

Notes of the meeting held on Thursday, 18th September 2014 At Coronation Hall, Mary Tavy at 7.00 pm

Present:

NameRepresentingNameRepresentingCllr David ButlandChairMr Alan RobinsonWDBCCllr Mike BensonBere FerresMr Simon KitchenDCC

Cllr Brian Lamb Bere Ferres PCSO Kevin Williams Devon & Cornwall Police

Cllr John Drury Brentor
Cllr Jim Chalcraft Gulworthy Cllr Diana Moyse WDBC Burrator Ward
Cllr Robin Pike Gulworthy Cllr Terry Pearce WDBC Mary Tavy Ward
Cllr Graham Mannin Lamerton Cllr Michael Ireland Destination Okehampton

Cllr Chris Edmonds Lifton Ann Cole Tavistock & District Local

Cllr Lesley Fowler Lydford Christopher Kirwin Tavi Network/Greater Dartmoor

History Society

Cllr Ruth Tainsh Lydford Leaf/TVAONB
Cllr Anita Prosser Mary Tavy

Cllr Howard Asbridge Milton Abbot Grouped
Cllr Bill Lane Peter Tavy Mrs Jane Gillard Acting Clerk

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Cllr Graham Antcliffe Plasterdown Grouped

Councils not represented:

Bradstone Parish Meeting Burrator Grouped Dartmoor Forest Kelly Parish Meeting
Lewdown Grouped Stowford Sydenham Damerel Buckland Monachorum

1. Apologies:

Cllr Lorraine Beeley Cllr Ray Brook Mary Tavy Milton Abbot Grouped Cllr Paul Turnbull DNPA **Dartmoor Forest** Jo Rumble Cllr David Cloke WDBC Walkham Ward Cllr Jessica Evans Lamerton Cllr John Sheldon Tavistock TC & Nigel Tigwell Clerk

WDBC Tavistock North

2. Notes of the Last Meeting

The notes of the meeting of 12 June 2014 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

None.

4. Policing Issues

PCSO Kevin Williams in attendance in the absence of Insp Andy Oliver. The Police LAG statistics were circulated as a briefing paper prior to the meeting. These show a drop in crime in most areas. Anti Social behaviour in Tavistock has dropped due to changes in Bedford Street car park ie installation of barriers. Overall crime down 10%, town crime down 20%, partly due to a crime department now on site in Tavistock. There are now 5 detectives covering Okehampton and Tavistock, crimes are now

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dealt with more quickly and detection rates are increasing. Police mergers have resulted in staffing reductions therefore imperative personnel concentrate on the priorities - Risk, Harm and Vulnerability and Speeding.

When questioned about the increase in possession of drug offences this was reported as being due to a more proactive approach being taken by the Police in Tavistock and the surrounding areas.

PCSO Kevin Williams explained the statistics distributed were produced by Police HQ at Middlemoor to ensure consistency in reporting methodology. The Police report produced locally to be distributed by the Clerk with meeting notes.

5. Update on 2013/14 TAP Fund Projects

Bus Fund for TASS Buckland £13,750

No representative present but it was believed that the additional bus has now been purchased.

£ 1,500 **Tavistock** Village Hall Wi-Fi

Brentor router has now been installed with Wi-Fi now accessible in the Hall, this is being used and working well

West Devon Parish Development & Training Programme Bere Ferrers £2,000 233 attendances by councillors and clerks at various courses. Next planned course is Management of Open Spaces – short of attendees for this course at present. The planned Cemetery Management course is full. Courses for 2015 not planned to start until after the May elections when there will be a New Councillors course late June, followed by a Chairmanship course and Finance course. Obtaining responses from some Parish Clerks is proving to be a problem, networking at the courses is proving very beneficial. It was advised that representatives from organisations other than the local council can attend these courses providing they are put forward by the Council and the work they do is for the benefit of the Council.

Ward & Chowen Digital Archive

Gulworthy £3,001 Ann Cole advised that further applications for Grants have been submitted but unfortunately mainly rejected due to the timescales for completion of the project not being feasible. The History Society has now taken over the use of 1 Church Lane, Tavistock and a formal agreement has been set up for them to take over the documents from Ward & Chowen. Examples of the books and information to be scanned was shown to the meeting and it was confirmed that when scanned, this information would be available for all parishes to use for exhibitions etc.

Defibrillators & appropriate training Bere Ferrers £6,156 Defibrillators have been delivered, training has taken place and this has been passed down to community members.

6. New TAP Applications to be considered

VAS Equipment to reduce speeding in Lifton and Chillaton – Lifton & Milton Abbot

Cllr Asbridge explained the aim of the project was to reduce the speed of traffic in Chillaton and Lifton, on the commuter run between Tavistock and Launceston or Holsworthy and also on the route from Tavistock to Lewdown via Chillaton, thereby improving road safety in both

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these villages. They wished to purchase Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) that flash warnings to drivers when they exceed the speed limit, data would be downloaded to a Bluetooth enabled notepad/laptop for analysis. Both Councils have identified funding for the cost of one VAS each but both need an additional VAS. They have quotes from 3 suppliers of the equipment, insurance is by way of DCC and the Parish Council's existing insurance.

