

West Dean Parish Council

An Ordinary Meeting of West Dean Parish Council was held at 7.30pm on 8th January 2014 at King George's Hall.

Present: Cllr J. Gimpel (Chairman), Cllr. P. Hargrave, Cllr H Urquhart, Cllr J Greene, Cllr W Seabrooke, Cllr C Warry, Mrs A Ellis (Clerk).

Apologies:, Cllr. M. Cordingley.

01/14 Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest

02/14 Minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 06/11/2013 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

03/14 Crime Update: There were no crimes in West Dean since the last meeting although burglaries in the wider area were up, and there has still been the occasional theft of heating oil and thefts of red diesel.

04/14 Finance: a) Clerk gave schedule of expenses below

	<u>Cheque No</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A Ellis Clerk Fee	476	£136.64
R Gruzelier for Christmas Tree	477	£10.00
M Rowe for lighting of the Christmas Tree	478	£10.00
* J Gimpel Mulled wine for Carols on the Green	479	Void
A Ellis – clerk fee	480	£136.64
A Ellis – clerk expenses + renewal for website domain name	481	£28.45
Clive Jones for hedge cutting Glebe Field	482	£48.00
J Gimpel – replacement of cheque 479 retained by clerk	483	£26.91

The following were added during the meeting:

CPRE – renewal of membership	484	£30.00
Wiltshire Citizens Advice	485	£25.00
P Hargrave – disposable cups for Carols on the Green	486	£6.00

*Void cheque no. 479 as wrong amount written out. Retained for records

05/14 Transport, Roads and Footpaths:

a). Parking at Dean Station: Waiting to hear from Cllr Devine concerning meeting request about the station car park. Clerk to chase this up

Footpaths

b) Footpath 8 – Cllr Gimpel has not yet sent the owners of Dean House an email to ascertain their thoughts following Cllrs. Gimpel's and Warry's meeting in the summer, but this will be done.

c) Footpath 22 – Cllr Warry has been unable to find out where in the list for this footpath is for consideration. Clerk to look on HCC website to ascertain position.

06/14 Planning: a) 13/06048/FUL- new Application from Church Farm for conversion of barn into 2 dwellings. This only just received and so not yet considered by Cllrs.

Signed: J. Gimpel (Chairman)

Date:

b) Woodside Farm – Cllr Gimpel reported on the second part of the ‘informal hearing’ concerning planning permission for a residential building being erected at this location. A decision will be made in the next 5 weeks.

07/14 Village Maintenance: Flooding of the River - Cllrs Garrett and Mavrogordato attended from West Tytherley Parish Council and the recent flooding of the river was discussed. There was devastating flooding to several houses in the village both on the Hampshire and Wiltshire sides and conservative estimates put the damage caused at a value over £100,000. It is clear that the footbridge over the river exacerbated problems caused by the heavy rain. Debris collected both under and against the bridge and then against the handrails when water levels submerged them entirely. Photos are being compiled as this choke-point clearly needs to be resolved and a case for replacing the bridge altogether is to be made. The Parish Council has previously rallied support and regularly cleared the river but this has not been done below the footbridge. As the footbridge is in Hampshire, West Tytherley are going to liaise with TVBC and the Environment Agency to discuss a new footbridge and follow up the possibility of getting 1 river weed cut per year. It was also noted that there is a tree down across the river beyond the Red Lion field and Cllr Hargrave will arrange removal of this when water levels permit. Clerk to contact Wiltshire Council again to see whether we can obtain any more sandbags and Aqua-sacs. Concerning previous discussions about the possibility of getting geese for the village green, Cllr Hargrave gave some costings. To be discussed at the next meeting.

08/14 Emergency Plan: The forms were distributed with the Parish Newsletter and there have been some responses which the clerk is compiling in a spreadsheet. It was noted that we need more farmers to volunteer their services. Cllr Gimpel has had a verbal response from East's Saw Mill who have various equipment and skills which they would volunteer in an emergency situation. It was agreed that some people will need to be approached in order to fill some of the gaps in resources that average villagers could not fill, but altogether the response has been positive. Cllr Hargrave to help the clerk with the writing of the plan. Clerk to send the Emergency Plan form to West Tytherley clerk to circulate. The recent flooding has highlighted the fact that we may need venues outside of the village, if as recently our hall was without electricity and affected by flooding.

09/14 Southern Wiltshire Area Board: Cllr Greene reported on the last meeting. Of note was more money to be spent on highways which in part includes potholes. There is a new App for the Smartphone being made available which will allow photos to be sent directly with the location of the phone.

Regarding footpaths – signage / leaflets which promote inter-village / cross-border walks will be prioritised.

Rural Development was also discussed – apparently this will only be considered if the Neighbourhood Plan states development is wanted.

Youth work – after talk of setting up a “Youth cafe” Cllr Greene is to lead the development of a questionnaire which will go out to young people (aged 9 – 16 years) to clarify the best way forward. Clerk to help with this document.

Cllr Gimpel and Cllr Urquhart to attend the next Area Board on 30th January at Alderbury.

10/14 – West Tytherley and Frenchmoor Parish Council: Cllrs Garrett and Mavrogordato spoke regarding the s106 money from Hampshire part of West Dean. They have given £500 towards playground equipment via Cllr Greene for which they were thanked. It cannot however yet be confirmed who owns Hillside Close (in Hampshire) and whether HCC have adopted it. This will need to be established before any play equipment can be put on the land using part of the 106 money. Cllr Gimpel is trying to contact Defence Estates to establish ownership. With regard to money to be spent on Open Spaces they could not find a way of giving us any of this as we

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don't have an area that qualifies for this work. They only receive the money when they produce invoices for work completed. A way round this cannot be found at present.

11/14 WESTDEANVILLAGE.co.uk: Cllr Urquhart provided research he had done into web content and design. It was agreed that a working group needs to be set up to move things forward. Cllrs were asked to read the material from Cllr Urquhart and see if they could volunteer to become part of the working party.

12/14 Correspondence: - requests for donations were dealt with under "finance".
Clerk brought postal correspondence to view.

13/14 Cover for Clerk: Clerk away between 02/03/2013 and 17/03/2013. It was agreed that post would be covered by Cllr Urquhart. This would make sure planning applications will be circulated.

75/13 Date of Meetings: The next Ordinary Meeting on 26th March 2014.

The meeting ended at 9.30 pm

Signed: J. Gimpel (Chairman)

Date: