

AXMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Carol Miltenburg, Colhayne Close, Colhayne Lane, Shute nr Axminster,
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A meeting of Axmouth Parish Council was held on Wednesday 18th April, 2012 at 7.00pm in Axmouth Village Hall.

Minutes

Those present

Cllr Carol Rapley (Chairman)

Cllr Paul Britton

Cllr Crescy Cannan

Cllr Irene Harrison

Cllr Keith Lawes

Cllr Jim Knight (DCC)

PC Steve Speariett

The Councillors were summoned to attend a meeting of the Axmouth Parish Council to discuss the following matters.

1. Apologies were received and acknowledged from Cllrs Alan Harrison, Emily McIvor, Ken Steven, Morag Steven and Cllr Ian Thomas (EDDC).
2. The Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on March 21st and 27th, 2012 were approved and signed.
3. Declarations of Interests – none declared
4. Police Report
PC Speariett is unable to attend the APM due to shift patterns. He noted there has been a downward trend in crime over the past few years, with no offences at all recorded to date in 2012. Last year there were 5 thefts (including from motor vehicles), 1 caravan theft (on-going enquiry), 1 vehicle theft (vehicle not recovered) and 1 vehicle theft (later found burnt out).
5. To accept reports and agree actions on Highway matters
 - a) Maintenance
An e mail from DCC Highways confirmed that green waste from brook clearance undertaken on the Village Days would be removed from Coldwell Lane Terrace by DCC. The date of the village days was likely to be in July followed by a barbeque at the Ship Inn.
Action – Cllr Rapley to liaise with Ship Inn and confirm dates, either July 7th or 14th.
The e mail also gave the schedule for verge cutting in the parish.
The Lengthsman is next due from June 27 to 29th. The Council would like the brambles cleared by the benches along the estuary side and the path from Chapel St to Higher Lane cleared.
Action – Clerk to contact DCC Highways.
It was noted that the stile on Stepps Lane allowing entry to the footpath from Stepps Lane to Higher Axmouth (near The Forge) is broken.
Action - Clerk to notify Bindon Estate.
It was agreed that a working party should repair the bus shelter at Stepps.
Action – Cllr Britton to organise.

b) Traffic Mitigation Study

Cllr Rapley reported that the Traffic Mitigation plan for Axmouth designed by DCC has failed the safety and environmental audits. A meeting with DCC is being held in Axmouth to discuss what is acceptable. Funding for the project is still available.

c) Traffic Group reports

Some members of the Seaton Coastal Group have been looking for redundant traffic signage and notifying DCC of them for possible removal.

6. Public Forum – none present

7. Planning.

a) To consider new planning applications. None received.

b) Planning Correspondence etc.

Due to the issues to be discussed under this item and Item 8c, it was moved that “In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw”. Cllr Cannan proposed Cllr Rapley seconded.

Item 7b was discussed and noted. It was agreed to take a watching brief.

Item 8c concerned the financial details of the quotations for the viewing platform. These were noted.

The meeting was reopened.

8. To accept reports and agree actions from the following

a) County Councillor

Cllr Knight noted that the County Council is starting its final year with elections due in 2013. He confirmed that the Axmouth traffic mitigation scheme has had money set aside for it by DCC and that Stepps Lane would have a new surface (tar & chips) from Stepps Cross to Dowlands. The surplus from the Local Project scheme would be rolled forward to 2012/3 and he asked that the Parishes that had schemes accepted this year did not apply in the new year as he wanted all his parishes to benefit from the scheme. The Council unanimously agreed. The Council will again have £1000 to spend from his Locality Budget. He advised that the Council about the new funding scheme whereby £1.10 per elector is supplied by DCC & EDDC. This will be administered by EDDC but schemes must benefit more than one Council, have match funding and the money must be spent by December 2012.

c) District Councillor

Cllr Thomas was unable to attend. Cllr Knight advised that EDDC had committed to a large debt which would free up capital to invest in their housing stock.

c) Parish Councillors

The sub-committee reported on the tenders for the viewing platform and having discussed them in depth recommended that the council should accept that submitted by Mr Richard Cadwgan. Cllr Rapley proposed and Cllr Lawes seconded, the Council agreed. Building by be able to start in mid May and should last for approximately 2 weeks.

