

**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2011 IN THE  
VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY**

**Present:** Cllrs Philip Glanvill (in the Chair), Ray Brown, Patrick Bricknell, G Gerdes, C Hoar, D Moore, Mrs G Parkin, K Perry

**Also present:** District Cllrs David Atkins & Mrs Ann Liverton: County Cllrs Bernard Hughes Christine Channon: Mrs Sally Elliott (Woodbury Salterton Tree Warden): Mr John Treasaden (Woodbury Tree Warden): approximately 40 -50 members of the public and the Clerk to the Council, Mrs Belinda Price: Sulina Tallack & Jamie Buckley (guest speakers from EDDC)

**1. Minutes:** The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2010 were approved and signed (previously circulated to members and tabled for those present). (P/S: Gerdes/Perry)

**2. Chairman's Report:** The Chairman presented his annual report highlighting events and actions that had taken place during the year. He reminded everyone that the elected Councillors of the District and Parish would soon be coming to the end of another four year term and the elections to be held in May will offer opportunities for existing Councillors and members of the community to stand for election. In Woodbury Ward there will certainly be one vacancy as Reg Brown, who had worked tirelessly for the benefit of the whole community, will be standing down. The Chairman thanked him most sincerely for his input and wished him good health for the future. Another vacancy will be that of District Cllr Mrs Ann Liverton's ward. She has been most supportive of Woodbury PC which has been very much appreciated. Cllr Chris Hoar is a new parish councillor who joined late in the term and has already shown himself to be a committed and enthusiastic Councillor and we trust he will be standing in May.

Snow wardens have been appointed following the unusual weather experienced in December. The PC is also investigating the setting up of an emergency planning committee to look at flooding within the villages, most especially Exton.

Exton play area was revamped in 2010 using PC funds together with section 106 funding of £6500 together with £4000 from the Exton Festival Committee, resulting in very positive feedback. Another source of funding came from the RoCKETS scheme. This year's grant of £1600 was an 80% contribution towards the cost of resurfacing the small car park at the entrance to St Swithuns Church.

In April 2010 EDDC asked the PC for comments on the Local Development Framework. The LDF is attempting to look forward to 2030 and decide on possible changes to facilitate a growing population in terms of housing, employment and amenities. The PC replied separately for each village to reflect the differing communities suggesting limited housing development in Woodbury Salterton and Exton but growth in Woodbury of mixed affordable sheltered and open market housing along with small office and workshop units for employment.

The Parish Council has many wardens who help the PC look after the villages – namely Sally Elliott, John Treasaden and Peter King on trees: Robert Gittings, Ngaio Southard, Anna & Lucy Eyres on play areas; Tim Frampton and Judy Green on footpaths and Graham Joyce who erects the Christmas lights in the Lime tree on the Village Green. Their assistance and commitment in these areas is greatly appreciated.

Finally, my sincere thanks are extended to all the councillors for their support and good humour and of course to our clerk Belinda Price for her advice and patience.

**3. Accounts:** The Clerk reported that the greatest part of the PC's outgoings, discounting staffing costs, relate to the upkeep of the play areas, costs associated with ground & tree maintenance and the charge levied by EDDC for the public conveniences. The Parish Council continues to administer the community grant scheme whereby local groups and societies can apply for a share of the fund available. In this current financial year funds have been promised to the Maytree Pre School, Woodbury Salterton Village Hall, the Woodbury Football Club and the Woodbury Tennis Club. In addition the PC is also committed to helping the Ring & Ride Scheme which is operated by Exmouth & District Community Transport Group and is a partnership between Devon CC, EDDC and the Parish and Town Councils.

The Parish Council continues to make strenuous efforts to keep its Precept requirement as low as possible. The PC precept requirement is not capped, unlike District and County Councils and although Woodbury's has been increased by approximately £3000 this year, in actual fact that is mainly due to the fact that the funds anticipated to be brought forward from the current year are less than that of the year 2009/10. In 2009/10 the PC had approximately £6000 to bring forward. This year that was reduced to just over £3000. The PC is committed to keeping any increases to minimal levels and in many cases has actually reduced its

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**3. Accounts (cont):** requirement. Environmental costs this year amount to £9360 – last year they were £9478. Administration has been reduced from £3464 to £3250. Rents and subs (which include the toilets) have been increased from £4990 to £5419 most of which is due to increases of rents and subs charged to us which is outside our control. We have set aside £6800 towards new equipment in the four play areas for which we are responsible; £300 for footpath expenditure and £451 towards the running of the allotments. This year we have put aside £250 towards the maintenance of the Gulliford Burial Ground and £200 to help with the maintenance of village clocks. It was felt to be important to continue to administer the Community Grant scheme as an important way of assisting local societies and groups and have again put away £2000 towards these worthy local causes.

The Clerk finished by reminding everyone of the notice board in each of the villages which contain information relating to agendas, contact details, posters and other important information. The web site administered by Roger Stokes also contains up to date information on meetings including agendas and authorised minutes.

**4. Guest Speakers – Sulina Tallack and Jamie Buckley:** Ms Tallack and Ms Buckley gave an interesting presentation on the Localism Bill which devolves more power to councils and neighbourhoods and gives local communities greater control over local decisions such as housing and planning. It is set to reverse the centralist creep of decades and replace it with local control and will be a triumph for democracy over bureaucracy. It will fundamentally shake up the balance of power in the UK, revitalizing local democracy and putting power back where it belongs, in the hands of the people. The planning reform agenda includes: the abolition of regional strategies: a duty to co-operate: community infrastructure levy; pre-application discussions: enforcement: nationally significant infrastructure: local development framework and Neighbourhood Plans.

The General Power of Competence will enable authorities to do anything that does not break the law; can return to the “committee system” or move to an elected Mayor, subject to a local referendum; the Government will encourage a new generation of directly elected Majors in 12 cities subject to local referenda: Councillors may campaign and speak publicly on issues without losing their right to vote and will make it a criminal offence for councillors to withhold or misrepresent a personal interest.

Community Empowerment will give power to people, councillors and councils to instigate non-binding local referenda: it will require councils to hold referenda to seek approval for excessive council tax rises: Right to Challenge enables community groups, charities, parish councils or council employees to petition to run council services; Councils will maintain a list of assets of community value and Right to Bid allows communities to nominate land/buildings for inclusion and bid to buy them: Community Infrastructure Levy enables some money to go directly to neighbourhoods affected by development.

Neighbourhood Planning will have many benefits including: defining the neighbourhood: applying to be a Neighbourhood Forum: undertaking pre-application consultation/assessment: Local Authority duty to support: submission of draft plans/orders for independent examination: Local Authority Validation check: independent examination; Examiners Report: Referendum on modified plans/orders: adoption by Local Authority (part of development plan).

**5. District & County Councillors' Reports:**

**District Cllr Mrs Ann Liverton:** Cllr Mrs Liverton reported that since her report to the last APM there had been several planning issues that have affected Woodbury Salterton – some controversial such as economic development sites and traveller sites and some less so, such as the affordable housing application next to Sages Lea, which although not meeting with general approval meets the District Council's priority of affordable housing and the viability of rural communities.

The new recycling contract has been rolled out in the Woodbury area and I presume it is working satisfactorily as I have had no complaints.

The District Council has been doing intensive work on the LDF which is set to replace the Local Plan. This has taken on a new slant since the change of Government and the subsequent promise of a Localism bill.

The District part of the Council Tax has been set at nil increase. This means that taken with the reduction in government subsidy, the Council has had to be very frugal in setting its budget. Some redundancies have already taken place and there are more to come. The management structure is being severely streamlined with which mean in inevitable loss or reduction in some services and the sad loss of some good officers who have served the Council and the people of East Devon well and often for many years.

*[Signature]* 24-5-12

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**5. District & County Councillors' Reports: (cont)**

**District Cllr Mrs Ann Liverton:** Due to family commitments I shall not be seeking re-election in May. In any event the District Council is likely to change radically over the next few years and it is time for new councillors to come in with fresh ideas and enthusiasm.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the time spent representing Raleigh Ward and would like to thank the Chairman and councillors of Woodbury PC for their unfailing courtesy during the year and the Clerk for her help in keeping me informed and updated on matters relating to the Ward. I will miss you all.

**County Cllr Mrs Christine Channon:** Cllr Mrs Channon reported that it had been an interesting year both at national and local level. Government policy changes almost by the hour: some for the best and others still awaiting the small print. Although none of the main charging authorities have set any increases in the Council Tax this year there have been major cuts in the budget. At Devon CC this amounts to £54m. Most of these cuts are being made in terms of back-office provision but a few will affect the coal face. No library will close but most will have a reduction in opening hours - however, decisions about these cuts will be made after consultation. Some supported bus services have been axed but these are simply where demand has been limited. I am assured that none of these routes affect your area.

The severe winter weather has once again affected the roads and we are yet again embarking on a programme for filling potholes. Extra money has been set aside for this and it is hoped we will get a reasonable share of the extra £100m set aside by Government as well. Devon CC is trying to enforce better quality work by statutory undertakers, such as BT, SWW, Western Power, when they have dug up our roads to repair or replace their services but this is uphill work.

Local schools have performed well and Devon has done slightly better than previous years in the Designated Schools Grant but there is still a good deal of room for improvement and I will continue to press our case at national level.

Councillors have been given a small increase in their locality budgets to help fund small local projects. I believe this is to do with something called the Big Society.

Planning still continues to be a problem in some parts of the Ward and officers still spend a lot of time checking out developments which either blatantly flout the planning recommendations agreed or are retrospective. I still receive a lot of local complaints whenever such offences occur.

I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Parish Council for their help and support throughout the year and I am particularly grateful to Belinda, your clerk, who keeps me so well-informed.

**District Cllr Atkins:** Cllr Atkins reported as follows: Ben Ingham and I have served on various committees, working parties and think tanks over the last four years and the last year saw me return to the Planning Committee where from 1997-1991 I was Chairman. I serve on the following committees: Audit & Governance, Licensing & Enforcement, Economy, Overview & Scrutiny, together with Gypsy & Strategic Planning & Regeneration think tanks, along with the disciplinary panel for statutory officers.

This year has been particularly busy with the LDF panel meetings which I have been able to attend and given an input, along with attendance at the Executive Board.

EDDC has had to find £2.4m in savings in the next financial year due to cuts imposed by government. The District CEO shares his time with the South Somerset District Council thus saving both Councils funds. Karime Hassan has returned to Exeter City Council and a new hierarchy is proposed and being established. Some officers have sought early retirement - others have taken on greater responsibilities. Some departments have been combined. Staff have left and not been replaced which has led to everyone working harder, causing some minor health problems and days lost. I do not consider the cabinet system is a speedier decision maker. It is a concern of mine and others that rather than having less paper reports it appears we have more and bigger reports. I know this is for transparency but I do consider that the old system was better. But one must not look back.

In conclusion, I would refer to the fact that all precepting authorities, excluding parish councils, have kept their call for council tax to the same as last year and in particular East Devon has a balanced budget. Officers and Members are to be congratulated for the encouraging approach whilst maintaining most front line services as required. Challenging times are ahead and I very much hope to be able to continue to serve this Ward after the May elections.

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**5. District & County Councillors' Reports: (cont)**

**County Cllr Bernard Hughes:** Cllr Hughes reported that it had been a quiet year with no major campaigns or issues in the Parish. There was a call for a 20mph speed limit but no proven need.

The traffic lights at Exton leading from Station Road have been a great success for traffic and improvements in the same area made to alleviate flooding have helped. A gate has been blocked up and a Devon bank put in its place. Gilbrook has been cleared out which has also helped.

County Councillors have been given extra funds for small projects and I have given £2000 to Woodbury School for computers.

The cycle path link from Green Lane to Darts Farm has now been completed. Some people don't like it but the County Engineers is keeping an eye on the increased traffic. Unfortunately it is being misused by horse riders and motor cyclists.

Devon County Council has had to make some very hard and difficult budget reductions this year. Staffing levels have been reduced over the past twelve months in advance of the need to cut back manpower and costs. The County Council has had to cut £54.5million this year – there has been restructuring within senior management and we are to lose several Chief Officers. Major restructuring is also taking place within the Highways and Environment Departments, as well as all other areas of our work.

On a personal level I have now stepped down from the Chairmanship of the Devon and Somerset Fire Authority after 10 years in office. I am still the Chairman of the Exe Estuary Partnership and was delighted recently to welcome the inclusion of Woodbury Parish Council within that partnership. I am also the Chairman of the Devon & Exeter Rail Partnership and I am pleased to report that the Avocet Line continues to make good progress. Last year saw over 1.5 million passenger journeys. 1<sup>st</sup> May sees the celebration of 150 years. The topic of the low platform, at Exton is again under discussion – there is a possibility of a "Harrington Hump being added to the platform level.

**6. Tree Wardens' Reports**

**Mrs Sally Elliott** advised that they had lost 2 trees in Woodbury Salterton to disease during the year. The first was a horse chestnut which grew on the main village plantation on the New Way side of the stream. A length of trunk has been left as "standing habitat" for birds and insects. The other loss was a Prunus on New Way corner and it is hoped that this can be replaced in the autumn.

In November the Cameron family planted a flowering crab on Bonds Lane corner in memory of their parents who were long term residents of Woodbury Salterton. It joins the other new trees on that corner all of which are doing well.

**John Treasaden** reported on all the works and planning applications he had examined over the year including the removal of two trees encroaching on houses in Fulford Way: the felling of several trees including an Oak tree on land north of Greenway, a large Ash in a small garden in Brent Close and a Sycamore on Globe Hill. On the other hand, he and Sally Elliott had planted seven trees in the Cricket Field.

**7. Police Report:** PCSO Donna Baker reported as follows: the police have conducted several educational speeding operations on the Broadway in Woodbury during 2009 and 2010. On two occasions we worked with fire officers and all vehicles caught speeding were given the option of watching real time CCTV of road traffic accidents relating to excess speed, which was harrowing footage. Local offices have regularly attended with the Speed Indication Device which records the actual speed of vehicles. All vehicles exceeding the limit receive letters. Traffic officers attended regularly during 2010 and tickets were issued to those drivers caught speeding. Data collected from 1 – 30 June 2010 on a 24 hours a day basis showed the following mean speed figures collated for the area which are within acceptable limits: northbound Globe Hill 25.7mph, southbound 24mph, eastbound Broadway 31.3mph, westbound 29.6mph. As a result of this data Highways are not prepared to make any changes to the speed restriction of the layout of the road. The flashing 30mph sign on Broadway and at the bottom of Globe Hill were placed as part of the zebra crossing programme. I feel the one on Broadway has made a difference, causing traffic to slow when the sign is triggered.

**Speeding on A376 Exton** – this was highlighted by Exton residents last autumn. We have attended on 3 occasions with the Speed Indication Device but there have not been many offenders. We will continue to monitor the situation.

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7. Police Report: cont

**Theft from motor vehicles** - the police continue to write to motorists who leave valuables on display in their vehicles. We have seen a slight decrease in the number of these crimes, 19 incidents in 2009 and 15 in 2010 but the work will continue. The car parks on Woodbury Common are always a target.

**Property marking** – this is a free service the PCSOs offer. Both private individuals and businesses have used the service. Each year we offer a bike marking event which is always well attended. At Woodbury Primary School over 30 bikes were marked.

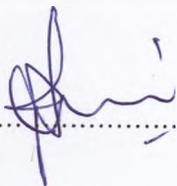
**Neighbourhood Watch** – there has been only one new addition to NHW – this reflects the fact that we have good coverage in the parish. New residents arriving in the parish should be encouraged to join the community message system.

**Crime statistics for the parish** – There were a total of 133 crimes in Woodbury parish in 2010 representing a 20% fall on the total for 2009. Exmouth policing area achieved a 32% detection rate over the 12 months to March. East Devon is now the third safest place to live in the country

8. Resolutions: None

9. Any Other Business: None

**Closure:** The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.10pm.

Signed:  (Chairman): Date: 24-5-12

## WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 24 MAY 2012 IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY

**Present:** Cllrs Philip Glanvill (in the Chair), Ray Brown, Patrick Bricknell, G Gerdes, C Hoar, D Moore, C Moss, G Murrin, Mrs G Parkin, K Perry & M Rowley. District Cllrs D Atkins & R Bloxham: County Cllr B Hughes: PCSO Donna Baker: Mrs Sally Elliott (Woodbury Salterton Tree Warden): Mr John Treasaden (Woodbury Tree Warden): 4 members of the public and the Clerk to the Council, Mrs Belinda Price:

**Also Present - Guest speakers from Foot Anstey LA:** Gareth Pinwell (Head of Planning & Regulatory Practice) and Richard Bagwell (Head of Property Litigation)

**1. Minutes:** The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011 were approved and signed (previously circulated to members and tabled for those present). (P/S: Perry/Gerdes)

**2. Chairman's Report:** The Chairman presented his annual report highlighting events and actions that had taken place during the year. He welcomed three new councillors following the May elections – Cllrs Moss & Mrs McGauley in May and Cllr Rowley who was co-opted later in the year. He extended his thanks to Reg Brown, recently retired from the PC who was an active and tireless supporter of the community and to Kevin Dentith whose experience as an engineer proved most helpful to the council over many years.

He mentioned the 18 houses being built in Woodbury Salterton and said that the parish is under pressure from EDDC to expand the number of dwellings being built – there have been 2 public meetings for possible development of exception sites in Town Lane and Castle Lane. Whether we like it or not, expansion of our communities will take place. A Neighbourhood Plan might well help the PC by giving more weight to its responses to EDDC to planning applications but it will be a lot of work and he requested volunteers to help with this project.

The jubilee celebrations are set for June and all three villages have events planned. The PC is giving mugs to all parish children under 12 years.

He finished by extending his thanks to the county councillors for providing the funds for the additional salt bins around the parish; to all the parish councillors and unpaid volunteers who contribute to the running of the PC and to the Clerk for her good advice and patience.

**3. Accounts:** The Clerk reported that the greatest part of the PC's outgoings, discounting staffing costs, relate to the upkeep of the play areas, costs associated with ground & tree maintenance and the charge levied by EDDC for the public conveniences. The Parish Council continues to administer the community grant scheme whereby local groups and societies can apply for a share of the fund available. In the financial year 2011/12 funds were promised to the Maytree Pre School, Holy Trinity Church Woodbury Salterton, the Woodbury Cricket Club, the Woodbury PTFA and the Woodbury History Society. In addition the PC is also committed to helping the Ring & Ride Scheme which is operated by Exmouth & District Community Transport Group and is a partnership between Devon CC, EDDC and the Parish and Town Councils.

The Parish Council continues to make strenuous efforts to keep its Precept requirement as low as possible. The PC precept requirement is not capped, unlike District and County Councils but by judicious pruning Woodbury has managed to keep its increase this year to £804 from £41212 in 2011/12 to £41016 for 2012/13. We are committed to keeping any increases to minimal levels and in many cases have reduced our requirement. Environmental costs were £9360 last year – this year they are £6644. Admin has had to be increased from £3250 to £6697 to cover legal fees for a problem not of the PC's making. Funds for rents and subs (which include the toilets) have been reduced to £875 by using some unused funds from previous years. Nothing has been put aside for footpath expenditure as they have a healthy reserve, likewise the allotments to which only £275 has been allocated. As usual £200 has been put aside for the Gulliford Burial Ground but nothing for village clocks as they, too, have a small reserve. It was felt to be important to continue to administer the Community Grant scheme as an important way of assisting local societies and groups and £2000 has been put in the budget towards these worthy local causes.

