

FGP2012.02.21

At a Meeting of the **FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** of COLEHILL PARISH COUNCIL held at Colehill Memorial Hall on **21 FEBRUARY 2012**.

**PRESENT**

Cllr Susan Davies, Chairman  
Cllr Graeme Smith, Vice-Chairman  
Cllrs Gary Adams, David Barnes (R), Susan Cowsill, David Mitchell and David Packer (S).

**APOLOGIES**

Cllr Maggie Lawson, KD Johnson, Don Wallace and John Warren.

**403.12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**404.12 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 January 2012, having been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

**405.12 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**406.12 LAND MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE**

The report of the meeting held on 25 January 2012 was submitted and appears as Appendix 1 to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

An amendment be made to show that it was Cllr Cowsill who had sent her apologies and not Cllr Davies.

3. The wording “they be instructed to leave the tree trunks standing at 4m to create habitat for wildlife” be altered to “they be instructed to leave the tree trunks standing at 4m, where it was safe to do so, to create habitat for wildlife”
7. Cllr Mitchell was concerned about the tree root exposure at St Michael’s Dirt. He asked that PCSO Johnson contact the users to advise that they must not expose the roots when carrying out construction work.

RESOLVED that the report be approved and adopted.

**407.12 ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk circulated a Financial Statement from 1 April 2011 to 14 February 2012 a copy of which appears as Appendix 2 to these Minutes in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the Financial Statement be received and noted.

**408.12**     **RELOCATION OF GRIT BIN**

A resident had requested that the grit bin located close to his property be moved because young adults were congregating around it in the early hours and causing a nuisance with their anti-social behaviour.

In the past the young adults had thrown the grit at his windows, but this had ceased since the bin had been locked. The locks had been broken twice since they had been attached. The bin remained locked and the resident and Clerk were key holders.

RESOLVED that:

- (a) the Clerk meet with DCC to discuss other possible near-by locations for the grit bin;
- (b) if the bin was unable to be moved HomeWatch be contacted to ask if they could set up their portable CCTV equipment;
- (c) the resident be advised of the action the Council was taking.

**409.12**     **BIG BIKE RIDE**

Cllr Davies advised that the Reef Management Committee had asked whether the Council could fund the cost of publicising their Big Bike Ride event on 8 July.

Cllr Davies said that the event would be advertised in the spring edition of the Clarion and also at the Open Gardens event, but more publicity would be required if the event was to be a success.

The Management Committee had applied for a grant from Sembcorp and, if successful, would receive between £150-200. However they would need a much larger amount to cover the publicity costs.

Cllr Packer said that the Management Committee needed to provide the Council with a costed advertising budget so that the Council could agree on a figure.

RESOLVED that the Management Committee be asked to provide a costed advertising budget in time for discussion at Council on 6 March.

**410.12**     **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported on the following matters:

DCC grit bin charges – DCC had not yet made a decision on the charges. The issue was being reviewed by a members' policy group and would then go to cabinet. A decision was not expected until late spring.

Colehill Memorial Hall – The Management Committee had advised that due to complaints about the Public Address system not working properly (mainly due to people tampering with the controls), the PA system had been locked away. Regular users of the PA system had been given a key.

Superfast Broadband – DCC had advised that funding for Superfast Broadband would be provided by the local authorities in Dorset. There was no longer a need for funding to be sought from parish and town councils. Cllr Packer said that EDDC had set aside £700,000 for rural areas.

Notice board posters – Members agreed that posters from the Scouts and Health Service could be displayed on the Council's notice boards.

**411.12 WOODLAND TRUST**

Cllr Cowsill advised that free tree packs were available from the Woodland Trust. She thought that the Council could apply for the packs and, if successful, the trees could be planted in the Council's woodland and also at Bytheway field, as part of the changes being made there to create a Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG).

RESOLVED that Cllr Cowsill investigate the requirements and also contact EDDC to ask for permission to plant some trees at Bytheway field.

**412.12 DORSET PARTNERSHIP FOR OLDER PEOPLE PROGRAMME (POPP)**

The Council had been invited to send a representative to an event on 9 March, at Morden, to discuss their locality planning report.

The Members present were unable to attend, but thought that Cllr Warren might consider attending.

RESOLVED that Cllr Warren be asked if he was able to attend.

**413.12 COMPLAINTS REGIME NEW CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS**

The Clerk advised that the Localism Act 2011 had amended the process by which any allegation of a Member breaching the Code of Conduct was to be investigated. It was now up to EDDC to adopt arrangements for dealing with complaints under the emerging Code of Conduct. The arrangements needed to be in place by July 2012.

Keith Mallett, EDDC's Monitoring Officer, had advised that EDDC was implementing a revised complaints regime for the handling of allegations and this regime would cover EDDC Members and Members of parish and town councils.

NOTED.

**414.12 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

RESOLVED that the accounts listed at Appendix 3 to these Minutes in the Minute Book be passed for payment and cheques drawn accordingly.

The Meeting ended at 20.39 hrs.

CHAIRMAN