**Clerks Report and Supporting Information for the Agenda**

Yarcombe Parish Council Clerks Report for March for the 8th April meeting

**Clerk Correspondence received and on-going & relevant issues for Yarcombe Parish Council:**

1. 29/2/24 email received from Paula Woodhead saying work has commenced on 2 Marsh Cottages.

10/3/24 email received from Paula They cleared a lot of loose rubbish. Shed still there and fence still broken. Garden still over grown. No one came at all last week. Hope they do some more this week coming.

26/3/24 email received from Michelle Williams Housing Performance Officer EDDC.

I have contacted East Devon District Council’s Reactive Repairs Service Manager; Susie Williams and she has provided the following answer to your query: ‘We are aware that 2 Marsh Cottages has been empty for a number of years and we are conducting a full investigation into how this has happened.  We have no plans to sell the property and can only apologise if there has been conflicting information around this given to anyone by our officers.  We have arranged for a full clearance of the property and for the work to be done to bring the property up to the standard required so that it can be re-let.  We anticipate this will take between 8 – 12 weeks. ‘ I hope that his information answers the query that you have raised

26/3/24 email received from Paula Woodhead.

Yes, Cassandra did email a long time ago with no clear information as to works too be carried out. I have spoken to Sarah at complaints several times with no clear answers. The head of estate management did speak to Ken my partner and said they would replace the broken fence asap as our property is not secure nothing has happened. Also, we have had no reply as to how our water pipe was damaged under Number 2 patio. This caused so much stress and inconvenience as you know.

1. 5/3/24 2 emails received from core highways. They were advised by Devon County Council that in order to submit a road application they should first consult parties in the public and business domain potentially affected by the closure, including the Parish Council. The email was advising about closure of road due to replacement of telegraph poles from Knightshayne farm to Crisland on 10 – 11th June and 16th – 17th June. This was forwarded to councillors and Miranda to include in evoices nearer the time.
2. 7/3/24 email received from NALC Including details about gov.uk domain names. This was forwarded to all councillors and will be discussed at the April meeting.

1. 7/3/24 email sent to David Ashford re Rag Lane detailing the resolution passed at the meeting on Monday 4th March and requesting the Parish Council be informed of any action DCC plan to reopen this highway.

7/3/24 email reply received from David Ashford

I had a meeting with my manager yesterday and again discussed this morning.

A final letter will be getting sent out and is being drafted as we speak.

He has been advised not to progress any further until a TTRO is in place and if he fails to have one with a specific date for work by the 30th April, our contractor will be instructed to carry out the works to remove the gabions.

11/3/24 email sent by Steve Horner to David Ashford regarding Rag Lane saying

On behalf of the Parish Council, I have to thank you most sincerely for this note which contains an eminently sensible solution to this long running saga.

One Councillor has reported to me this morning that work is still continuing on the gabions in Rag Lane, seemingly an attempt has been made to reduce these in size, I imagine such work is in contravention of your advice that a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order must be in place before any such work is undertaken.

We look forward to receiving more updates from you in due course

12/3/24 letter sent by David Ashford by recorded delivery.

1. 7/3/24 received details of breakdown of council tax from Yehudi Levine (EDDC Councillor) to forward to Miranda for inclusion in Evoices and also forwarded to all councillors.

6. 8/3/24 Longcroft Meadow student grant availability included in evoices having been requested by the clerk.

7. 21/3/24 Email received from Lympstone Parish Council saying

Lympstone Parish Council (LPC) are concerned with East Devon District Councils proposal to remove 77% of the green wedge around East Devon.  LPC have written a letter to send to their local MP and would kindly urge you to consider the points raised and write your own letter to your own MP to highlight the importance of maintaining the green wedges in our area.

This was forwarded to all councillors.

8. 22/3/24 Email below received from David Ashford regarding A30.

We are now working with this contractor to undertake a design of the soil nails and retaining wall to enable the road to be stabilised and re-opened again.

This is a complex site due to its many constraints:

•             BT cable overhead

•             Unable to close the road for long periods of time as the A30 is used as a diversion route when the A303 is closed (issue if an emergency closure)

•             Difficult and narrow access through the farm to the corner where the slip is located – no large machinery allowed

To enable any construction works to take place we also had to agree temporary access on the farmers land below. This has been agreed, but unfortunately easements and land negotiations take considerable time to complete due to their complexity and need for legal input.

The designer is currently completing the detailed design, and we hope to start the work in May.

Whilst the design is being finalised, and the traffic lights are in place, we are also undertaking tree works in the area and are making the most of the traffic management where we can. We are aware that the lights have been in place for some considerable time, with it looking like nothing happening on site, but we are doing all we can in the background to get these works completed and the road re-opened.

Diane Frost Clerk, Date: 31st March 2024

Yarcombe Parish Council