

CHITTLEHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL
**Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th February 2017 at
The Methodist Hall, Chittlehampton, 7.30p.m.**

Those present: Cllr Mr M Ives (Chairman) Councillors, Mr T Kirby, Mr H Hooper, Mrs A Davies, Mr P Bradbury, Mr C Timberlake, Mr I Waldron, Mrs R Rawle, Mrs S Rowe, Mrs P Shallcross, Mrs R Warren (Clerk) Cllr Mr W White and Cllr R Edgell

Apologies: 0

No response: Cllr Mrs M Edwards. Members of the public: 0

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the 11th January 2017 and the planning minutes of the 26th January 2017 were agreed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

Highway Matters: Any problems will be reported.

Police Report: There was no report.

Umberleigh Pedestrian Crossing: It was unanimously agreed that this was no longer needed.

Playing Field: The fence around the play equipment has been repaired. The wood chip round the play equipment needs replacing. Mrs Warren is applying to the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme for help with funding. The overhanging branches around the football pitch will be cut back when the ground is dryer. Quotes are going to be obtained for replacing the steps in the bank in the playing field.

North Devon and Torridge Local Plan: No news.

North Devon Communities Fund: An application is being made to have signs asking drivers to drive safely through the village. Quotations have been received and the application has now been submitted.

Correspondence: A letter was received from Peter Heaton-Jones MP regarding hospital services in North Devon confirming that he is still supporting our efforts to stop the proposed changes.

Standing Orders: The updated Standing Orders were adopted.

Finance:

Payments made: £130.00 Mr C Timberlake. Repairing fence around play equipment.

Any other Business: Concerns have once again been made about the safety of pedestrians walking from the Umberleigh Village Hall area to Umberleigh School. Cllr White arranged a meeting for the 14th January 2017 at 3pm to discuss the problems. Minutes of this meeting are attached. Cllr Edgell is arranging a meeting with Devon Highways to discuss what improvements can be made.

Cllr Edgell reported concerns about the underfunding of Devon's school pupils. Currently Devon's pupils are funded at £290.00 less than the national average. The Government had been hoping to correct the imbalance between urban and rural schools with their new proposals. In Devon, the new proposals would see the funding of about 200 schools rise slightly and about 100 schools would lose funding. South Molton Community College had reported that their pupils would be losing 3% of their funding. Peter Heaton-Jones MP is aware of the concerns and will be lobbying Government to correct the imbalance.

The collator purchased for the Chronicle has now been moved to premises in South Molton. See letters attached.

Cllr Rowe reported that a great amount of work is required to make the footpath in Umberleigh safe. This is the path that ends opposite the school. The Environment Agency is responsible for the repairs and they are aware of the damage. Cllr Rowe also reported that flood defence work was being carried out in Umberleigh.

The meeting ended at 8.45 pm. The next meeting will be at 7.30 pm on the 5th April 2017 in the Methodist Hall, Chittlehampton.