

BISHOPSTEIGNTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

FULL COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING

HELD 7.00PM MONDAY 6TH APRIL 2021 USING ZOOM

2626 MEETING GOVERNANCE

.01 ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Members: Cllrs. Merritt (Chair), Benham, Gatheshill, Gill, Grimble, Head, Lambert, Moore, Shaw, Tucker & Watson (11/11)

Clerk: Mrs. K. Ford. District Cllr. A. MacGregor, County Cllr. R. Peart & up to 9 members of the public at various times.

APOLOGIES: PC. Orchard/PCSO. Bunce

.02 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

.03 ORDER OF BUSINESS: The chairman proposed the following change to the order of business. Agenda item 2104.09 – Pizza Vendor Proposal shall be moved forward to occur after agenda item 2104.03 – Ratification of Minutes. This was unanimously agreed.

It was not expected that any business to be transacted should require the removal of press and public audience.

2627 OFFICIAL REPORTS

.01 POLICE: PC. Orchard provided the following report:

Bishopsteignton Reported crimes from 01/03/2021-30/03/2021 - (4 Crimes)

- X2 Assaults
- X1 Driving Offence
- X1 Miscellaneous Offence

Other matters

Please report any suspicious persons/activities and record vehicle registration details if used. Please contact the police on 999 if the incident is happening there and then, or by 101 (emailing is quicker) if it is historic.

PACT meetings will resume soon, subject to Government lockdown guidance. Hopefully, we can get together in May 2021 (*please see parish social media page for details*)

Shellfish Gathering/Harvesting-River Teign and River Exe

In the next few weeks, we will be addressing the hand gathering of shellfish from the rivers Teign and Exe. We will be looking to hold site meetings with relevant partner agencies to ensure that there are **NO** offences. Any information or concerns with reference this would be greatly appreciated.

Community Speed Watch is currently on hold due to the current lockdown. This will naturally resume when restrictions ease. Hopefully we will have teams up and running in your area soon. Any volunteers would be welcome (*please see poster attached*).

PC Clarke Orchard – officer 17015

Clarke.ORCHARD@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

.02 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT: Cllr. Andrew MacGregor provided the following report prior to the meeting:

PSPO

A Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) to tackle antisocial behaviour in Teignmouth town centre will take effect from today (1 April). The order aims to prevent nuisance caused by noise, drinking or drug taking in the restricted area. The PSPO has been initiated by Teignbridge District Council.

Brunswick Street Developments in Teignmouth

NHS Programme: Planning application submitted but awaiting validation which is a lengthy process bearing in mind the nature of the location and design of the building.

(May/June Planning Decision expected, with July/August Construction started. Pending NHS acceptance, of course.)

Future High Street Fund Grant set by Govt at only 69% of the funding requested. Revised plans and Final Business case now submitted. Decision expected from Government by end April.

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Waste and Recycling - The Recycling Rate measure for 2019/20 has been confirmed as 56.2% against the previous year's rate of 56.3%. This is a shame but is statistically identical and considering the very poor weather at Christmas 2020 could be influenced by people not wishing to put out their boxes in the rain.

Joint Devon Waste Strategy is now out for consultation – you only have two weeks to comment. We are still waiting on Government on the National Waste strategy. What I see on social media around this is that the big gains look as if they are going to be left out but Government could well be moving to support an “on the go” scheme whereby coke bottles etc could have a deposit. This will not help us but is not as catastrophic as a deposit scheme on all plastic bottles.

Sports - No change from the last report. Lockdown eases just as we come into willow/leather season, so football will probably be training only. I will be looking at how we can support football, Rugby etc across the district.

Leisure - Work has started preparing the Lido for the investment from the £2.3m grant. It will remain closed. The other leisure centres will open as normal, but work may impact some sessions or whole days over the summer. Demand for sessions in swimming has already started heating up, with bigger clubs demanding a return to normal. That unfortunately is still an issue as we don't know what the post-Covid landscape will be in respect of the capacities and demand and obviously any guidelines.

We have established that the focus on public use, rather than club use does bring in higher revenues and if we are to develop the Leisure strategy effectively, we may have to look at the balance in sessions.

Dry-side is expected to pick up as normal with demand is expected to start ramping up via the app as lockdown eases.

Recreation - Open spaces look great, and it is good to see parks and play parks looking in good form. Decoy play park renewal should start soon. The annual to-ing and fro-ing over the croquet pitch has started and hopefully ended.

Our open spaces are open for events soon, so if you know any that may want to book, please encourage them to contact and book. A local choir is holding an event for instance in Forde Park.

Trees - We completed another 1500 tree planting this year.

Housing - Our Council Built House projects in East Street and Drake Road, have or are about to start. We are also at bid discussion stage over the Bradley Lane site in NA.

