

Minutes for Luppitt Parish Council 2/9/08

## LUPPITT PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes** for a meeting of **Luppitt Parish Council** held in the Village Hall at **8pm on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2008**.

Present: Mr Gavin Brake (Chairman), Mrs Lindsey Dalgety (Vice Chairman), Mrs Julia Sparks, Messrs Derek Hooper,

Bernard Clapp, Andrew Tucker, County Councillor Mr Roger Boote, District Councillor Mr D Key,

PCSO Anning 30012 and no members of the public.

Apologies: Brian Pulman, Paul Prettejohn and PC Vickery 4783.

**All councillors are politely reminded of their obligation to declare interests under the Code of Conduct**

**In making decisions the Parish Council recognise their statutory duties provided for in Section 11A(2) of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 (National Parks) and Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (AONBs) that in exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land, they shall have regard to their purposes (ie conserve and enhance their natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage and to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of their special qualities by the public).**

1 Minutes of the previous meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2008 were signed as a correct record of that meeting. AGREED.

1.2 **Receive apologies for absence AS ABOVE**

**2 PLANNING** [http://planning.eastdevon.gov.uk/PublicAccess/tdc/DcApplication/application\\_searchform.aspx](http://planning.eastdevon.gov.uk/PublicAccess/tdc/DcApplication/application_searchform.aspx) for full details

1. **Decisions** (for information)

**08/1805/FUL Palmerhayes Farm** – Permission granted for alterations to workshop and construction of terrace.

**08/1658/LBC Palmerhayes Farm** – Permission granted for alterations to workshop and construction of terrace.

**08/0458/COU Woodhayes Farm** - Permission granted for conversion of farm building to office accommodation, holiday let and replacement store extension to farmhouse.

2. **Applications** (for recommendation)

**08/2123/FUL Halsdon Cottage** – replace single storey extension with two storey extension and construct new entrance porch. Recommendation: APPROVAL

**08/2225/FUL Pound Cottage** – conservatory extension on side of elevation.

Recommendation: APPROVAL

3. **HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC**

3.1 Map of highways issues in the parish – meeting with Steve Tucker to be arranged after 17<sup>th</sup> September 2008. The Highways team are currently undertaking extensive work in Dunkeswell Parish

### 3. FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

1. Footpaths and Rights of Way review – copies of all applications have now been received from Mr Martyn. A meeting is to be arranged to gather evidence from people in the Parish.
2. Proposed diversion of footpaths 23 & 24 Luppitt and footpath 3 Upottery. Consultation has now taken place and some objections were received to the proposed re routing of the footpath in Upottery. As a result an amended proposal has been circulated for comment. It was hoped to commence work in September, but due to the new route being proposed one of the landowners has withdrawn permission. If a formal objection is lodged at the time of advertising the changes it will result in considerable delay to providing the new bridge and the order will need to be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate for determination. This could result in the path being closed for up to two years by the time work is carried out. Every effort is being made to reach a compromise with the objectors and the landowner.
3. Trimming was requested for the public highway section of bridleway 9 by DCC Highways hedge trimmer.
4. The parish council are very grateful to the owners of Wrens and Shaugh Cottage for their co-operation in cutting back branches overhanging the highway.
5. Ros Mills visited and made a personal apology for not communicating the recent work schedule on bridleways to either the parish council nor the land owner.
6. Clerk to ask Highways for confirmation of whether they have treated the Knotweed opposite Clouds on north end of bridleway 9/east end bridleway 10.

### 4. ENVIRONMENT

5.1 Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Strategy 2009 –2014 – consultation draft for comment by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008

## 6 COMMUNITY FACILITIES

6.1 **Community policing report** – two crimes since the last meeting – theft from a wallet containing £500 of cash including euros, and a dog bite to a member of the public.

6.2 **Playgrounds** – EDDC have confirmed that the boundary of 14 Millrise and the Parish Council play area does belong to the Parish Council. Mr Brake has written to the neighbouring landowner and Mr Tucker will do the work as soon as appropriate.

