

DITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Incorporating the Hamlet of Capton and the Manors of Bozomzeal and Coombe

Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Annual Parish Meeting held in Dittisham Village Hall, on Wednesday 5 April 2017 at 7.00 p.m.

These aim to record points raised and are not a transcript of the meeting.

Present: Cllrs D Harris-Evans (Vice-Chairman), M Faulkner, R Bond, P Coxon, J Tucker, S Bond, P Unitt, Cllr N Green, Devon County Cllr Hawkins, and A Thom (Clerk).
14 members of the public were present.

1. Welcome by the Chairman.

Cllr Harris-Evans welcomed all present and provided a general introduction. He gave particular thanks to Cllr Faulkner for his work on the car parks.

2. Management of The Level Car Park and The Ham Car Park

The meeting discussed DPC's plans for the management of The Level Car Park and The Ham Car Park.

Cllr Faulkner explained that both car parks will become pay and display car parks operated by DPC with enforcement carried out by SHDC.

DPC is working with SHDC to establish RingGo as an electronic payment method and to provide a virtual permit system.

Q. Who will set the car park charges?

A. DPC has set the tariffs after careful review of the car parks and their location. Shorter parking periods have been introduced. The cost of a seven day parking ticket will be £25.

Q. The member of the public responded that they consider £25 too be too expensive.

A. The car parks need to generate income for DPC to pay business rates.

Q. Will permits be vehicle specific?

A. The current system of permits was established 14 years ago and has not been changed. It is currently proposed to retain the system of providing two permits without a charge to permanent residents and one permit for non-resident property owners. The system will be changed to link the permits to specific vehicles.

Q. A member of the public stated that as non-residents pay full Council Tax they should not be discriminated against. The issue is made worst by attachment to one car.

Q. A member of the public objected to vehicle specific permits as they have 15 cars which they may choose to park on The Ham.

A. Cllr Harris-Evans advised no final decision has been made and acknowledged that second home owners payment of equivalent council tax is a change. The system will be thought through.

A. Cllr Faulkner noted that most Council Tax is paid to DCC and SHDC.

Q. A member of the public noted that some holiday accommodation they have used provides a recoverable token to pay for car parking.

A. Cllr Unitt explained that DPC incurs a cost to provide the car parking. It is subsidised but not free. DPC has a loan of £125,000 to repay. The total purchase cost was £165,000 and there is a business rates liability.

Q. A member of the public asked if it was possible for the system to allow the use of not more than one car at a time?

A. It is understood that the virtual permit system allows each permit to be linked to one specific vehicle.

2. Road Warden

Devon County Council's Road Warden Scheme was discussed by County Cllr Hawkins. It allows communities to carry out works around the public highway. DCC can provide support with training and grants. The scheme is accessible to non-Councillor members of the community.

3. Second home ownership

Cllr Tucker explained that SHDC will support restriction of ownership of new build homes to local residents via Neighbourhood Plans.

4. Open Forum

The Open Forum discussed The Ham playground. Most of the wooden equipment has been removed because it was found to be unsafe. A provider has been chosen to install new playground and fitness equipment. Councillors are working to obtain grant funding and welcomed the assistance of members of the public.

The APM closed at 19:54.