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#### 4. Guest Speakers from Foot Anstey LA- Gareth Pinwell (Head of Planning & Regulatory Practice) and Richard Bagwell (Head of Property Litigation):

Gareth Pinwell spoke on Localism, its concept, and procedure: Neighbourhood Planning and recent developments: the National Planning Policy Framework, its concept & nature: sustainable development and its effect on existing local plans and policies. Richard Bagwell spoke on Commons – the background & definitions, registration and their protection and also on Village Greens – the background, registration, protection and their use.

The Chairman thanked both speakers for attending and sharing their vast knowledge on all these topics which had been most useful both to Members and the public.

#### 5. District & County Councillors' Reports:

**District Cllr David Atkins:** Cllr Atkins reported that he had served on five EDDC committees in the year and had gained a seat on the Exe Rail Partnership Committee and joined the LDF committee for the last four of its meetings to overview matters of some aspects of the framework.

During the year a further review of Management of the District took place and two Deputy Chief Executives were appointed and some Heads of Service Department retired. It has been announced recently that Kate Little will shortly be leaving the Authority and joining North Devon DC. Cllr Atkins returns to Development Management and will then be serving on Licensing & Enforcement, Disciplinary and Strategic Planning as well as Development Management.

EDDC has resisted increasing its council charge along with many PCs unlike the Fire & Rescue Service and the Police. Membership is pulling matters together and a more co-operative modus operandi is taking shape. Cranbrook forges ahead and the show homes are completed. Cllr Atkins fully supports the provision of affordable housing, supported by some private family housing in locations that are suitable and where a need has been established.

Cllr Atkins thanked the Chairman, Members and Clerk for their assistance during the year.

**District Cllr Ray Bloxham:** Cllr Bloxham reported that this was his first Annual Meeting in this part of the Ward since the elections a year ago. Having taken over from Cllr Ann Liverton, he was still finding his way around and gradually getting to know the four Parish Councils, identifying the notable issues within the ward and meeting as many residents as possible along the way. He balances his work within the ward with that of his Cabinet role at EDDC as Portfolio Holder for Corporate Business.

He outlined the current stage of the Local Plan including the consultation with Rural Parishes about the potential allocation of land and highlighted that the challenge was balancing the need for homes, jobs and conservation of the natural environment.

He reported on progress at Cranbrook including the development of Sky Park, the Science Park, the inter-modal freight terminal, the district heating plant and development at the airport.

Other issues he outlined were:

- Financial pressures following the Governments Comprehensive Spending Review and how the District Council is responding to that by maintaining front line services and getting more efficient whilst reducing costs in management and back room operations.
- The restructuring of the Council's housing stock and it's buy-out from the government.
- The move to greater efficiency with the roll out of digital technology for staff.
- Digital record keeping and the development of on-line services.
- The current position regarding a possible move to a new HQ. No decision was expected until the Autumn.
- The regeneration of East Devon Towns.

He concluded on a more local note - a reminder how much he relies on local Councillors and local people to be his eyes and ears and a finally a "thank you" to the Clerk, Chairman and members of the Parish Council for their support and warm welcome.

**County Cllr Mrs Christine Channon:** County Cllr Mrs Christine Channon's report was read by the Clerk in her absence. She reported that DCC has allocated extra money in the budget this year for both the mobile Lengthsman and for improving the minor C roads and requested anyone who spots potholes or defects in the roads to let her know. The local school received a good OFSTED report and the staff, pupils and governors are to be congratulated.

Planning matters relating to Greendale and waste disposal continue to be a problem and Cllr Mrs Channon will be attending the consultation at Woodbury Salterton Village Hall on 19 June. With regard to the retrospective application for SITA to increase the present recycling contract she advised that the

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**5. District & County Councillors' Reports: (cont)**

**County Cllr Mrs Christine Channon: (cont)** Development Management Committee on 6 June are being advised to recommend a site visit. She finished by apologising for not attending the APM in person but had a previous engagement agreed some time ago and thanking the Chairman, Members and Clerk for all their assistance through the year.

**County Cllr Bernard Hughes:** Cllr Hughes reported that the past year has been successful in many ways – everyone is aware of the need to economise and DCC has radically changed the ways in which it delivers its services. There have been changes in their staffing structure with the result in real terms of a saving of some £30million. DCC accepted central Government's offer of a Reward Grant which has meant that they have been able to levy a nil increase in Council tax.

There have been some excellent achievements by DCC such as the Airport, the Business & Science Park, Cranbrook and the new rail, road transport freight depot east of Exeter. All DCC's residential homes are being upgraded over the next three years and not one library has been closed anywhere in Devon.

Although as far as this specific PC is concerned it has been a relatively quiet year, although there are still unresolved problems with the Exe Estuary cycleway at Exton. The major investment by DCC is in the completion of the Cycleway from Green Lane to the river Clyst and the construction of a new £3million plus bridge adjacent to the railway bridge and on through to Topsham.

There is an increase in passengers on the Avocet line which is good news for its future. Talks are ongoing for the promotion of what is to be known as the "Devon Metro" which could eventually bring a 15 minute service between Exmouth and Exeter.

Since the sale of Exeter Airport some of the money raised has been given to County Councillors to help promote local projects in their areas. This year he has helped to fund the cost of plans for an extended Village Hall in Woodbury, a contribution to the Guide Hut floor renovation, financial help for the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations in Woodbury, an improved road crossing at Woodbury Primary School and help toward averting flood water away from Exton Village Hall as well as improvement to the heating system to the hall itself. There is also a £4000 contribution to the Woodbury Football Club for new toilet and changing facilities and provision of grit bins in Woodbury and Exton.

The Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority did not take up the Government offer of the Reward Grant and set a precept of 3% which is equal to 4p per week on a Band D property.

DCC has allocated £1 per elector to which 10p has been added by EDDC. This money will be used in co-operation with neighbouring PCs for joint schemes.

He finished by acknowledging the help received from the Chairman and Members, and thanked the Clerk for her assistance through the year.

**6. Tree Wardens' Reports**

**John Treasaden** reported on behalf of himself and Sally Elliott, advising those present of the various planning applications that they had advised upon and the Red Oak tree that they planted in the Cricket Field.

**7. Police Report:** PCSO Donna Baker reported on crime statistics, theft from motor vehicles and speeding, particularly on the Broadway and Parsonage Way. Advisory letters were sent to the owners of all speeding vehicles and traffic officers were made aware of the problem areas to follow up with enforcement work when able. She reminded residents that the police offer a free property engraving service to help protect/trace property, either household or garden. Any residents not part of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme and interested in joining should contact her.

**8. Resolutions:** None

**9. Any Other Business:** None

**Closure:** The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.06pm.

Signed:  (Chairman): Date: 13-3-13

**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 13 March 2013  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL EXTON**

**Present:** Cllrs Philip Glanvill (in the Chair), Ray Brown, Patrick Bricknell, G Gerdes, C Hoar, Mrs C McGauley, G Murrin & K Perry. District Cllrs D Atkins, R Bloxham & B Ingham: County Cllr Mrs C Channon: PCSO Donna Baker: Mrs Sally Elliott (Woodbury Salterton Tree Warden): 16 members of the public, 1 member of the Press and the Clerk to the Council, Mrs Belinda Price:

**Also Present - Guest speaker from the Environment Agency – Andrew Woodhead (Devon & Cornwall 2012 Flood Recovery Manager)**

**1. Minutes:** The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 24 May 2012 were approved and signed (previously circulated to members and tabled for those present) - (P/S: Bricknell/Perry).

**2. Chairman's Report:** The Chairman presented his annual report highlighting events and actions that had taken place during the year. He congratulated all volunteers for their time put into the enhancement of the villages and referred to the ongoing planning in the parish and the Localism Bill wherein PCs and communities are able to play a bigger role in the planning process. The exceptional weather during the previous few months has concentrated everyone's minds on the results of overdevelopment, particularly upon those who live downstream, such as Exton. He finished by thanking all PC councillors for their determination to do good for the Parish, thanked Cllrs Moore and Mrs Parkin for all their hard work and reminded the public that their positions were still to be filled. Finally he thanked the clerk for her continuing advice, patience and good humour.

**3. Clerk's Report:** The Clerk reported that the greatest part of the PC's outgoings, discounting staffing costs, relate to the upkeep of the play areas, costs associated with ground & tree maintenance and the charge levied by EDDC for the public conveniences. The Parish Council continues to administer the community grant scheme whereby local groups and societies can apply for a share of the funds available. In the financial year 2012/13 funds were promised to the Maytree Pre School, the Woodbury History Society, Woodbury PTFA, the Tennis Club and Woodbury Village Hall. In addition the PC is also committed to helping the Ring & Ride Scheme which is operated by Exmouth & District Community Transport Group and is a partnership between Devon CC, EDDC and the Parish and Town Councils.

The Parish Council continues to make strenuous efforts to keep its Precept requirement as low as possible but this year an increase had to be requested to cover various additional and/or increased costs for projects such as hedging and ditching works and essential repairs and maintenance to the PC assets, some of which are very overdue. However, rest assured that your Councillors are committed to keeping increases as low as possible and the PC will be using reserves and grants to assist with the production of the Neighbourhood Plan so only £1000 has been put aside in the budget for this. It was felt to be important to continue to administer the Community Grant scheme as an important way of assisting local societies and groups and £2000 has been put in the Budget towards these worthy local causes.

