

Minutes of the Plymtree Annual Parish Meeting Held at Vestry Rooms on Tuesday 12th May 2009 Commenced at 7.30pm

Plymtree Parish Councillors Present

Chris Fayers Karen Rosser Liz Gallagher
Tony Clarke Fran Batten Geoff Harris

6 Electors of Plymtree Parish were present

Also present PCSO Phil Anning
 District Councillor – Phillip Skinner (PS)

Report from Neighbourhood Beat Manager

PCSO Phil Anning presented crime figures for Parish, 2008-2009. Congratulated Parish as only 1 reported crime. A false representation was made where an elector lost their driving licence which was used by unknown person to purchase a mobile phone.

Emphasised the need to still be vigilant. Thefts from sheds and outbuildings are always a problem in rural areas.

PCSO Phil Anning then left the meeting.

Electors Comments

Chairman invited comments from those present.

Tractor Speeds In Parish

Concern expressed over speed of tractors operating around village specifically Weaver Lane. Electors had felt vulnerable and intimidated by the driving of these vehicles. Additionally causing verge and bank damage in the lane and dragging substantial mud hazard on to roads. Comment made that Contracted drivers may be involved.

Action: Clerk to draft letters to local farmers asking for their assistance in this matter. Noted that Farming and the Public Highway Leaflets were available jointly drafted by Devon County Council and NFU. Clerk to obtain copies of advisory leaflets and circulate.

Planning Applications

Concern expressed that planning applications were not being brought to the attention of those electors who were likely to be affected. Specifically the neighbours of the application for free range chicken units in Weaver Lane had not seen the EDDC site notices and had not been informed by EDDC by letter as should have happened.

PS made comment that site notices should go up as a matter of course, comment made by resident that they had not seen one in the area. PS expressed surprise that electors in this area had not been notified by letter of the application.

Electors advised that notice of applications are advertised on Parish Noticeboard. Planning applications are also minuted at Parish Council Meetings but these are often seen retrospectively due to the short timescale for responses. Comment made that the introduction of the village website would be a vehicle for informing residents of applications.

Vehicle Access to Weaver Lane Chicken Units

Concern expressed that tractors/vehicles were using Weaver Lane access to chicken units. Understood that the Chaldon Lane access was supposed to be the access route.

Action: Clerk would obtain original application for Councillors to view planning conditions at next meeting.

Fly Nuisance

Concern expressed over fly nuisance. The new application for chicken units was conditional on details of a scheme demonstrating an integrated approach to fly and insect control.

PS stated that Environmental Health could be contacted where flies formed a severe nuisance and had undertaken various studies in the past to see where flies originated. Further commented that there had to be a balance between community and farmer. Farmers did have code to follow.

Allotments

Comment made that this would be a great facility for the village and support the sustainable Plymtree idea. Parish Council agreed that they were supportive of the initiative.

Letters had been sent to all local landowners but no responses had been forthcoming.

Suggested consider other options e.g. County Council owned farm's.

Suggested personal approach could be made to landowners of sites that might be suitable. CF agreed to assist small committee of interested parties in this.

Elector had been in contact with the CCD (community Council of Devon). They were looking to obtain lottery funding to support people with community allotments and could be a source of funding for community projects.

Djangos Rest

Neighbours of the site hadn't received any notification of the planning application for Polytunnels or seen any site notice in place. It was recognised that this site fell within Mid Devon District Council. It was suggested that those affected make contact with the local ward councillor Mrs Q Broom to express their concerns over this lack of notification.

An elector also expressed his concern over levels of noise from the site that they had experienced and the problem of loose dogs.

Concern expressed that verandah had been put up without a planning application. It was understood that a retrospective application would be made shortly.

Neighbourhood Assessment

Question: Would Parish Council be reviewing matters raised in the Neighbourhood Assessment document conducted and published by EDDC.

Action: Councillors agreed to review and discuss any issues of concern at next meeting.

Litter Pick Day

Question: Would Parish Council be holding another litter pick day. It was agreed council would organise another day but possibly later in year when undergrowth had died back.