

## MINUTES OF THE PETROCKSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD

ON TUESDAY JANUARY 20<sup>th</sup> 2015 in THE BAXTER HALL

**Councillors Present:** Cllr Irene Fisher; Cllr Alan Hunkin; Cllr Brian Cameron; Cllr Josie Jeffs; Cllr David Kelsey and District Cllr Phillip Collins. In the absence of the Chairman Cllr William Luxton, the Chair was taken by Cllr Irene Fisher.

### **27. Apologies:**

Cllr W. Luxton. Cllr I Fisher opened the Meeting and expressed the good wishes of the Council to Cllr Luxton.

### **28. Minutes:**

The revised Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday November 18<sup>th</sup> were read confirmed and signed as the original Minutes were unsuitable for purpose.

### **29. Matters Arising:**

a) Play Area: Cllr Josie Jeffs has applied to the Awards for All Lottery Grants in an endeavour to raise funds for new play equipment and ground covering. Other fund raising events are to be an Auction of Promises and a concert starring Big Al and the Strawberries. Thanks were also given to the ex Youth Group for a donation of £666. It is thought that the Area will not pass a ROSPA inspection in March. As a temporary measure Lawson Tremellen is to be asked to renew some of the damaged poles. Cllr Jeffs was heartily thanked for the tremendous amount of work she has put into this project, even to the extent of bringing in an Army team who might be able to help later in the year.

b) Planning: The Planning application for the Rowan Farm barn conversion has been refused on the grounds of sustainability.

### **30. Public Session:**

None present.

### **31. Councillors Reports:**

a) Baxter Hall: Cllr Julie Harris reported that the new flooring has been laid in the kitchen and entrance hall following skimmed levelling. The new heating system is working well.

b) Recreation Ground: Cllr David Kelsey reported that preparations for the Burn`s Night Ceilidh Barn Dance on Saturday January 24<sup>th</sup> were in hand, with 40 tickets sold to date. He also gave details of events in the coming year. The Rec Committee had decided not to hold an Easter Egg Hunt this year due to the dwindling number of young children in the village. Sheep were put in the field on December 15<sup>th</sup> 2014.

### **32. Financial Matters:**

The Precept Form has been signed and returned to Torridge Council. The invoice for connecting the electricity to the Defibrillator Box has not yet been received.

### **33. A.O.B.**

a) The continuing poor state of the roads in the district and unfilled pot-holes was raised yet again. Apparently there is a website "fillthathole.com" which can be accessed. District Cllr Phillip Collins reported that there is a Torridge initiative regarding

the recruiting of Village Wardens who could fill small pot-holes and help with minor traffic problems such as signposts.

- b) The Vice Chairman, Cllr I. Fisher has endeavoured to have Petrockstowe Station validated as a Community Asset, if the Council's Highways Department relinquish the adjoining yard, but she cannot proceed as there is not an accurate map available.
- c) Torridge Council has been in touch with the Clerk re siting a Dog Poo Bin in the vicinity of the Bus Shelter in the village. Cllr Fisher is to liaise over this matter.
- d) The ongoing situation concerning the Community Pub was mentioned.
- e) District Cllr Collins said that the Balsdon Trust might be able to provide some grant funding for village projects, also that the Tap Fund would still be running in 2016.
- f) May Elections: Cllr Collins then emphasised how important it is that the Parish Council nominations for the May elections must be hand delivered to the Riverbank offices in Bideford. The May election will probably cost the Parish Council £500.
- g) It was decided not to share with Sheepwash Parish Council the cost of a Laptop and Projector to be used for the new Planning Initiative.
- h) Cllr Kelsey will represent Cllr Luxton at the Area Advisory Group meeting in Torrington on Tuesday January 27<sup>th</sup> 2015.

The Vice Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the Meeting at 9.10pm.