**4. Guest Speaker – Andrew Woodhead - Devon and Cornwall Floods 2012 - Recovery Manager:** Andrew Woodhead spoke on understanding the roles and responsibilities of Riparian Owners, the 2012 floods in Devon & Cornwall and the Exton Feasibility Study. He advised that the Environment Agency manage flood risk from rivers & the sea, aims to reduce the likelihood of flood risk from all sources by working together and where appropriate uses permissive powers to construct operate and maintain defences. He added that 2012 had been the wettest year since records began in 1910 – over 1000 properties in 200 communities flooded across Devon & Cornwall (8000 nationwide). 52 river gauges recorded their highest levels some dating back 50 years and 10 severe flood warnings had been issued. The Exton 2003 feasibility study found issues relating to the main river, meandering brook, vegetation management, culvert issues and tidal influence. The current situation still shows evidence of infrequent maintenance but is unlikely to attract full funding for a capital scheme. He then took questions from the floor and agreed to take the matter of the flooding at Exton forward and meet up again in an attempt to mitigate the problems.

**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 13 March 2013  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL EXTON**

**5. District & County Councillors' Reports:**

**District Cllr Ben Ingham** advised that he had been a member of the EDDC Development Management Committee for the last 12 months giving him the opportunity of trying to influence the planning strategies of EDDC as well as decisions on planning applications within Woodbury Parish. The last twelve months have proved very important indeed. In March 2012 the Government released the National Planning Policy Framework warning all planning authorities that they must get their district local plans in place within one year. Failure to do so will mean appeal decisions will be based on NPPF policy only with a view to allow all sustainable development. EDDC has failed to ratify a district local plan in time leaving our communities in a vulnerable position where land owners and developers may gain permission to build on an unprecedented scale within our locality. It is my belief that the Prime Minister intended to put local authorities in this position in order to facilitate the aspirations of the Chancellor of the Exchequer who thinks wholesale housing development will regenerate our economy. This enforced requirement for housing development has been further exacerbated by EDDC's policy of promoting exception sites on settlement boundaries in order to prioritise affordable housing. I will continue to fight such planning applications on behalf of Woodbury parishioners. Although EDDC has succeeded in keeping the district council levy at zero increase for the fourth year running this can never forgive the planning strategic failures encountered during the last twelve months with the inevitable repercussions.

**District Cllr Ray Bloxham** reported that he intended to highlight a few District Council related issues other than the usual more obvious business of refuse and recycling, street cleansing and planning - items that may not be so apparent to the public and Parish Councils. These include:

The Council is responsible for all forms of licensing (cabs, public houses, street collections etc) and has a highly rated Licensing Team that has just won a top Customer Service Excellence award - one of the best in the country;

The Council:

- has recently won the Gold Investors in People Award which is a strong reflection of the Council as an employer
- is leading the way on equalities and equality of access to services in the way that it is implementing recent legislative changes
- is dealing with the year on year reduction in government funding without cutting services
- is tackling the many welfare reforms to minimise the impact on our residents many of whom are in poverty and facing severe challenges. This includes setting up a new £132K hardship fund
- is improving our housing services and re-investing in new council properties both by purchase and building
- is tackling homelessness and
- is working in partnership with other agencies to tackle worrying issues like loan sharks;

In addition Council staff – (particularly our Streetscene team, housing and home safeguard) have been highly praised for their response to the recent bad weather. But all this is overshadowed by the recent revelations in the Daily Telegraph which were both shocking and appalling. These events bring disrepute on the Council, the Conservative Group and Council members. We now face (as we did last evening) a tirade of abuse, accusation and innuendo by opponents who seek to tar us all with the same brush. Whether members of the Cabinet or the Planning Committee - we are all publicly accused of being corrupt and dishonest. The Council and the Conservative Group are doing everything they can within their respective powers to respond to this situation and this has now been referred to the police in addition to the internal investigation and action being taken.

**David Atkins** reported on various items such as CIL, Neighbourhood Plans and Quality Councils. The past year has been taken up with matters in respect of the lack of a Local Development Plan. This exercise has taken longer than originally forecast due partly to the lack of officers' time and changes made to the various parts thereof. The Development Management Committee now only deals with the larger and most difficult applications – not least SHLAA site applications and the matter of moving the headquarters to a new area. EDDC is being bombarded with objections on all fronts. The introduction of CIL has been set in this area at £125 per sq metre payable to EDDC with the formula of 25% returnable to parishes providing they are Quality Councils and have a Neighbourhood Plan in place, otherwise it is 15%.

**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 13 March 2013  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL EXTON**

**5. District & County Councillors' Reports (cont)**

**David Atkins (cont):** Many will know the outcome of appeals at Feniton and Ottery St Mary where the Inspector commented that whilst they had a number based on the formula for towns and parishes, because EDDC did not have an overall 5 year land supply, the Inspector allowed these two proposals against the District's avowed intention. This now puts us all in a difficult position – policies of the Plan having been taken forward such as AONBs, Green Wedges, Coastal Preservation Areas and Quality Development. It is interesting to note that the planning application for the Knowle was not supported – 3 in favour /6 against. This should have been decided by the full Council. The building is deteriorating and is estimated to cost one million pounds to put right but by selling other assets, some of the old building could be disposed of and a small area developed; ways could be found to refurbish the newer buildings and keep the council chamber and other ground floor accommodation with a new build over the top.

**County Cllr Mrs Christine Channon** reported that this had not been an easy year for Devon County Council and the inclement weather has added to their problems. However, due to prudent savings which have cut the County debt over the last four years by almost £90m, freezing allowances for councillors and senior staff, and reducing interest charges by £17m, they are once again able to set a Council Tax with a zero rise. At the same time they have made every attempt to preserve services to the young, elderly and vulnerable. Unlike some neighbouring authorities not a single library or children's centre has been closed, and improvements have been made to our roads and pavements in spite of the two worse winters in living memory. There have been other positives in the year such as acquiring the funding to extend and improve Broadband throughout the county, raising skills, apprenticeships and creating jobs for young people, working with partners to provide more Extra Care Housing and create more dementia beds, reducing landfill - we won the best recycling County award. The standard of education is also a lot better in Devon than it was a few years ago, mirrored by the performance in your local schools in this Parish. Most of the roads in Woodbury Salterton have suffered this winter. DCC has tried its best to keep up with the potholes but anyone spotting any large ones please report them.

The other challenges come in the shape of Greendale. It is not easy to balance economic development and jobs against the peace and quiet of the village or the quality of the environment. DCC recently had a retrospective planning application for changes to a wood recycling project and backed by EDDC they set out some fairly stringent conditions. So far these have not been adhered to and they continue to be monitored. However, this application gave rise to Greendale agreeing to set up a Liaison Group which will meet regularly to monitor the effects of the Greendale development. This Group comprises representatives from the Parish Council, the District Council, the County Council, the Environment Agency and Greendale Management. It is chaired by me and at our first quite amiable meeting it was agreed that a representative of the newly formed Woodbury Salterton Resident's Association should also be invited to join.

Cllr Mrs Channon added that she also chairs the Blackhill/Venn Ottery Liaison Group. Quarrying has more or less finished now at Blackhill but aggregates and sand from Venn Ottery are still taken there for dressing. The road improvements for the Halfway House junction are scheduled to be put in place shortly..

**County Cllr Bernard Hughes:** County Cllr Hughes' report was read by the Clerk in his absence. He advised that this was his final report of his four year period of office, and it has been a privilege to represent this Parish as part of his overall responsibility of representing Exmouth Halsdon and Woodbury Ward of Devon County Council. He has served on the following :-

Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority

The People Scrutiny committee

The Health and Wellbeing scrutiny committee

Appointed Director of 'PLUSS'

Chairman Devon & Exeter Rail working Party (which looks after the Avocet line)

Chairman Exe Estuary Partnership Management committee

Devon County Council has once again allocated various sums of money, the proceeds from the sale of Exeter Airport, to its County Councillors for distribution throughout their wards. Two grants were available, one for Capital projects and the other for smaller individual awards to local groups and societies. This year he allocated £3000 to help towards the payment for a scheme to relieve flooding in Exton. (For information, at Lymptone £3000 was allocated for flashing safety lights and 20mph signs at the village Primary School, and

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**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 13 March 2013  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL EXTON**

**5. District & County Councillors' Reports (cont):**

**County Cllr Bernard Hughes (cont):** £4000 to Exmouth Halsdon ward towards the cost of the purchase of a new vehicle for the Exmouth Ring and Ride service) - total £10,000. Smaller grants from the locality budget were made to:-

Woodbury Cricket Club	£1500 for plans and sight screen
Woodbury Children's Play park equipment	£1000
St Swithuns Church/Historical Society	£1950 for Oak cabinet
Woodbury Lawn Tennis Club	£1000 towards resurfacing one court

Ongoing problems continue in the ward, mainly inconsiderate drivers speeding through Exton and Woodbury. There are concerns reference flooding and he expressed his gratitude to Cllr Graham Murrin for arranging a meeting of interested parties and affected residents. Although he has made available some money towards the alleviation of flooding at Exton, particularly at Mill Lane and Station Road, at the end of the day the main responsibility for dealing with this problem lies with Devon County Highways and the Environment Agency.

He advised that he was hopeful that a bus shelter will be able to be erected at Exton, on the Exmouth side near to the garage and what is more important, a pedestrian controlled crossing particularly to enable children to cross this busy road as they travel to Exmouth Community College. He advised that there are still problems which arise from time to time with the Exe Estuary Cycle way. This extremely busy and valued cycle way needs to be kept under review as it moves towards completion. The contract has been awarded and started for the Bridge over the River Clyst on the boarder of this ward.

He finished by reporting that he had been adopted, once again, by his political party to stand as a candidate in this Ward and hopes to be re-elected to serve for another four years. If unsuccessful this is my opportunity to thank, particularly your Clerk, Mrs Belinda Price for all her help and support. I would also like to place on record my Thanks to the Chairman and members for their input into the good governance of this Parish. Devon County Council has had a very successful four years, taking in their stride the loss of a considerable amount of Government Grant as the Government tries to balance their financial affairs. The Leader of the Council, Cllr John Hart, has consulted throughout Devon and he has listened to the advice given and acted accordingly. The County Council has taken the "Reward Grant" from Government which has meant that the Council Tax has only risen by 1.98% over the four years.