3. **Parish plan** – Initial report has been received a full meeting will follow shortly

6.4 Draft Proposal for a Unitary Government for Devon. On the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2008 the Government published their draft proposal on which comments are now invited. The proposal is for a Devon Unitary Authority comprising the existing County with no changes to Plymouth or Torbay. The full draft can be seen at <http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/boundary-reviews/all-reviews/south-west/devon/devon-structural-review>

Representations can be made by email via the above link or in writing to the Review Officer, Devon review, The Boundary Committee for England, Trevelyan House, Great Peter Street, London, SW1P 2HW.

Mr Brake gave a brief overview of the proposal, that there are currently 8 district councils, and Devon County council, with parish councils in addition to that – in other words a three tier system dating back to reforms brought in back in 1974. The current proposal would be to replace Devon County Council with Devon Unitary Council at the top level, and to replace the eight district councils with 28 market and coastal town ‘Community Boards’, plus one

Community Board for Exeter (29 in total across Devon). These Community Boards will consist of a combination of parish council members, stakeholders such as the police, and the unitary councillors for that area, and will not deliver services, but are likely to have a budget to spend on local issues and projects. Torbay and Plymouth will remain as unitary authorities as they currently are already, and so will not be part of these proposed reforms.

After much debate it was agreed that it was impossible, at this stage, to make a substantiated recommendation on such a major change without first receiving concrete proposals and supporting (financial) figures. The current proposals are somewhat vague and high level, with few specific ideas. However, it was agreed that it is still very important indeed to submit a formal response at this stage, including addressing the key points of concern should the Unitary go ahead. Specific concerns to be raised at this stage, based on the debate among parish councillors, included the importance of the Community board being made up of democratically elected members, the importance of local identity and knowledge in development control (planning) and decision making, proof of the financial benefits which a unitary authority would deliver (i.e. lower council tax) & proposals for effective local empowerment as well as exact timescales for the taking over of services. Mr Brake to draft a full formal response to the Boundary Committee and circulate this to the other councillors for approval before submission.

3. Honiton Town Council invited all parishes who would be under the Honiton District should the Boundary Review go ahead to a meeting at Honiton Town Council Offices on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008 at 6.30pm. Mrs Dalgety , Mrs Sparks and the clerk attended.
4. Results of Best Kept Village competition – Luppitts mark was 88 – full report given to the Packet.

## **7 FINANCE**

### **7.1 Receipts –**

**7.2 Cheque payments** - Clerk expenses September 2007- September 2008 £1331.80

(Cheques agreed).

Account balances - at 1/9/08 Paths Account £817.85

Parish Account £4207.14

2. Clerk to close old Lloyds Village Hall Trustees Account. For agreement.
3. Letter from Mr John Sage, he has now completed logging all meetings in the third minute book and Mrs Dalgety is

to collect the book.

7.4 SW Life Long Learning Network/ DAPC Questionnaire for completion

### **Dates for next meetings –**

8pm Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2008 Luppitt Village Hall

8pm Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2008 Luppitt Village Hall

8pm Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2008 Luppitt Village Hall

This months useful information....

## **Community Training Courses**

Do you have an idea that could benefit your community and just don't know how to take it forward...  
grant funding, making it happen – all looks too tricky???

Then these courses are for you – they are all free and could help make your ideas happen!

**Getting Engaged** - Involving people in building their community

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2008 - America Hall

**Community Leadership** - Inspiring people to make things happen

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2008 - Clyst St George Village Hall

**Figuring out Finance** - Managing your Organisation's money

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2008 - Bridestowe Village Hall

**Making projects happen!**

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008 - Farringdon Village Hall

For more information, please contact Lesley Smith at Community Council of Devon

on 01392 382534, by email on [lesley@devonrcc.org.uk](mailto:lesley@devonrcc.org.uk)

or by post at School Huts, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QB