

EAST HARPTREE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 18 July 2006 at 7.30pm in East Harptree Theatre

Present: Peter King (Chairman), Paul Waldron, Mike Jennings, Dylan Martlew, Bob Delaney

440. Apologies – Chris Head, Terry Worlock, District Councillor Tim Warren
441. Declarations of Interest - None
442. Minutes of the last meeting – 20 June 2006 were signed as a true and correct record.
443. Matters arising – Spencer Toghill looked at the drain in Middle Street following heavy rainfall. The manhole cover has been replaced.
444. Open discussion - The meeting was adjourned for comments from members of the public but none were made and therefore the meeting was reconvened.
445. Low Cost Housing – Councillor Jennings raised his concerns regarding delays in further action. It was agreed to speak to Councillor Head and ask him to request advice re. next steps from District Councillor Warren.
446. Public transport – nothing to report
447. Road sweeping and Highways – Spencer Toghill has marked potholes that need attention. It was agreed that action was required still on the drain at the top of Middle Street causing the pavement to lift.
- Councillor Jennings reported that the footpath at Pitt Farm has been finished.
- It was agreed to write a letter to Somer regarding the hedge at Grey Hollow to arrange a meeting.
448. Procedures for item no 447 – carry forward to September's meeting.
449. Cemetery – BANES have still not responded to messages left by Clerk and Councillor Jennings to meet. It was agreed to contact the Chair of West Harptree Parish Council, Peter Wood to arrange a meeting.
450. Planning – approval of Pinkers Cottage - noted
Application withdrawal of Beirnfells - noted
Tree works at Tree Cottage, High Street – noted
Rose Cottage, Coley Road, extension to garage to provide workshop – no objections were noted.

451. Diary 2006 – is up to date

452. Parish Council Banking

Cheques were signed as follows:

J Edmonds salary	£ 251.07
R Stenner salary	£ 204.65
Underwood Lamb	£ 176.25

453. Meetings attended - none

454. Correspondence

- ❖ Concerns were raised over the damage done to the zip wire in the playground and it was agreed to ask Mrs Wardrop to come to the September meeting.
- ❖ Letters were received from three members of the public regarding the piece of land at the top of Church Lane which has recently been cleared. Residents are concerned that this area was being used by nesting birds and other wildlife. At this point Councillor King was advised by the Clerk that he should declare a prejudicial and personal interest and leave the room. Councillor King declared a non-percuniary interest, left the room and immediately re-entered sitting with members of the public. The Clerk advised the Parish Councillors that as Mr King had refused to leave the room for the duration of the discussion, then each Councillor, under current rules, had the duty to report his conduct during the meeting to the Standards Board. Councillor King advised the Parish Council that he had not left the room as he had never done so in the 18 times he has declared an interest. No Chairman was elected at that part of the meeting even though the Vice Chairman was not present.

Councillor Waldron requested that the meeting be adjourned.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would speak to Somerset Association of Local Councils to ask if the Parish Council had an obligation to report breaches of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, legislation quoted by Mr Nick Roberts in his letter to the Parish Council. It was also agreed to investigate Mr Roberts' final point about the impact of Councillors' personal actions on the Parish Council and respond to all letters advising that until a planning application was received the Parish Council could not make further comments and that issues should be raised by individuals with the owners personally. Councillor King requested a copy of the Parishioners' letters.

- ❖ There is currently litter in Townsend and it was agreed to speak to the road Sweeper.

455. Any other business – date of next meeting: 19 September