**6. Tree Wardens' Reports**

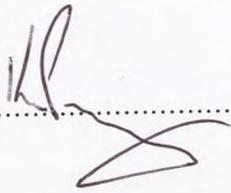
In the absence of Mrs Elliott and Mr Treasaden, the Clerk read out the Tree Wardens' report as follows: Twelve tree related planning applications were dealt with in the current year. One involved the felling of one of the best large Oaks in Woodbury at Stokes Mead. The Ash trees planted at the entrance to Park Close suffered due to strimmer damage and short stakes have been put around each one in an attempt to avoid this in future. One of the three Oaks planted at the top of the Cricket field did not take and has been removed and replaced. Two very large Oaks on the right of Globe Hill are shortly to be felled due to disease. A Rowan tree donated in memory of Doris Eveleigh was planted on New Way corner and is doing well.

7. **Police Report:** There was no report from the Police

8. **Resolutions:** None

9. **Any Other Business:** None

**Closure:** The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.45pm.

Signed:  (Chairman): Date: 3-4-14

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**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 3 April 2014  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY**

**Present:** Cllrs Ken Perry (in the Chair), Ray Brown, Reg Brown, Patrick Bricknell, G Gerdes, G Jung, Mrs C McGauley, G Murrin & T Pattison. District Cllrs D Atkins & R Bloxham: County Cllr B Hughes: PCSO Donna Baker: Mrs Sally Elliott & Mr J Treasaden (Woodbury Salterton & Woodbury Tree Wardens respectively): 8 members of the public, 1 member of the Press and the Clerk to the Council, Mrs Belinda Price:

**Also Present: Guest speaker – John Hart – Leader of Devon County Council**

1. **Minutes:** The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 13 March 2013 were approved and signed (previously circulated to members and tabled for those present) - (P/S: Gerdes/Ray Brown).

2. **Chairman's Report:** The Chairman introduced himself and advised that he had succeeded Cllr Philip Glanvill after he stood down as Chairman after 12 years of service in the Chair. Cllr Perry presented his annual report highlighting events and actions that had taken place during the year, including the revamping of Woodbury Village Green play area and the expansion of Woodbury Salterton play area; the provision of new allotments at WS, continued dialogue with the Environment Agency and some works to try to address the flooding issues at Exton; work on the Neighbourhood Plan; the advent of a community orchard in Woodbury and finally the receipt of funding from "Parishes Together" for a portable speed camera. In addition to the major milestone events noted above our regular business includes such things as the cutting of hedges and verges by DCC & EDDC; potholes and road repairs; maintaining the assets of the PC and managing the PC business interests in such things as the allotments; grass and hedge cutting, and clearance of ditches on PC lands; representation on outside bodies attendance at consultation meetings, development management meetings and responses to consultations on district and county policies; administration of the community grant within the parish.

Planning continues to be a major item and there has not been a meeting during the year when planning applications have not appeared on the agenda. In addition to discussing applications which have been submitted we have become more involved with pre-application consultation meetings

- partly because these are a requirement of the planning system
- partly because we have wanted to try to influence the proposed plans
- partly because we have wanted to try to maximise community benefit if development (no matter how undesirable) is inevitable

One major project which has dominated the year has been the development of the Neighbourhood Plan. This project was launched early in 2013 and has continued throughout the year, its aim being to try to maintain some local control on the development of our community. Consultation groups consisting of volunteers from across the parish worked through the spring and summer and in the autumn they produced their reports covering many aspects of our community. A local independent planning consultant has been appointed and she is now working hard on transforming the community wishes and aspirations into a robust document which will soon be coming back to the community for their comment and hopefully approval. Following this the document will go through the official procedure for approval and community ratification in a referendum.

Inevitably through the year there have been some hellos & goodbyes:-

- Goodbye to Cllr Mike Rowley, Cllr Chris Hoar, & Cllr Chris Moss
- Hello to Cllr Reg Brown (again), Cllr Geoff Jung, Cllr Tim Pattison, & Cllr John Burgess.
- We still have a casual vacancy for a councillor in the Exton Ward so if there are any volunteers please contact our Clerk
- As a preliminary notice I would like to draw everyone's attention to the fact that in May next year the PC will come up for re-election. Anyone in the community can stand for election and I would recommend that anyone who is interested should contact our Clerk.

Parish council meetings continue to be, on occasions, lively and we regularly receive reports from our tree wardens, paths wardens, police, airport liaison, district and county councillors. On behalf of all councillors I would like to thank

- everyone who gives up their time to attend meetings.
- Woodbury News who regularly attend meetings and reports our discussions.
- our Clerk for her patience and support to us all.

Finally, on behalf of the community I would like to thank all councillors for their time, effort and dedication.

**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 3 April 2014  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY**

**3. Clerk's Report:** The Clerk reported that the greatest part of the PC's outgoings, discounting staffing costs, has historically related to the upkeep of the play areas, costs associated with ground & tree maintenance and the charge levied by EDDC for the public conveniences. In addition the Parish Council continues to administer the community grant scheme whereby local groups and societies can apply for a share of the fund available. In the financial year 2013/14 funds were promised to the Holding Hands Community Playgroup, Woodbury CofE After School Club, Woodbury Community Playing Fields, the History Society, Woodbury Salterton 2000 and Woodbury Village Hall. In addition the PC is also committed to helping the Ring & Ride Scheme which is operated by Exmouth & District Community Transport Group and is a partnership between Devon CC, EDDC and the Parish and Town Councils.

With regard to the Budget for the year 2014/15 - the Parish Council continues to make strenuous efforts to keep its requirement as low as possible. Parish Council precepts are not capped, unlike District and County Councils but by judicious pruning of our requirements the PC has managed to limit its increase this year to £1041 from £52066 in 2013/14 to £53107 for 2014/15. We are committed to keeping any increases to minimal levels and in most cases have reduced our requirement. Environmental costs for example were £9664 last year - this year they are £8618. Administration has been reduced from £4896 to £4311. Funds for rents and subs (which include the toilets) have been reduced by £1958 and repairs and maintenance by £1825. However, it was felt to be necessary to increase the funding for play areas to cover Woodbury Salterton's new play area which is the last of the areas to be revamped and their new allotments which are in the process of being set up. Funding towards salaries has also increased to cover the Clerk's additional hours per week. Nothing has been put aside for footpath expenditure as they have built up a healthy reserve but as usual we have put aside £200 towards the maintenance of the Gulliford Burial Ground. We felt it was important to continue to administer the Community Grant scheme as an important way of assisting local societies and groups and this year the funding has been increased by £500 to £2500. This will be allocated at the Parish Council meeting later this year. Application forms are available from me and the scheme will be advertised on the web site and in the Woodbury News nearer the time.

We hope to take over the ownership of the public conveniences and car park in Flower Street sometime during this financial year. This was felt to be necessary to safeguard the parking for the village hall and ensure that the land was not sold off for building. This may result in an increase in the budget next year but the PC will do its best to avoid this if possible.

The Clerk finished by reminding those present that the Parish Council makes use of Woodbury Devon's website run by Roger Stokes. Roger kindly adds all the Parish Council agendas, minutes and sundry notices onto the website on our behalf and we are most grateful for his help in this. For those who do not use computers we have three noticeboards (one in each village) which have recently been revamped or replaced. On these boards I place similar information to that on the website including Councillors' names and contact details and those of the various Wardens who help the Parish Council.

**4. District & County Councillors' Reports:**

**District Cllr D Atkins:** Cllr Atkins reported that it is interesting to note that the District Council did not have to raise its Council Tax charge but of course one can see that an increase has occurred due to the County Council Police and Fire and Rescue Service increasing their charge by 1.99%.

He advised that the total number of planning applications dealt with in the past financial year by the District, this was 2472, of those 85 were on the Parish, 5 major, 2 adverts, 9 trees, 27 householders and 43 various others. It also must be noted that in the last 2 weeks over 200 applications have been received. There are normally approximately 400 applications in the office at any one time but this has now risen to 600. The DMC Committee is meeting for whole days to assist in keeping matters flowing and have held some extra meetings in the last week or so.

He confirmed that for the last year he had been a number of the DMC with Cllr Ingham. He also attends regularly the Wednesday delegation meetings is a member of the Licensing and Enforcement Committee and regularly attends specific Licensing Sub Committees. He is also a member of the Disciplinary Committee in respect of Officers and a member of the Strategic Planning Think Tank.

EDDC has had a very busy year dealing with many aspects of great importance, not least the consideration of moving from the Knowle. There is also good news in respect of Cranbrook and Cllr Bloxham has more up to date information. Lastly hot off the press, The Inspector who sat on the Local Plan a few weeks ago has

**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 3 April 2014  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY**

**4. District & County Councillors' Reports: (cont)**

**District Cllr D Atkins (cont):** sent a response to the Local Plan Examination with some points requiring further clarification. This still leaves the Villages Plan Section to be dealt with in the near future.

**District Cllr R Bloxham:** In making his report Cllr Bloxham spoke of the following:

**Council tax and quality of services.** EDDC has, for the fifth year in succession, kept its portion of the council tax the same. DCC, The Police Service and The Fire Service have increased their respective portions by 2% resulting in an overall 1.9% increase in council tax for 2014/5. EDDC has produced a prudent balanced budget with no reduction in services. EDDC's annual council tax charge is the lowest in Devon and the tenth lowest nationally. For a band D property in the Parish, EDDC collects £160.49 for its services. (Just over £3 a week).