It was agreed to discuss issuing a cheque for £500 to cover the SWW legal costs, as per the licence agreement, at a meeting to be held after the Annual Parish Meeting.

Cllr Britton suggested that the spare notice board could be used at Coronation Corner. It was agreed this was a good idea.

d) Village committee/s

Footpath Committee. Cllr Lawes reported that DCC had visited Axmouth to look at the proposed routing from the caravan site to Stedcombe and have agreed to the proposal. Detailed maps had been received from DCC and the Footpaths Committee will now request DCC to approach the landowners along the route.

Playground Committee. Cllr McIvor was unable to attend.

e) Parish Clerk – protocols & vacancy

Cllr Rapley thanked the Clerk on behalf of the Council for her contribution over the past six years. The Clerk advised that the vacancy had been advertised in the "View from .." paper and on the DALC website and that some expressions of interest had been received.

The Clerk also presented the Councillors with the protocols that the Council needs to discuss and adopt in order to become a quality council. These cover updated standing orders, financial and employment aspects of council business.

9. Financial Matters

a) The financial statement to 31st March was received and accepted.

b) Cheques required

Axmouth Village Hall	£11.25	Hall hire
Tower Joinery	£367.00	bench repairs
C Rapley	tba	expenses - held over

c) Annual Audit – end of year accounts. The annual return was agreed by the Council and signed by the Clerk and Chariman.

i. The Council approved the accounting statements of Section 1 of the Annual Return for the year to 31 March 2012.

ii. The Council approved the annual governance statement of Section 2 of the Annual Return for the year to 31 March 2012.

10. To review and agree actions on the following Village Projects

a) Viewing Platform – contractor decision etc

The sub committee recommended that the most suitable quotation was received from Mr Richard Cadwgan. The Council approved this decision – Cllr Rapley proposed and Cllr Lawes seconded. There are a few minor items to discuss but it may be possible to start in mid May.

It was agreed to discuss the issuing of a cheque for the SWW legal fees in a meeting after the APM on April 25th.

b) Jubilee celebrations and commemoration ie trees.

Cllr Irene Harrison has been researching suitable mementos of the occasion for the villages children.

Action Cllr Harrison to undertake more research was being done into personalised gifts.

It was confirmed that there is no extra funding from EDDC for the celebrations. EDDC Celebration competition. Cllr Cannan confirmed that Axmouth have entered the Future Project category and that three members would attend the evening on May 17th at the Knowle.

Action- Clerk to notify EDDC.

A grant application for £200 has been received from the Village Hall which will be used to pay towards a band playing at the event on condition that any surplus is returned to the Council to be held for any future events. Cllr Rapley proposed Cllr Lawes seconded.

Cllr Cannan reported that she had spoken to Lady Loveridge about the commemorative trees and that discussions need to be held with the show committee.

Action Cllr Cannan to contact Mr Crowe.

c) Best Kept Village Competition

The Clerk advised that the Axmouth leaflet and parish magazine have been passed on to the organisers.

d) War Memorial

The Clerk advised the Council that the War Memorial Trust has turned down the original application as they do not feel it would be right to remove the 'of Bindon' lettering as it was intended when the memorial was designed. The RBL have also asked for further proof that the Charles Ernest Bole of Axmouth is the same Charles Bole killed in France.

Action Clerk to contact Mike Clement

e) Telephone Kiosk – no news

11. To review and agree actions on the following Village Amenities

a) Village Hall.

It was agreed that the insurance policy of the Village Hall needed to be viewed.

Action Cllr Ken Steven to investigate.

b) Burial Ground

No progress to report. Cllr Britton is still investigating.

c) Playground

Cllr Mclvor was unable to attend to give a full report. The Council were advised that the bank signature forms are being circulated and the committee will meet shortly.

Action – Clerk to advise Mrs Simpson that the mower should be kept in a secure place.

e) Benches & picnic tables

Now repaired and replaced. The Council were very happy with the work carried out by Mr Upperdine.

e) Axmouth Relief Map – As Cllr K and M Steven were unable to attend this is held over to May.

12. The relevant correspondence was distributed to the members.

13. Date of the Annual Assembly of the Parish meeting Wednesday, 25th April 2012
Date of AGM and next Parish Council meeting Wednesday, 18th May 2012.

The meeting ended at 10.05pm