

**Minutes of the Belstone Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 28th JULY 2009 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Meeting Room.**

Present: Peter Cooper, Stella Hudson, Ann Norman, Susan Norrish and Andrew Terry with Michael Ash in the Chair.

23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Elisabeth Emerson

24. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING of 9th June, having been previously circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed.

25. MATTERS ARISING: Standards training sessions had been attended by three members of the Council and the clerk. New material looked at the principles of common law as they relate to the conduct of councillors. Here the main problem would be where a predisposition to hold a certain view might be seen to be bias.

26. CORRESPONDENCE:

DNPA: **Reply to letter** sent concerning Core Strategy Development Summary for West Devon: This supported the Parish Council's objections to the allocation of land lying to the south of Exeter Road, Okehampton for employment development.

DCC: **Eastern Link Committee:** September 3rd, Chagford..

WDBC: **Acknowledgement of letter** concerning Core Strategy Development Summary for West Devon. This strategy will be considered at a public enquiry early in 2010.

DAPC: None

OTHER: **Broadband Action Group:** Letter from Graham Cruickshank of The Brackens, Belstone, explaining the progress made by both the Belstone and Northlew groups in gaining funding for a wireless broadband connection. As only 72% of the money applied for had been granted, this amounted to a shortfall of £12,500. Northlew had so far raised £3000, of which £200 had been donated by the Parish Council. Mr Cruickshank asked the Council to consider offering some support to this group. After discussion the Council agreed to look at this request when setting the next precept.

27. FINANCE:

i. Current state of finances and petty cash:

Receipts: Interest of £0.29 had been added to the reserve account.

Payments made: £5.00 fee for duplicate bank statements

Current account: £221.20 **Reserve account:** £2,938.41.

The Chairman signed bank statements for 30.06.09.

Payments to be made: DAPC annual subscription, £53.25.

Reimbursement to clerk of cost of tokens (see below), £20.

Travel expenses to clerk for attending Standards Committee training at Hatherleigh; 20 miles at the Council's agreed rate of 41 pence per mile (£8.20).

It was agreed unanimously to make these payments.

Proposed A. Norman seconded A.Terry.

- ii. **Internal audit:** A gift of garden tokens had been sent to Mr Herbert .
- iii. **External audit:** This had been successfully completed.
- iv. **Risk Assessment:** The Council's policy was reviewed. No amendments were made.
- v. **Council diary:** Checked and signed.

28. PLANNING:

0214/09: Resugga, Belstone: Demolition of derelict buildings and replacement with new stable block. Conditional permission granted.

0319/09: Proposed installation by Openreach of duct containing telecom cables and four associated jointing chambers in road between Tongue End Cross and Belstone Cross. The Council had no objection to this proposal.

29. HIGHWAYS:

- i. **Matters reported/to be reported to DCC highways maintenance department:** The lengthsman had made the scheduled six month visit, Although some gullies had been swept, and the manhole cover opposite Moor Plot replaced, there was little indication that any work had been done on the in the areas suggested at the earlier site visit. A further letter to be written.
- ii. **Letter from DCC:** This outlined the new policy on 20mph zones in built-up areas. However there was no indication that this would apply to Belstone village.

30. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- i. **Seats:** It was decided that before offering Mr Pike an alternative site for his family seat, another enquiry should be made of DNPA about progress on gaining funding for resurfacing the hardstanding in the layby along the Green. A. Norman to contact Tony Halse.

31. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 8th September.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.55pm.

Signed.....
Chairman

dated.....