

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th January 2015
in Roborough Village Hall

Present

Councillor Rob Brown (Chairman)
Councillor Karen Bryant

Councillor Martyn Hookway
Councillor Michael Folland

Item (1) Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from District Councillor Rose Lock, Councillor Roy May and Councillor Yvonne Isaac.

Item (2) Declaration of Interest.

There were no interests declared.

Item (3) Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 4th November 2014.

The Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on the 4th November were agreed by the parish Councillors present as correct and signed by the Chairman.

Item (4) The Chairman invited any members of the public present to raise any matters of concern with the Parish Council.

There were no members of the public present.

Item (5) Matters arising from the Minutes.

a, Highways report (Councillor Rob Brown).

There is now a new way of reporting potholes. They are no longer reported to Steve Elsworthy the Highways Manager for this area. Road defects are now to be reported on the new website is run by Devon County Council.

Councillor Rob Brown has agreed to continue to be the coordinator for reporting Potholes in the Parish.

In the Minutes of the last Torrington Area Advice Group it was implied that if repairs are to be made to the highway in Parishes by Parish Councils, training was available. The meeting was also advised that Devon County Council Highways Department are already looking to start work with Parishes to create Road Wardens in addition to the Snow Wardens already in place.

b, Financial Report (Parish Clerk).

Natwest Current Account	£1,852.22	29/12/2014
Natwest Reserve Account	£ 378.42	28/11/2014
IS&I Account	£1,657.27	05/02/2014

c, Proposed Precept submission. (Parish Clerk /Councillor Rob Brown)

Councillor Rob Brown explained that the Council Tax support Grant had been reduced from £149 -£135 this year and Roborough had lost 1.45 band D properties since April 2014. This would mean that the Precept for the forth coming year would be reduced if the Parish Council refrained from increasing the amount on the Parish Precept form. Options of 1%, 2% and 5% increases were discussed and it was unanimously agreed to request a 5% increase on the amount of the Parish Precept that was received for 2104/2015. This will cover the cost of the increased responsibility's being passed onto Parish Council, such as the forth coming elections this year and

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also to safeguard the Parish from further future cuts/caps to the Precept. An explanation will be circulated to all Parishioners. The relevant forms were completed and signed by the Chairman.

Item (6) Correspondence received since the 4th November 2014 Parish Council meeting.

A Letter has been received informing the Parish Council that the Torrington NatWest Bank branch will be closed from 31st March 2015.

Item (7) New Business including:

(a) District Councillors Report.

A written report was read from District Councillor Rose Lock. In the report it was highlighted that Torrington District Council are undergoing a “transformation programme”. There is a new project management structure in place and also staff who work in various satellite buildings will be relocated into one site, probably in Riverbank the main Torrington office.

There is a new document relating to Planning issued by Central Government, entitled “Not in my backyard”. A copy was attached to the email report and can be downloaded.

(b) Planning Portal. Establishment of Planning sub-committee.

Torrington District Council will be no longer sending paper copies of planning applications. This means that all planning applications will have to be looked at on Torrington District Council’s website. Councillor Rob Brown proposed that a planning sub committee should be formed who would take responsibility to look at the applications online and formulate a response. Councillor Karen Bryant, Yvonne Isaac and Rob Brown agreed to form the sub committee. However all Councillors will receive the email with the planning application request and can comment or request a meeting if it is felt necessary.

(c) I.T. equipment for Parish Council use.

This will be discussed at the next parish Council meeting.

(d) Planning Applications.

Proposal: Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 1 dwelling/s under class MB (a)

Location : Lower Barn, Wansley Barton, Roborough, Winkliegh.

(e) Cheques for signature.

Town and Parish Fund –Village Hall	Cheque No. 400	£245.00
Village Hall rental for year ending 31 st March 2014	Cheque No. 401	£ 65.00

Item (8) Date of next meeting.

10th March 2015 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed by chairman at 20.20 hours.

Chairman’s signature..... Date.....

Clerk’s signature..... Date.....