

PETROCKSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Annual Meeting held in the Baxter Hall on
Tuesday 19th September 2017 at 7.30pm.

Councillors present: I Fisher (Chair), J Jeffs, D Kelsey, A Hunkin, B Cameron,
M Busby, DC R Wiseman, F Lowe (Clerk), 1 member of the public

23. **Apologies of Absence.** Apologies were received from Cllr J Harris,
CC A Saywell and PCSO M Baker.
24. **Declarations of Interest.** None
25. **Public Session.** None
26. **Correspondence.** Cllrs agreed that they had received the
correspondence as listed (appendix a 2017-09-19) and no queries were
raised.
27. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 18th
July 2017, having been previously circulated, were amended to read that
the PSSC is opening a Nat West (not Nationwide) bank account. They
were then approved and signed as a correct record.
28. **Matters arising from previous minutes.**
 - a. HGV/Sibelco lorries. As Steve Lark from Sibelco was unable to attend,
this item has been postponed until November.
 - b. Play Park Wall. Cllr Kelsey showed the Councillors a scale
representation of the mural to be painted on the walls, which have
been repointed and painted white. Cllr Jeffs has purchased some of
the paints etc and the rest are being purchased. It is hoped that the
work will be completed before winter.
29. **Current Business.** William Knapman from Meeth came to talk to cllrs
about the Tarka Trail extension. He voiced several concerns over the
amount of public money spent and is asking people to contact him if
they have concerns over the new route and the planning applications for
new properties along it. He can be contacted on 07798-530852 or at
william.knapman@gmail.com
30. **Planning.** 1/0450/2017/FULM for 10 houses on Syncocks land. The cllrs
viewed and discussed the amended plans for this application. They are
pleased that there are more smaller houses and that the appearance has
been improved. The Clerk was instructed to forward the following
comments to Planning: "We appreciate that the developers have taken

Initials of chair

on board our previous comments and amended the plans appropriately. However, we still have some concerns over the amount of shade being produced in the gardens and concern was raised regarding the amenity area. It was felt that the proposed pond could be a safety hazard for small children in an area allocated for ball games etc. We are sure that the s106 affordable housing contribution will be very useful for the village.” Cllr Wiseman will investigate the possibility of the affordable housing contribution being used locally.

31. Councillors Reports.

- a. **Recreation Ground.** The PSSC held a meeting on 17th August. They received some money from Merton Monks. The Chair and Treasurer are opening a Nat West account in Okehampton. The Golf event on Sept 10th was cancelled due to bad weather and there will not be a firework display this year as insurance and other costs are too high. Following the 2 burglaries in August, they have been overwhelmed with support given. Committee are now looking at various security measures and are hoping to replace the stolen items. The Steve Packer memorial bench has been vandalised. Helen Packer was very upset but has arranged repairs. The Clerk is to write to Torrington Police expressing the PC’s concerns. The Licence has all been signed and Cllr Kelsey will supply a File Copy.
- b. **Play Area.** Cllr Jeffs reported that the gate is catching at the bottom. Lawson has agreed to adjust it.
- c. **Baxter Hall.** Cllr Busby reported that the Big Breakfast was a great success with 103 meals served; more than last time. There is a Church Quiz on 30th September and Barn Dance on 20th October and in September 2018 the Grand Ball for the 40th Anniversary of the hall. An application has been sent to TDC for finance for enlarging the bar washing area to accommodate a glass washer. This will involve moving the Fire Doors. The AGM will be held on 20th September.
- d. **District Report.** It is envisaged that the local Plan will be adopted by the Secretary of State in early 2018.
- e. **Police Report.** PCSO Baker provided the following reports for the last 2 months: Crimes – 8; 3 burglaries, 1 vehicle interference, 2 criminal damage, 1 use threatening/abusive/threatening words/behaviour causing harassment, alarm & distress, 1 possession of air rifle when prohibited. Logs – 1 report of burglary
- f. **Joint Area Advisory Group.** Cllr Fisher reported that there were presentations on the Local Plan, Waste and Recycling, Policing and Devon County Council. Waste & Recycling are trialling new vehicles

and will inform PC's before public regarding updates. Charges for garden waste will be from April 2018 and new recycling information will be sent out with the Council Tax demands. Police report included that Devon has a low crime rate and North Devon the lowest in Devon. The best way to contact the Police is online. DCCLr Saywell advised that DCC aim to have 1 electric car charging point in each of the main towns and gave information on mobile connectivity.

32. Financial Items. Payments for the following were approved and raised.

Cheques were signed by Cllrs Fisher and Hunkin.

- a. Grant Thornton (external auditors) - £360. Cheque no 356.
- b. VAT reclaimed for Rec Ground - £175.09. Cheque no 353.
- c. VAT reclaimed for Play Area - £30.40. Cheque no 354.
- d. DALC membership (original cheque no 342 lost in post) - £97.48. Cheque no 355.

33. Defibrillator sign. With the Chair's permission; Cllr Jeffs asked the Clerk to look at the cost of a sign to put on the Baxter Hall wall to better advise the location of the defibrillator.

A provisional Planning Meeting to be held on 17th October if required and the next PCM to be held on 21st November 2017.

With no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Chairman Date