

**Minutes of the Belstone Parish Council Meeting held on  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Meeting Room.**

**Present:** Peter Cooper, Elisabeth Emerson, Stella Hudson, Susan Norrish and Andrew Terry with Michael Ash in the Chair.

- 81. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Ann Norman
- 82. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** of 19<sup>th</sup> January, having been previously circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed.
- 83. MATTERS ARISING:** None
- 84. PARISH PLANS:**  
Martin Rich (Community Council of Devon) and Robert Plumb (West Devon BC) gave a short talk on parish plans, and how they are organised. 65% of the population of Devon is now covered by such plans and they are increasingly used to contribute to strategic planning. Details of possible funding and support were given. It was decided to include this on the agenda for the next meeting.
- 85. CORRESPONDENCE:**  
**DNPA:** **Annual Parish Council Conference.** No one had attended.  
**Workshop on Landscape Evaluation:** A.Terry reported that as an exercise in public consultation this had been of limited value, although useful for meeting with National Park contacts.  
**DCC:** **Eastern Parishes Link Committee:** 4<sup>th</sup> March.  
**Street lighting: reduced night-time hours.** This adjustment to be made in early March.  
**Local government review:** The final recommendation was that the Boundary Committee's proposals for a unitary county council in Devon should not be implemented and that the original proposal for a unitary Exeter should be implemented. This may go to a Judicial Review.  
**WDBC:** **Public transport survey:** This to be given to as many in the parish as possible.  
**DAPC:** None  
**OTHER:** **Mobile Library Service:** Questionnaire on future of the service. S. Norrish to complete this, together with other users of the library.  
**West Devon CAB:** New home visiting service.  
**Devon & Cornwall Police Authority:** Liaison meeting, Okehampton, 4<sup>th</sup> March. No one able to attend.
- 86. FINANCE:**  
i. **Current state of finances and petty cash:**  
**Receipts since last meeting:** None

**Payments made:** Clerk's salary (£500), as agreed at the last meeting and within precept estimates. M. Ash travel expenses (£14.76), Clerk, petty cash (£20), North Dartmoor Search and Rescue Team (£20) – all as previously agreed.

One transfer from the reserve to the current account of £550 had been made.

**Current account:** (at 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2010) £156.91

**Reserve account:** £2,239.13.

**Payment to be made:** Travel expenses requested to Bovey Tracey (for attending the Workshop on Landscape Evaluation) by A. Terry (44 miles at the agreed rate of 41 pence per mile: £18.04).

This was agreed unanimously. Proposed P. Cooper seconded S. Hudson

**Petty Cash:** Spent since 19<sup>th</sup> January £1.56: Clerk now £2.02 in hand.

- ii. **Acknowledgement of salary** of £500 received from the clerk (218 hours worked during the year); also **Letter to clerk's tax office** signed by Chairman.
  - iii. **Annual budget:** Spending during the year of £1126.24 had exceeded the planned amount by £36.24. This however would help to reduce the reserves, as recommended by the external auditor.  
The budget was accepted unanimously: Proposed A.Terry seconded E. Emerson.
  - iv. **Risk assessment:** Protocol was checked and agreed. No changes were needed.
  - v. **Council diary:** Checked and signed.
87. **PLANNING:** None  
**0514/09: Bernard's Acre, Belstone:** Letter received from Trustees to say that the rebuilding timetable had been deferred for one year to start August 2011.
88. **HIGHWAYS:**
- i. **Matters reported/to be reported to DCC highways maintenance department:**  
One small pothole had been filled (unfortunately not one of those reported). The missing arm from the signpost at Tongue End had been replaced.  
**Salt bins:** P. Cooper's lobbying had succeeded in obtaining one more salt bin for Skaigh lane, but this unfortunately seemed to have been placed at Ladywell, at the Sticklepath end of the lane.  
**Highway Surgery:** 26<sup>th</sup> January. The clerk had attended. **A barrier to protect the bus shelter** was discussed. There was some support for this, as the junction is seen to be dangerous. The **drainage system through the village was also discussed:** The present round of cuts make any work on this unlikely for the foreseeable future.

**Footpaths:** Ian Brooker had reported that work had been done on Footpath 6 to repair the surface at the Priestacott end of the path.

**Seats:** The condition of the seats to be checked during March.

**89. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**90. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2010,  
Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.10pm.

Signed.....

Chairman

dated.....