cllr Alan Cook (ABC)
In attendance: Apologies received from:	Anne Oliver Parish Clerk, 17 members of the public attended the meeting DCC Cllr Claire Wright (CW)

AGENDA – ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Item (a)	Discussion and decisions (b)
21/054	<p>Welcome and Chairman’s announcements The meeting started at 7.30PM. The Chair MH welcomed everyone and reminded everyone that the meeting was being sound recorded.</p>
21/055	<p>Apologies. To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence. Apologies were received from DCC Cllr Claire Wright.</p>
21/056	<p>Public question time (3 minutes) From 7.30pm residents are invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on this agenda or raise issues for further consideration at the discretion of the Chairman, before the start of the Parish Council meeting. Members of the public may not take part in the Parish Council meeting itself. This item included issues submitted to the Clerk prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Standing Orders were suspended to allow public speaking and discussion of the Local Plan Review.</p> <p>Cllr MH gave a short introduction to the East Devon Local Plan Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDDC is consulting on the “Issues and Options” for its Local Plan, which determines development in East Devon up to 2040 • The current plan is out of date. • During 2020 EDDC decided to pull out of the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan process and as a result there is increased urgency to review the East Devon Local Plan. • The deadline for public consultation is 15th March • The Parish Council urges resident to “have their say” by taking part in the online survey and sharing their views with the Parish Council. • The Government White Paper proposed a new algorithm to determine the number of homes to be built per district. This would set a target of 1,600 new homes a year for East Devon. This proposal has been withdrawn and the target has reverted to a target of 928 new homes per year. <p>Members of the public were invited to speak.</p> <p>One member of the public spoke to suggest that the character of the village was defined by its trees and this should be protected. He proposed that Trees were essential to reaching environmental and health targets and this should be considered within the Local Plan.</p> <p>Cllr MH thanked members of the public for their attendance at the meeting Standing Orders were resumed.</p>

21/057	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>a. Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.</p> <p>b. To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature. To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda and their nature (Councillors with DPIs must leave the room for the relevant items).</p> <p>Cllr JB declared an interest as a District Cllr, plus Personal Interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in item 21/059, (21/0251/TRE) as she knew the applicant well and would not take part in discussion - Item 21/063 as her child attended Kings School but she would take part in discussion <p>Cllrs AT declared Personal Interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in item 21/059, (21/0251/TRE) as she knew the applicant slightly but would take part in discussion - Item 21/063 as her children attended Kings School, but she would take part in discussion <p>Cllrs: MH, ABC, AC, DC, MP no interests declared. All noted and accepted</p>
21/061	<p>Item brought forward</p> <p>East Devon Local Plan Review: To confirm arrangements for compiling West Hill response (deadline for responses 15th March 2021)</p> <p>The Council proposed to gather resident views at the meeting and over coming weeks.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Council would use resident's feedback, together with Cllr views to prepare a draft response to the EDDC consultation for approval at the WHPC meeting on 2nd March.</p> <p>Cllrs considered each of the 32 questions on the Local Plan survey, sharing their views and to inform the Council's response.</p>
21/058	<p>Confidential/exempt items. In consideration of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted): to agree any items to be dealt with after the public and press have been excluded.</p> <p>Cllr MH proposed to consider item 21/064 as a confidential item to be dealt with after the public and press have been excluded. Unanimously agreed.</p>
21/059	<p>Planning Applications received</p> <p>21/0255/VAR The Birches Lower Broad Oak Road EX11 1XH Applicant Mr A Wood Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission 19/0929/FUL (Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling and detached garage) to allow changes to fenestration and increase in height</p> <p>Councillors supported the application.</p> <p>21/0339/FUL 18 Moorlands West Hill EX11 1UL Applicant Mr& Mrs Campbell Construction of first floor extension over garage and new porch.</p> <p>Councillors supported the application.</p> <p>21/0251/TRE 20 Eastfield West Hill EX11 1XN Applicant Mr J Coppell T1 and T2 Oak: Crown lift both trees to give 4m clearance above ground. To increase clearance over driveway</p> <p>Councillors noted that very little information had been submitted to support the application. There was no indication that the trees required work due to disease or damage. The</p>

	submitted photos did not support the application as they did not show branches overhanging driveway/road. This was confirmed when Cllrs visited the site. Cllrs did not support the application.
21/060	Planning decisions received for information (*denotes WHPC differed) - n/a

