

**Minutes of a Meeting of Exbourne with Jacobstowe Parish Council
held on Wednesday 31st August 2011 at 20.00 in the Village Hall, Exbourne**

42. Those present

**Cllr Weeks (chaired the meeting)
Cllr Lawson
Cllr Blakeman
Cllr Glanville**

Trevor Hill, the Borough Councillor for the Exbourne ward, was also present.

43. Apologies for absence – Cllrs Luxton and Phipps, who are away and Cllr Cobb, who is Unwell.

44. Declarations of interest – there were none.

45. Minutes of the last meeting – Cllr Blakeman commented on the minutes relating to the removal of the hedge at Risdon Farm (3rd and 4th lines) an amendment was made. It was then proposed by Cllr Blakeman that the minutes be signed as a correct record. This was seconded by the chairman, who then signed the minutes.

46 Matters arising from the last meeting

46.1 Removal of hedge at Risdon Farm, Jacobstowe – Cllr Hill reported that he had received a disappointing response from the Landscape Officer, Georgina Browne. The owners of Risdon Farm were not pursued over the removal of hedge as it coincided with the loss of two key posts within Development Management. If any further insensitive tree works are noticed then report them to WDBC and they will issue Tree Preservation Orders.

Councillors felt that the excuse of being short staffed was very poor and the whole episode, once again, showed a lack of consistency. The chairman suggested the council writes a letter to Natural England and encloses a copy of the reply received from Georgina Browne. Cllr Lawson seconded and all were in agreement. Copies of the letter to be sent to the Landscape Officer and Head of Planning.

46.2 Playing Fields Crossing – Michael Newcombe (the Safer Travel Officer) has sent his response. The extension of the 30mph limit would not get support. It is not apparent to motorists not familiar with the area that this is a sensitive area. He suggested improved signing and lining on approaches to where pedestrians cross. The chairman suggested responding that the council unfortunately accepts that the 30mph limit cannot be extended, but mention was made of countdown strips and warning lights and would welcome those being implemented.

The Playing Fields committee have already done some work and Cllr Weeks will ascertain from Cllr Phipps the timescale of other works so the clerk can then reply to Cllr McInnes.

46.3 Review Financial Regulations/Review clerk's contract – the internal auditor has confirmed that the proposed changes are appropriate. The clerk has made the alterations as discussed at the last meeting. The chairman and clerk have both signed the clerk's contract.

47. New Items

47.1 Consultation on the future of Standards – this was discussed. The clerk had printed off a copy of the response form and this was duly completed.

47.2 Highways Surgery on Thursday 22nd September 10 am to 12 noon at the Ockment Centre. Discuss attendance. The chairman stated he hoped to attend and anyone else wishing to go may do so.

47.3 Diamond Jubilee Grant – the clerk had received an email from the Secretary of the Diamond Jubilee Committee asking if the parish council would consider providing a grant Towards the event. The Treasurer of the committee will produce audited balance sheets for public display.

This was discussed. Cllr Glanville proposed donating £250. The Chairman proposed donating £600 (£400 towards the Exbourne event and £200 towards the Jacobstowe event). Cllr Glanville withdrew his proposal. Cllr Lawson seconded the proposal put forward by the Chairman. All were in agreement. The clerk to advise representatives in each village of the amounts agreed.

47.4 Permission from the council for Cllr Weeks to temporarily withdraw Parish Council minute Book 1894-1947 from the Devon Record Office. The local history group are taking part in the English Heritage event on September 10th. The theme is 'Exbourne 100 years ago' and the minute book is required. The Devon Record Office require a letter giving permission from the council. The clerk has prepared a letter and it was proposed by Cllr Blakeman that the chairman is given permission and this was seconded by Cllr Lawson.

48. Matters arising from circulated correspondence (info only)

There was none.

49. Parish Paths Partnership (P3)

Nothing to report.

50. Planning

50.1 Applic No. 01817/2011 – 1 The Cow Shed, Higher Cadham Farm, Jacobstowe – use of building as unrestricted self-contained dwelling house. Discuss at meeting.

This application was discussed and it was decided that the council would support the application stating it had no reason to doubt that the building had been used as a dwelling in excess of 4 years.

50.2 Applic No. 01642/2011 – St. John's Park, Exbourne – removal of porch and replacement with sunroom plus replacement window. Granted conditional consent.

50.3 Applic Nos. 01315/2011 (1 The Cow Shed, Higher Cadham Farm, Jacobstowe), 01317/2011 (The Annexe, Higher Cadham, Jacobstowe) and 01329/2011 (2 The Cow Shed, Higher Cadham Farm, Jacobstowe). Appeals have been made following refusal by WDBC to change these to affordable rental/residential units.

The above notice and letters concerning the appeals were placed in the circulation file.

51. Finance

51.1 Invoice from the clerk for wages/expenses/backdated holiday pay - £383.02
Cllr Blakeman proposed that this be paid. This was seconded by Cllr Glanville.

51.2 Details of balance at bank – the most recent bank statement shows a balance of £7234.72 as at 5th August 2011. There is the hire of the hall for April/May/June/Aug £66.00. Outstanding cheque 615 (£4.63). The standing order has now been cancelled. There are the donations agreed at the last meeting still to be paid (£250.00) and the cheque signed this evening for £383.02. This brings the balance to **£6531.07**. Of this £272.42 is P3 money and £6258.65 is precept money.

52. Matters at the discretion of the Chairman

52.1 The clerk informed the council that she has received a letter from the bank giving details of the signatories and she will send this on to the internal auditor.

52.2 The clerk has received a letter from Smith of Derby, the company that services the church clock. It states the five year contract has now finished. They are offering a three year contract, which should be paid in advance as before, but provides some discount. The council has been paying for the service each year and did not know about a five year contract. The clerk to contact Lorraine and see if she can shed any light on it. Put it as an agenda item for the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held at The Vestry, Jacobstowe on Wednesday September 28th at 8.00 p.m.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 p.m.