It was proposed by Cllr Pike to support the request and award the sum of £7300 as requested, this was seconded by Cllr Drury, all Councillors in favour of the proposition.

Ward & Chowen Digitial Archive – Gulworthy and Lamerton

It was confirmed that Tavistock and District Local History Society are responsible for this project and there is no financial benefit to Ward & Chowen. Ann stated the cost of purchase of a scanner is now less than originally quoted, they are now looking at a lower specification one which will still produce the required results. Further information on the project given in the update on the first grant awarded, it was confirmed Parishes would be asked if they had any volunteers that may like to help with their own parish records, the Society were staging a display at Lamerton Tractor Day.

It was proposed by Cllr Drury to support the request and award the sum of £3309 as requested, this was seconded by Cllr Antcliffe, 8 in favour of the proposition, 2 against, proposal carried.

7. <u>Okehampton & Tavistock Railway Update</u>

Cllr Dr M Ireland advised a meeting had taken place on 7 August between the Destination Okehampton Working Group and Claire Perry, Parliamentary Undersecretary of State, Department for Transport with Mel Stride, Central Devon MP. Many Councils were also represented, the Business and Community case for the complementary rail route to Plymouth via Okehampton were outlined. It was a very positive meeting – full meeting notes distributed with these meeting notes. An article has also been published in the 'Rail Professional' magazine and also an advertisement placed for consultancy services – copies of both distributed with these meeting notes. There has also been a meeting of the Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership looking at the importance of community railways. Representatives of the Destination Okehampton Working Group have now been invited to attend a further meeting with Mel Stride and Clare Perry with Network Rail in London.

8. <u>Parish Feedback and Issues</u>

Future Link Meetings -

A general discussion was held to ascertain what committee members wanted from future meetings. Attendees felt they wanted to be able to input into 'things' where they could make a difference for their community. It was also asked if the meeting could help WDBC more with consultations or projects. It was felt the meetings were useful for informal feedback to officers and networking. Previous meetings were also used for information delivery by WDBC and DCC and it was thought this has now changed. Alan Robinson stated it was difficult sometimes for officers at WDBC to know what issues Parishes felt important and relevant to them. The Police session need not be on every agenda, information could be cascaded out to Parishes and a Police representative asked to attend if there was a specific need.

Also suggested that WD ward members be encouraged more to attend together with WD officers.



Discussions on Affordable Housing and feedback on Neighbourhood Plans suggested for future topics.

Feedback from this meeting and the other Link Meetings to be reviewed by the Link Chairmen at their meeting on 20th October.

9. West Devon Borough Council Update – Alan Robinson

3G Connection for Rural Communities - details circulated with meeting agenda. Designed to boost mobile phone coverage in an area with poor signal, boxes installed by Vodafone, usually on public buildings, costs are only ongoing electricity estimated at £30 per annum. **'Our Plan'** consultation has continued from the last meeting. Community events have been held throughout the summer. There is to be a workshop in Tavistock on 26 Sept, all parishes have been invited, looking at Growth including scale and locations and the role of Neighbourhood Plans as the next stage in the process. It is anticipated a draft document will be published in the autumn with formal consultation late Autumn/Winter. WDBC website contains updates.

T18 project – on track, aim is to retain services but to cut costs by 25%. Alternative ways to deliver services being progressed.. Also looking at the opportunities to share services with Torridge, very early stages still.

The Chairman thanked Alan Robinson for his support during his time at WDBC – this may well be the last Southern Links he will attend.

10. Devon County Council Update – Simon Kitchen

Road Warden Community Self Help scheme – details circulated prior to meeting. This is for Groups who want to take on services from DCC but not a requirement. It was suggested that this should be an item for discussion at the next meeting with sufficient time allocated for a full discussion.

DCC Highways rural speed limits policy –discussed at previous meeting but not yet published. It was suggested this could be an item for fuller discussion at the next meeting to enable parishes to influence the policy.

Delivering Differently –this is WDBC and DCC exploring different ways of delivering services locally. Exploring in Tavistock and Totnes use of public assets. Totnes also looking at a local commissioning model. It is a Government funded initiative.

Devon Local – a commitment across the Devon Strategic Partnership Board organisations looking at public and voluntary sectors joining up to shape services. Full details circulated prior to meeting.

11. <u>Dartmoor National Park Authority</u> – no update in the absence of Jo Rumble. There was a suggestion that a future meeting could discuss the role of parish comments in the consideration of planning applications within the National Park.

12. Any Other Business

Cllr Pearce advised that the Greater Dartmoor LEAF project has been awarded a further £2M to make grants over the next 5 years for economic growth and employment. The Scheme is for small rural businesses looking to expand. Full information available on website www.fundingsouthwest.co.uk/gdl



13. <u>Date of Next Meeting</u> – confirmed as Thursday 4th December 2014, 7 pm at the Coronation Hall, Mary Tavy.

Meeting declared closed at 9.35 pm

Enclosures:

- 1. Okehampton Rail Link information
- 2. Police report