Other Matters

21/062	<p>Covid-19: To consider</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. To review any recent Government Covid-19 announcements and their impact on West Hill n/a - no new matters to consider b. To receive an update on the WHPC letter to Simon Jupp MP regarding legislation permitting councils to meet remotely due to come to an end on 6 May 2021. <p>Cllr MH reported that Simon Jupp MP had confirmed his support for the Council's view that legislation should be amended to allow virtual Council meetings to continue. He has written to the relevant Minister in support of this.</p>
21/063	<p>To receive a grant application from Kings School PTFA requesting support towards the purchase of 20 PCs.</p> <p>Cllrs considered the grant application from Kings School PTFA. The PTFA had approached all local parishes to request support towards the purchase of 20 PCs for pupils to use for remote learning. West Hill Parish Council was asked to contribute £580, 10% of the costs.</p> <p>Cllrs noted that the PTFA had provided details of their other sources of funding, their limitations and the shortfall. Many West Hill children attend Kings School.</p> <p>Cllrs agreed to support the grant application and awarded the grant in full, £580.</p>
21/064	<p>Confidential Item: To discuss Personnel matters. Cllrs agreed to hold an informal meeting on 17th February to discuss operational issues.</p>
21/065	<p>Clerks Report: Actions and matters arising from the last meeting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Actions, incl outstanding action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking at the War Memorial <p>Ref 2nd Feb 21/044: The local Police team had been contacted for advice regarding the increasing number of cars parked at the War Memorial. On many occasions the side road had been unusable due the number of cars. As the Council has been unable to identify drivers of the cars regularly parking at the War Memorial the Police advice was to write to local residents.</p> <p>It was agreed to write to local residents asking for their co-operation on the matter.</p> 2. Matters arising <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Resident communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inconsiderate parking at the lower end of Bendarroch Road is ongoing. This continues to create problems such as, recently, the bus was unable to get passed the cars and was delayed for 15-20 minutes. This matter has been referred to Highways. • Hayes End – concerns re tree-felling • Anti-social behaviour reported at the Playpark/School grounds.

	<p>b. Any urgent matters arising.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Environment Agency will be working in the Playpark on Mon 22nd+Tue 23rd February. <p>It was agreed to close the playpark on Mon 22nd+Tue 23rd February.</p>
21/066	<p>Finance and Invoices Tracker Invoices received for approval:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DALC – training course Cllr MH £36.00 2. Cllr DC - NALC Seminar “How are Local Councils vital to community recovery?” £38.93 <p>Noted and approved</p>
21/067	<p>Councillors questions, reports and items for future agenda Each Councillor is requested to use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas. <i>Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision making.</i></p> <p>AONB: Cllrs MH/JB will be attending a meeting convened by Mark Williams, Chief Exec EDDC, together with representatives of Ottery St Mary, Chris Woodruffe, East Devon AONB Manager and Geoff Pratt EDDC District Cllr. The exploratory meeting will discuss the current AONB area and the Otter Valley area.</p> <p>Exeter Airport: Cllr MH updated Cllrs on the recent Airport Consultative Committee meeting. The current situation is very gloomy and the travel industry is not expecting to increase traffic before June (at the earliest).</p> <p>Cllr DC thanked members of the public for their attendance at the meeting and hoped to see them at future meetings.</p> <p>Cllr JB reported that the problems with Footpath 4 between Elsdon Lane and Lower Broad Oak Road are ongoing. South West Water have confirmed that there isn't a leak in the area. The path remains wet and DCC Public Rights of Way team will be asked to investigate.</p>
21/068	<p>Next meeting: To confirm the date of the next meeting (by video-conference) which is scheduled for Tuesday 2nd March 2021.</p>

Meeting closed 21.15pm

Signed: *Anne Oliver*, Clerk to the Council, 17th February 2021