**Housing and our housing service.** The Parish Council is aware that EDDC has purchased its interest in our council homes. The housing stock is over 4000 and growing. The new financial arrangement not only allows the Council to add to its housing stock but provide enhanced maintenance and also, with the employment of the housing support team, provides a much wider support to disadvantaged tenants including local youth. Linked to this is considerable concern about DCC's ongoing consultation on the withdrawal of the youth service. EDDC has commented on this and hopes that, if the County proceeds with the withdrawal, it provides EDDC with more time to consider how it might fill the gap.

**Planning issues and Greendale Liaison Group.** Greendale Business Park has been the source of local concern. It is a growing facility but, with over 1000 jobs currently on the site, it represents a significant part of the local economy. What is clear is that it is not going away and therefore there is a need to carefully manage how it develops. The Greendale liaison group provides a regular opportunity for the key players to meet and discuss how the site develops and any issues that arise. It brings together the managers of the site, Devon Waste Management, Devon Strategic Planning, Environment Agency, EDDC West Team Planning Manager, Environment Health Officer, County and District Ward Members (Chair and Vice Chair respectively), Parish Councillors and Woodbury Salterton Residents Association. Representatives of on site businesses are also invited to address the group. Since its formation, the group has had a significant impact on the relationship between the site, council officers and public. Planning applications are now better informed by early influence from officials and work is ongoing to regularise remaining historical concerns.

**Public speaking at development management committee.** A report of a working party chaired by Cllr Bloxham has been accepted by this committee to introduce new meeting management arrangements for development management to try to tackle the very long meetings that have been experienced. The proposals will now go forward to the full council on April 9th.

**Proposed office move.** EDDC Council approved Skypark as the preferred option and this will now be further explored. A report will come to Cabinet late summer with the aim of a final recommendation going to the subsequent Council. EDDC has not purchased the site, despite claims to this effect. At the same time, a marketing exercise for the Knowle site will proceed to try to establish true value.

**Equalities.** Cllr Bloxham leads on this at EDDC. There are regular monthly meetings with officers to ensure the council is fully aware of its responsibilities and there are also regular meetings with representatives of all the local protected groups to ensure that EDDC is fully aware of local needs and that, in making decisions about services and policy, it fully takes into account the public sector equality duty.

**Paperlight project.** Cllr Bloxham is leading on a paper light project to reduce the amount of printing at EDDC. The aim is to save £30,000 per annum by 2015. This is part of a much wider project to revamp the council's website and gradually channel shift the way the council does business.

Cllr Bloxham finished by advising that Cranbrook is moving forward very fast with builders unable to keep up with demand and families grateful for the opportunity to buy their properties.

**County Cllr Bernard Hughes:** Cllr Hughes thanked everyone who supported him at the elections in May 2013 and advised that Devon County Council is faced with a cut in expenditure of some £113m over four years. He added that he was pleased that Cllr John Hart was the guest speaker as he would be able to elucidate on changes and choices that must be made. There are some service deliveries that are statutory and will have to be maintained such as care for the elderly, children's services and care for people with disabilities.

**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 3 April 2014  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY**

**4. District & County Councillors' Reports: (cont)**

**County Cllr Bernard Hughes (cont):** Cycling has come to the fore recently and Cllr Hughes was pleased to give news to the PC that a route has been drawn up which will link Woodbury to Ebford along little used rural roads. There are highway alterations to be carried out at the top of Globe Hill and to the crossing of the A376 at Ebford House – both junctions are to be improved. It is also his intention to try to extend the 30mph speed limit on Globe Hill out to the existing 40mph limit. He also has concerns regarding the constant speeding problems along the Broadway and on Globe Hill and hoped that the portable speed restriction sign to which he contributed £1500 from his locality budget will prove beneficial

He congratulated those responsible for the quick progress being made with the work at the Football Field. He was pleased that the work carried out in Exton on the prevention of flooding has had an early success and he thanked Cllr Graham Murrin for using his professional knowledge to bring the anti-flooding activities to a successful conclusion.

Finally he advised that it had been a privilege to have been elected Chairman of the County Council this year and one of the highlights of the year was to be invited to open the new bridge over the River Clyst as part of the Exe Estuary Trail. The cycle way is a huge success but its use by a great number of users must not be allowed to radically affect the everyday lives of the residents of the villages through which it travels.

He concluded by thanking the PC for the way in which he has always been received and the Clerk for keeping him informed.

**County Cllr Mrs Christine Channon:** Cllr Mrs Channon's report was read by the Clerk in her absence:

Cllr Mrs Channon advised that she is the County Councillor who represents the Woodbury Salterton part of the Parish Council. As such the developments at Greendale Business Park come under her remit. Recently, at the suggestion of Mike Deaton, Planning Officer at DCC a Liaison Group was set up to manage the situations that arise at Greendale. The Group is comprised of the Manager of Greendale, Tim Smith, a Director, Matthew Carter, Mike Deaton, DCC, a Planning Officer and an Environmental Health officer from EDDC, a representative from the Environment Agency, District Councillor Ray Bloxham and the three WS Ward Members, Parish Cllrs Pat Bricknell, Graham Gerdes and Geoff Jung. Geoff also represents the Woodbury Salterton Residents Association. Cllr Mrs Channon chairs this meeting and Cllr Ray Bloxham is the Vice-Chairman.

These meetings have proved a fairly useful medium by which retrospective planning applications, future lettings, environmental issues such as noise, pollution and light pollution can be monitored. It has also given some insight into what the company may be planning to do in the future, so that they can be guided when possible away from anything that may have an adverse effect on the area. In recent meetings these concerns have been extended to the Hogsbrook development and the Farm Shop. She thanked the three WS Ward members for their diligence and the support that has made these meetings so worthwhile.

Recently the Council was made aware of a potential planning application for a further large development at Sages Lea. Cllr Mrs Channon attended a Public Meeting at Woodbury Salterton in January and sensed that the general view of the local residents was not in favour of such a development. The strongest argument put forward by Greendale was that an increase in local families would ensure the future of the local school. She arranged a meeting for the Head teacher, her Administrator, Tim Smith and a developer to get together with Simon Niles from Education Organisation at DCC to explore the possibility of the school expanding beyond its present size. However, the school is landlocked and already uses the Village Hall in the afternoons. Furthermore extra children in the village would not alleviate the parking problems when school opens and closes as there is no school in Colaton Raleigh, Farringdon or Aylesbeare and most of the alternative schools which border these villages are full. The developers would also have to pay quite a large S106 premium to Exmouth College for Secondary schooling.

County contractors are working hard at the moment to refill the potholes. The weather, which created them in the first place, is not helping either. The number of contractors working on this project have been triplicated and precedence has been given to A and B roads and potholes on C roads which are particularly dangerous. Please be patient! Your potholes will be filled as soon as possible.

She has been alerted to several areas of flooding in Woodbury Salterton and intends walking the area quite soon and then meet with an officer from Highways to see how these might be alleviated in the future.

**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 3 April 2014  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY**

**4. District & County Councillors' Reports: (cont)**

**County Cllr Mrs Christine Channon (cont):** Finally the good news! Notice was given to her recently that surface dressing will take place in the next 6 months, in Bonds Lane, Greenway to Parsonage Way, Digger's Rest to Moorside, Greendale to Parsonage House, and The Arch.

She finished by thanking the Chairman, the Parish Council, especially Graham, Pat and Geoff for all their help during the last year with warmest thanks going to Belinda Price who is such an efficient Parish Clerk.

**5. Police Report:** At the suggestion of Cllr John Hart and with the permission of the Chairman, item 7, the Police Report was brought forward to save PCSO Donna Baker having to wait until the end of the meeting to give her report. She reported as follows:

**Crime statistics** – There were 104 crimes in the parish last year and 85 during the last 12 months; a fall of 18%. Of note –

- burglary to outside sheds/garages fell from 27 incidents to 5 this year
- burglary dwelling has stayed the same at 6 incidents which is low
- theft from motor vehicles rose this year from 15 to 20 incidents; due mainly to a series of thefts from insecure motor vehicles parked outside homes in Exton
- theft non specific also rose from 15 to 21 incidents
- an increase of 2 to 5 incidents of fraud and crime under the communications act.

She stressed the importance of vehicle and outside shed/garage security and brought a number of leaflets to the attention of the public. Crime figures can be influenced by being vigilance about security. Also amongst the literature is "Scam buster" which is a Trading Standards booklet devised to help protect the public from scams.

**Police Community Messages** – this is a free service offered by Devon and Cornwall Police to keep the public informed about policing news and crime information in your area. It is an invaluable tool and messages may contain:-

- Relevant information about crime for e.g. warning of bogus callers and burglaries
- Crime prevention advice
- Information about local policing events
- Appeals for witnesses or help in tracing missing people
- Environmental warnings such as flood alerts

Messages can be sent to telephone email or fax – it is up to the member of the public to decide how and when they would like to received the information. Messages can be received either as an individual or on behalf of a group or business such as farm watch or shop watch. Anyone not part of a Neighbourhood Watch who would like to receive the messages please collect a leaflet.

**Speeding** – Your local neighbourhood policing team continues to run speed awareness operations and in Woodbury there is a small Community Speed Watch team. If anyone is interested in joining the team please advise and the process involved can be explained.

