

MINUTES POUGHILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held in the Village Hall at 7:30 pm on Thursday 14th March 2024

Attendees: Cllr Wellerd (Chair), Cllr English, DCllr Colthorpe, Cllr Wild, Cllr Clark, CCllr Squires.

Members of Public: Simon Gibbons, Debbie Gibbons. A discussion was held regarding wilding the churchyard.

2. Apologies – None.

3. Declaration of Interests.

3.1 Cllr Wellerd and Cllr Wild registered an interest in 5.3, Cllr Clark registered an interest in 7.2 and Cllr Colthorpe registered an interest in 7.1

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

4.1 Minutes from the meeting held on 11th January 2024 were approved.

5. Finance

5.1 Notification of payments and receipts since the last meeting and current financial status.

The Current Account balance at 03/03/2024 was £2,015.70, plus £1,654.87 in the Instant Access Savings Account.

Date	Details	Interest	Receipt	Payment	Balance	Savings Bal
31-Dec	Balance				£2,349.31	£1,651.33
09-Jan	IAS Account Interest	£1.71				
15-Jan	D Kingdon			£133.02		
16-Jan	CF Community Shop - Newsletter Sales		£3.45			
16-Jan	Thornes Farmshop - Newsletter Sales		£1.29			
09-Feb	IAS Account Interest	£1.83				
21-Feb	Hedgerow Print			£75.00		
21-Feb	D Kingdon			£24.75		
21-Feb	D Kingdon			£111.68		
3-Mar	CF Community Shop - Newsletter Sales		£4.34			
3-Mar	Thornes Farmshop - Newsletter Sales		£1.76			
3-Mar	Balance				£1,654.87	£2,015.70

5.2 An increase in the Newsletter subscription rate to £8, has been approved

5.3 A grant of £100 for the Poughill Village Hall Trust has been approved

6. Governance

6.1 The Freedom of Information Policy V2 has been reviewed and remains unchanged.

7. Planning

7.1 Ref No 24/00121/HOUSE

Proposal: Erection of timber framed workshop

Location: 5 The Glebe Poughill Crediton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 285595 / 108462

Parish: Poughill 40

No Objection

7.2 Ref No 24/00331/FULL

Proposal: Variation of condition (1) of planning permission 20/01575/FULL (Retention of a caravan as a temporary agricultural worker dwelling) to extend temporary planning permission for an additional 2 years

Location: Land at NGR 285531 109541 (Edbury Farm) Pennymoor Devon

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 285563 / 109553

Parish: Poughill 40

The application to extend permission for the temporary (caravan) accommodation is to allow extra time for the agricultural business on the site to achieve the commercial viability required to permit the development of a permanent residential building. The application claims that viability has so far been prevented by 'Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic'. In fact, there are inherent constraints on this business – the indoor rearing of calves - achieving commercial viability: the site is very small (no more than 5 acres) and the current barn housing inadequate for the quantity of livestock required if the business were to be able to demonstrate commercial viability even in the medium term.

Any attempt to meet the business threshold required for securing permission for a permanent residential building will result in a significant expansion of livestock on the site that is not appropriate or sustainable either for the land area or the current barn housing. There is no mains water supply on site and the current operation is dependent upon informal access to a nearby supply. Such intensive agricultural operation on a single field with no supporting infrastructure risks air and environmental pollution and, with high livestock volumes in an enclosed area, further risks to human health and safety. Of course, it also raises animal welfare concerns.

Given the limited area of the single field, any mitigation of these risks would require the development of new barn housing for the livestock of a height, length and breadth which would cause both light pollution and visual impacts to surrounding properties. At any rate, such a development would require Planning Consent.

Therefore, the grounds for objection are that extending the term for temporary accommodation on this site will invite an intensification of the current agricultural operation on a limited land area and infrastructure which are inadequate to support it sustainably, risking air and environmental pollution and human health and safety.

8. Update on actions

8.1 Hope Meadow – No response from enforcement

9. District Councillor/County Councillor report

9.1 District – Bin it 123, side waste will not be picked up. Council tax letters are being sent out as of today.

9.2 County – A balanced budget has been presented, foster caring letters will be sent out with the council tax bills.

10. Correspondence

10.1 Newsletter

11. Chair's Report - None

Meeting closed at 8.15 pm

Next meeting – **09th May 2024**