

Minutes of the Belstone Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd August 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Meeting Room.

Present: Peter Cooper, Ann Norman, Susan Norrish and Andrew Terry with Michael Ash in the Chair. The Chairman also welcomed Devon County Councillor Christine Marsh to the meeting.

35. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Elisabeth Emerson and Jane Lehni
36. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Peter Cooper declared a prejudicial interest in respect of item 42 (planning).
37. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** of 12th July, having been previously circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed.
38. **MATTERS ARISING (unless dealt with elsewhere):** None
39. **URGENT MATTERS RAISED BY THE CHAIRMAN:** None
40. **CORRESPONDENCE:**
 - DNPA:**
 - Conservation Area for Belstone village:** A reply had been sent indicating that the Council considered that Belstone should not have a conservation area. This view had been accepted by the DNPA Historic Buildings Officer.
 - DNPA 60th Anniversary Quiz:** Each parish asked to supply a quiz team and five questions for this event. It was agreed to ask Mr Chris Walpole to organise this.
 - DCC:**
 - 'Superlink' meeting July 26th:** Christine Marsh explained that in the present circumstances, budget constraints on larger authorities would lead to cuts in spending. Highways budgets would be particularly badly affected. Therefore, as parish precepts were not capped, small increases here could be used for funding some services at the local level. This would be helped by a relaxation of standards formerly imposed. Examples of local support were verge cutting and also support for village halls. The 'Localism' Bill would encourage some devolution of services to larger 'neighbourhood councils'.
 - Eastern Link Committee:** 8th September, Church House, South Tawton.
 - WDBC:**
 - Review of Polling Places:** It was agreed to reply that the village hall was a suitable polling place for the parish due to its location, size and accessibility.
 - DALC:** None
 - OTHER:**
 - Damage by FOCSA recycling trucks to grass verges and a car:** Mr and Mrs Wood had complained to FOCSA. This to be followed up by Cllr Marsh.