**6. Cllr John Hart, Leader of Devon County Council** entertained his audience with an insight into why Devon County Council has been put into the position of reducing its non-mandatory services. Central Government has been reducing its grant to the County Council over the last few years with the effect that the 2009 net budget was £600m which will be reduced in 2014 to £500m and reduced again in 2017 to approximately £400m. Measures have had to be taken and more must be swallowed if the budget is to balance every year. Education is ring fenced but consultation has taken place on youth services, day care, residential homes and meals on wheels and now the future of libraries and children's' centres is being consulted upon. However, the old, young and vulnerable must be protected. Historically funding has been put towards maintaining rural bus services but the cost of this at £6m, together with the cost of the 176000 bus passes at another £6m is another heavy burden on the County Council. The road network in Devon amounts to 8000 miles - £36m has been spent on road this year with A and B roads receiving the most attention due to the adverse weather conditions. On the plus side, the County Council provides £1 per elector into a fund administered by EDDC (who also add 10p per elector) which is available to parishes who work together on projects and there has been a big uptake on this fund in the current year. Cllr Hart then took questions from the floor and the Chairman thanked him for a most informative report.

WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 3 April 2014  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY

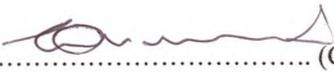
7. **Tree Wardens' Reports:** John Treasaden (Tree Warden for Woodbury) reported on behalf of both he and Mrs Sally Elliott as follows:

None tree related planning applications were dealt with in the current year. Two of the six trees on the Park Close splays have died and been removed. Initial damage was done by the grass cutting contractors who flayed the bark with their trimmers/mowers. This was followed by extreme weather which almost floated them out of the ground. Trees at the corner of Bonds Lane have also suffered in a similar way with no care taken by contractors cutting the grass. Stakes has been placed around the trees on both sites to no avail. The PC has been asked to contact Devon County Council's contractors in an effort to avoid this in future.

8. **Resolutions:** None

9. **Any Other Business:** Sandra Huish thanked the PC for the improvement works done to the War Memorial last year and for their commitment to further improvements this year ahead of the First World War commemorations.

**Closure:** The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.11pm.

Signed: .....  ..... (Chairman): Date: ..... 26/3/15 .....

## WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 26 March 2015 IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY

**Present:** Cllrs Graham Murrin (in the Chair), Reg Brown, Patrick Bricknell, J Burgess, G Gerdes, G Jung, Mrs C McGauley, T Pattison & K Perry. District Cllrs D Atkins & B Ingham: County Cllrs Mrs C Channon & B Hughes: Mrs Sally Elliott & Mr J Treasaden (Woodbury Salterton & Woodbury Tree Wardens respectively): 45 members of the public and the Clerk to the Council, Mrs Belinda Price:

**Also Present:** Guest speaker – Claire Rodway (Senior Planning Officer East Devon District Council)

**1. Minutes:** The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 3 April 2014 were approved and signed (previously circulated to members and tabled for those present)

**2. Chairman's Report:** The Chairman introduced himself and advised that he had succeeded Cllr Ken Perry, a Councillor of great experience and from whom he learnt a great deal for which many thanks. Highlights of the year for the Parish have been many and varied but included the completion of the Woodbury Salterton play area; the inauguration of the Community Orchard; the acquisition of a portable speed camera (many thanks to Cllr Tim Pattison for all his hard work in this regard); and the decision to move the PC office to a dedicated building in the village and to employ an Assistant for our hard working Clerk. Finally, the Neighbourhood Plan is progressing as this is essential if we are to provide a measure of control of the development of the community. He concluded by thanking his fellow Councillors for all their hard work through the year, all the volunteers who do so much to help in the Parish and to the Clerk for keeping everyone on the straight and narrow. He reminded everyone of the forthcoming elections in May and expressed the hope that everyone would give due consideration to standing for the Parish Council.

**3. Clerk's Report:** The Clerk reported that greatest part of the PC's outgoings, discounting staffing costs, has historically related to the upkeep of the play areas, costs associated with ground & tree maintenance and servicing the public conveniences. In addition the PC is committed to helping the Ring & Ride Scheme which is operated by Exmouth & District Community Transport Group and is a partnership between Devon CC, EDDC and the Parish and Town Councils. It also administers the community grant scheme from which local groups and societies can apply for a share of the £2500 fund available. In the financial year 2014/15, £200 was promised to the Community Orchard in Woodbury for the creation of a seated area within the orchard for "outdoor classroom" activities and relaxation: the same sum was allocated to the Woodbury History Society for the maintenance and conservation of the Parish Archives; Woodbury Tennis Club will have £1000 towards floodlighting maintenance and upgrades & Woodbury Village Hall has been promised £500 towards the purchase of an electronic clavichord to replace their piano. This year the fund was undersubscribed so the PC only allocated £1900 from the £2500 fund and there were no applications from Exton or Woodbury Salterton. Keep an eye out in the Woodbury News, on the website and noticeboards for the date of the meeting at which the fund is allocated. This is generally but not invariably at the January meeting. Application forms are available via email or post or can be collected from the PC office during opening hours.

Moving on to the Precept for the year 2015/16. The Parish Council continues to make strenuous efforts to keep its requirement as low as possible. However, this year it has taken over the ownership of the public conveniences and car park in Woodbury and in addition to this, demands upon the Clerk's time have necessitated the employment of a Clerical Assistant and the moving of the PC office into a dedicated office in Woodbury. The County and District Councils are struggling to balance their budgets due to reduced levels of funding from central government and this has resulted in the Parish Council taking over various responsibilities from them such as additional grass cutting work and Lengthsman duties for which the PC will shortly be employing a Handyman. However, the PC is always committed to keeping increases to minimal levels and to this end it has reduced its requirement for the play areas by leasing the Recreation Field to the Community Playing Fields Association, and the remaining three play areas have all been recently ungraded and now just require regular maintenance. Overall, this has resulted in an increase in the Precept of £6050 which equates to £44.46 per annum per Band D property, an increase of £5.79 per annum which I am sure you will agree is very reasonable under the circumstances.

## WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 26 March 2015 IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY

#### 3. Clerk's Report: (cont)

Having a dedicated Parish Council office has the advantage that the Clerk is now more accessible. Working days are currently Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays although this might change when the new Assistant is appointed. We are currently experimenting with opening hours for the public which are currently between 10 – 11am on each of those days.

The Parish Council elections on 7 May will result in some changes to Councillor personnel for the forthcoming four year period. I know that several of my Councillors will not be standing again which could result in several vacancies if the general public does not put their names forward. I have been Clerk for 17 years and have seen many Councillors come and go but many of them have served for several terms and will leave a big hole in terms of experience if they decide they have had enough! Whether or not they put themselves forward for election, I would like to thank them all for their help during the past term and for their commitment to making this parish an excellent place to live and I urge members of the public to consider becoming a Parish Councillor to carry on this worthwhile tradition. I will be happy to chat with you about the role and its responsibilities should you wish to do so and I am sure the current Councillors will do the same.

Before I finish I would just like to remind you that the Parish Council makes use of Woodbury Devon's website run by Roger Stokes. Roger kindly adds all the Parish Council agendas, minutes and sundry notices onto the website on behalf of the PC for which the PC is most grateful. For those who do not use computers the PC has three noticeboards (one in each village) which have recently been revamped or replaced and a "shop window" in the office opposite the Village Green in Woodbury. Here I place similar information to that on the website including Councillors' names and contact details and those of the various Wardens who help the Parish Council.

#### 4. District & County Councillors' Reports:

**County Cllr Mrs Christine Channon:** If last year was the Year of the Horse for the Chinese it was the year of the Pothole for Devon CC. The rains came down, the tarmac came up and the holes in the road got bigger. Fortunately there has been an assertive campaign to get them filled but this took the Highway teams away from other scheduled work and has caused some delays. If your favourite pot hole is yet to be filled please let me know or contact the pothole online site.

I noticed this week that the ditches have been cleared along the lanes leading up to the Common from the Village and one or two new easements made. I have received a request for extra road signs warning HGV about using these lanes and getting stuck, but Highways tell me that this is not possible without a new set of Traffic Orders for new signs. I am afraid that my budget will not stretch to both signs and TROs, but if residents can let me have the name and contact number of offending companies I am happy to contact their Transport Managers, who will usually take action as they do not wish to suffer damage to their vehicles.

The consultations on the bus services will not affect your local bus service.

DCC has had to make cuts of £44m to its budget this year due to a decrease in Government Grant. This has placed a good number of services under considerable pressure and we will have to work well in partnership with Health and the Police to provide joined up services for the community.

The WEB Health area is really pleased that at last Northern Devon Health Trust has agreed the Business Plan for the refurbishment of Budleigh Hospital as a Health and Well-Being Centre for the Woodbury, Exmouth and Budleigh area. This should offer an integrated service for both social care and health and the new minibus will be able to collect people from the Woodbury area to take them to the centre. There will be a café, computer centre, physiotherapy, audiology, day hospital café, the opportunity to see some consultants, mental health support and Age Concern and Hospiscare are moving into the site. Work starts in two weeks' time and should be complete by October 2015.

The Greendale Liaison Committee continues to meet and monitor the developments at Greendale. Your local Parish Councillors keep a weather eye on the site in order to raise issues at that meeting. I was pleased that the application for the large number of extra at Sages Lea was turned down as I had serious concerns over access and other Highway matters. However, I think we need to be vigilant should the developer decide to appeal.

I made two contributions to Woodbury Salterton from my Locality Budget last year. One a contribution towards some storage sheds; the other towards the Rugby practice ground.

**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 26 March 2015  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY**

**4. District & County Councillors' Reports: (cont)**

**County Cllr Mrs Christine Channon: (cont)**

As always I am indebted to Belinda, your clerk, for keeping me up to speed and to members of the Parish Council for their help and support and to Ray Bloxham for District Council matters. I would also like to thank the Parish for the invitations I receive to their Annual Christmas dinner. You are the only one of my Parishes who invites their County Councillor and it is good meet socially as well as for Parish business.

**County Cllr Bernard Hughes**

The most demanding topic during the past year has been the two planning consultations on the two sites either side of Globe Hill. The problems of increased traffic through the village, with the added possible increase of traffic entering through the two new junctions have brought me many letters, e-mails and phone calls. The only input that I have into these planning applications are to comment on and liaise with the County Council Highway officers, who submit their comments and if necessary the requirement of County Highways on Highway safety.

Part of Woodbury's traffic problems arise from the increased traffic now using the Woodbury Common route and the B3179 through the village. I expect by now everyone is aware of two proposed developments to the north of Dinan Way for, firstly 350 houses and secondly 186 houses.

As I also represent Exmouth Halsdon ward, I have been consulted recently on the draft plans for the completion of the Dinan Way link, these are due to be submitted shortly to the development management committee of the County Council for consultation and hopefully approval. It is my belief that the completion of the new road may help alleviate some of the problems of the village as it will be easier to access the A376 from the north of Exmouth.

Whilst speaking about the B3179 at Globe Hill, the new cycle way crossing at the top of the hill has been completed. Your County Councillors, Cllr Stuart Hughes and I, asked for some form of physical restriction such as a mini roundabout at the top of the hill at the junction of Oakhayes Road but we eventually had to settle for rumble strips to slow traffic down. We now understand that the 3mm strips are not effective and have asked for 6mm strips to be laid. It has been pointed out to us that these could cause noise problems for residents, especially by empty lorries.

Continuing cuts in local authority grants from Central Government continue to cause serious examinations as to how we can continue to deliver services on less money. In the recent budget settlement we have had to cut approx £45 million and levy a 2% increase in the Council tax (this is the maximum that we are allowed to do without a referendum).

Library facilities are being continued in Devon with help from the community and volunteers. A good example of this is in Topsham. Bus subsidies are being looked at and some routes which were expensive to subsidise are being put out to consultation as to their future. The 56 bus through this village should not be affected as I understand it.

There are further charges to be made at our recycling centres for items which are considered to be DIY or builder's waste. i.e., loos, washbasins, plastic windows and doors, double glazing, plastic downpipes etc. Rubble, tyres and plaster board are already charged for. The Executive member responsible says that the general ratepayer should not have to pay for other peoples improvements to their properties. These charges will not be high but will bring in some extra income to the Council to pay for high landfill charges.

Many Youth Centres have been taken over by Community groups/ Town and Parish Councils and help is being given by DCC with premises and costs. The latest news of our homes for the elderly is that 10 of the 23 are now closed and have been placed on the open market. I am sure that some of these will be purchased and reopened by the private sector. The savings made by not continuing to provide accommodation ourselves will enable us to continue to help fund those who need our help and for whom we have to provide accommodation by statute.

My locality budget has been able to fund improvements at Exton Village Hall, a variable advance speed sign to be used in this and neighbouring Parishes, picnic tables for Woodbury Community Playing fields site and I will be able to help with funds for Woodbury Cricket Club and Woodbury C of E Primary School in the near future (after the May elections as we have an embargo on grants until then).

**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 26 March 2015  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY**

**4. District & County Councillors' Reports: (cont)**

**District Cllr Ray Bloxham:** The Clerk read out Cllr Bloxham's report as he was unable to attend due to an EDDC meeting being held at the same time. A synopsis of that report follows:

- Apologies for not being able to attend but he had to attend another meeting at Knowle;
- Balancing the rural nature of the ward with the high number of employment sites;
- Balancing the need for good homes, good jobs and conserving the natural beauty of the area;
- The continued value of the Greendale liaison group;
- His roles and responsibilities as Cabinet member and portfolio holder for corporate business at EDDC;
- The quality of services provided by EDDC;
- Initiatives in constitutional reform at EDDC and an ongoing review of the planning service to improve customer satisfaction;
- Chairmanship of the New Homes Bonus Panel which makes awards under the Parishes Together scheme;
- The current position with the Local Plan;
- EDDC's planned office move; and
- A tribute to all those who have worked with and supported him over the past four years.

**District Cllr D Atkins:** Cllr Atkins reported that the year had been one of the most active in all manner of ways. He has been a member of the Development Management Committee, Licensing and Enforcement, Strategic Planning Committee and more recently the Tree TAFF. He has regularly attended Cabinet and Overview & Scrutiny Committees, thus enabling him to keep up to date with many current matters. He has represented views expressed to him direct to Officers and has given support to the views expressed by the Parish Council on planning matters which he considered needed support. He was particularly annoyed that the application in Town Lane was allowed as he did not consider it brought any tangible benefits to the area. Neither did it have anything included for road safety.

He is in support of the Neighbourhood Plan that is currently under way and notes with interest that the East Devon Local Plan has now been redrafted with key villages named and also that the 5% allocation previously used for villages is now dropped and only villages with Neighbourhood Plans which indicate how much housing is required, in the extended period from now until 2031 as opposed to 2026 will be considered. There is still the matter of windfall sites that fall inside the BUAB. Other applications in the period up to when the Local Plan becomes adopted – now scheduled for late summer and provided the Inspector agrees – could then be considered. In the event that he does not agree, the whole exercise might have to be reconsidered yet again. Local Government is not like it used to be but one has to move on and look to the future which East Devon is actively pursuing by cooperation with other neighbouring Councils which for years he has advocated especially in respect of Tourism, our main source of activity.

Lastly he reported that EDDC has not increased its Council tax for the 6<sup>th</sup> year running making the Council the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest in the county and 17<sup>th</sup> in the country. It is his intention to support the re-provision of a bus service through Woodbury to Topsham, especially if a reduction of the Airport service through Woodbury is brought about.

**District Cllr B Ingham:** Cllr Ingham spoke of the Local Plan advising that the revisions had been ratified today. He hopes the Inspector agrees with the projected housing figures of 950pa and they will be in the growth point and Cranbrook.

The relocation of the EDDC to modern offices is hoped to have a financial saving as the current ones are old and no longer fit for purpose. Research has shown that there is £700k involved but he has not supported it as he does not agree with the strategy.

The Council tax has remained the same for six years but this has shown itself in the Knowle not being kept up.

## WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 26 March 2015 IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY

**5. Neighbourhood Plan:** Cllr Ken Perry reported on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan as follows:

Woodbury PC agreed the principle of developing a NP early in March 2013 and the first stages started in April 2013 with public meetings to inform the community and to obtain community support.

From May through to November 2013 consultation groups were established and each prepared reports covering the four topics - Housing & development, Community & economy, Environment and Infrastructure. Work continued from 2013 into 2014 but was temporarily delayed by the failure of the EDDC Local Plan when it went to the Inspector for his comments.

In the light of more and more planning applications taking advantage of the vacuum created by the lack of a Local Plan, and at the encouragement of our District Councillor Ben Ingham, work on the NP was reinvigorated and in June 2014 the steering committee appointed an editor.

Copies of each of the consultation group reports were given to the editor and from these documents a draft neighbourhood plan was produced. From this draft a separate consultation document was prepared concentrating on Visions and Policies.

In January this year the consultation document was distributed to every household in the parish. Of the 1348 documents distributed 213 responses have been received and these are now in the process of being analysed. Initial results indicate that about 80% of the responses agree with the draft visions and policies. Comments from the consultation will be considered and where necessary amendments will be made to the visions and policies.

When the visions and policies have been amended the draft neighbourhood plan will be produced and this will go to a further community consultation. At the same time the draft NP including all the necessary supporting documentation will be submitted to EDDC for their examination. It is hoped that this will take place in the summer of 2015.

In addition to the community consultation results the draft NP will also need to take into account the EDDC emerging local plan.

The process to date has been supported by the community and it their hard work which has been condensed into the draft visions and policies. Ultimately it will be this work which will emerge as the Woodbury Neighbourhood Plan which will be accepted in a local referendum.

Financially the project has been expensive but we have received grant funding of £2,000 from EDDC and government funding of £7,000 through the Community Council. All of this money has been spent in professional fees, printing and distribution of the consultation documents and has been accounted for to the satisfaction of the funding bodies. We have been advised that further government support will be available in April and we will be making further applications for this money. Current projected costs amount to £11,000 and we will be looking to find further grants to meet this total.

**6. Claire Rodway**, Senior Planning Officer with East Devon District Council, gave a brief overview of progress on East Devon's Local Plan and then took questions from the floor.

She advised that the Council is awaiting the Strategic Housing Market Area Assessment which will shortly be going to full Council. The key changes are as follows:

- The Plan now covers 2013-2031
- 17,100 new homes proposed (plus 1000 buffer to allow for those which don't come forward)
- Brownfield site for 150 houses at Clyst St Mary
- Expansion of Cranbrook for 1500 houses
- 900 houses at Blackhorse
- Deletion of reserve site at Seaton.

Changes to the Villages (S27 & 35) include 16 villages to keep their boundaries including Beer, Broadclyst, Chardstock, Clyst St Mary, Colyton, Dunkeswell, East Budleigh, Feniton, Kilmington, Lymptone, Musbury, Newton Poppleford, Sidbury, Uplyme, West Hill, Whimble and Woodbury.

- No housing numbers attributed to villages as sufficient sites already with permission or allocated.
- Woodbury to retain boundary which will be revised as necessary in consultation with the PC
- Neighbourhood Plan to set out any housing/employment
- Woodbury Salterton will lose its boundary
- Neighbourhood Plan

**WOODBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 26 March 2015  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL WOODBURY**

7. **Tree Wardens' Report:** John Treasaden (Woodbury Tree Warden) reported on behalf of the three Wardens in the Parish advising of the 13 tree applications they had examined on behalf of the PC.

8. **Police Report:** In PCSO Donna Baker's absence the Clerk reminded the public that a police surgery is held at 2.30pm in the Parish Council offices on the second Monday of every month which is open for anyone in the Parish who wishes to speak with her or ask questions.

9. **Resolutions:** None

10. **Any Other Items Raised by the General Public:** Various questions were posed by the public and responded to by the relevant Councillor or Clerk

**Closure:** The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

Signed: ..... (Chairman): Date: .....