Cllr. MacGregor added that a new grant is being promoted over the next few weeks, available from government via TDC, for improvements to seaside towns. Bishopsteignton is eligible as within 5km.

Cllr. Benham reported that football matches at Michaels Field are causing poor parking along the A381 as the car park overflows; also blocking access for allotment users and potential disruption if the Air Ambulance need to land.

.03 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT: Cllr. Ron Peart provided the following report prior to the meeting:

Network Rail's Southwest Resilience Programme between Dawlish and Holcombe were handed a funding boost. The Department for Transport announced their financial backing of the blueprints. The project to extend Parsons Tunnel will have an additional £37.4 million earmarked for the project to extend the rockfall shelter. The 209-metre-long extension of the rockfall shelter north of Parsons Tunnel between Dawlish and Holcombe would play a major role in helping protect trains against falling rocks. Parsons Tunnel was previously extended 100 years ago and Network Rail proposes to extend that further by providing a rockfall shelter using modern materials, but with open sides rather than the previous brick built enclosed tunnel. It is now up to Teignbridge Council to give the project the green light. Construction is expected to start in August with the work scheduled to take around 12 months to complete. Environmental protection is a key focus for the project and following early feedback from Teignbridge Council, Network Rail has carried out additional studies and submitted reports that set out its approach to ecological protection and management of potential impacts on wildlife habitats. The line is a vital link between the Peninsula and the rest of the UK. Completion of all phases of this programme will ensure the long – term resilience of the line, £80 million which has already been made available for sea defences and the £34.4million will make a total of over £100 million of investment. Completion of all phases of this programme will ensure the long -term resilience of the line, which is vital to the economic success of the region.

2628 RATIFICATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes of the Full Parish Council virtual meeting held 01.03.21 were considered. As the final draft had not been shared until late, not allowing members time to review the amendments it was proposed and seconded to defer ratification until the next full council meeting to be held 04.05.21. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED.**

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2629 PIZZA VENDOR PROPOSAL:

The proposal, presented by Cllr. Gateshill, was discussed at length. Members of the public, when invited to comment, were against the proposal, feeling support should be shown to local business which will be working hard to re-establish themselves following Covid restrictions. Councillors were reminded of policies in the Bishopsteignton Neighbourhood Plan which state support for the retention of local businesses.

It was proposed by Cllr. Watson, seconded by Cllr. Benham, that prior to any negotiations or approval for the provision of a licence agreement for a pizza vendor at The Lawns recreation ground car park, consultation with the public shall be conducted. FOR: 7, AGAINST: 2, ABSTENTION: 2. Therefore **RESOLVED**.

2630 FINANCE

.01 PAYMENTS:

It was proposed by Cllr. Gill, seconded by Cllr. Lambert, that the payments listed below, in accordance with '210406 payment schedule' be approved; then processed by the clerk. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED** to approve. Clerk to process.

HMRC	Tax & NI for March 2021 PAYE	865.79
Mrs. Kim Ford	Clerk salary for March 2021	1178.31
DCC Pension Fund	Employer & employee contribution to pension for March 2021	492.77
BGS Ltd	2020-21 Q4 Maintenance Contract. Inv 5144	3384.00
Zurich Municipal	2021-22 Insurance renewal	1907.70
Bishop Property	Timber & Labour for recycling shed	44.50
Playsafety Ltd	Annual RoSPA inspections & Reports	185.40
Mrs Kim Ford	Expenses: see sheet provided	18.51
Morris McGinns	Maintenance expenses	4.30
P.Walton	Inv. 09. General Maintenance	70.00
TOTAL (Gross. Incl VAT – to be reclaimed)		8151.28

In addition, the following payments were authorised retrospectively:

Laptop Direct	Additional tablets for new members	385.20
Ars Nova Systems	Extension to the MDM licence (includes Euro bank transfer fee of £15.)	50.17
Amazon Business	Protective covers for new tablets	22.95
Defib Warehouse	Replacement cabinet for VH Defib. Part funding by HLG.	558.00
BGS Ltd	Inv 5147. Chestnut Pale fencing for trees/rewilding from S106	417.60
Belbury Plant Care	Inv 1090. Orchard Management Training	100.00
TOTAL (Gross. Incl VAT – to be reclaimed)		1533.92

In addition, the following Standing Orders were authorised:

		Annual Total
Dot Combo	Monthly x12	600.00
Very Good Email Company	Monthly x12	144.00
Bishopsteignton Community Centre	Monthly x12	2400.00

.02 MONTHLY FINANCE STATEMENTS:

A statement for the period ending 31.03.21 had been forwarded to members. No questions raised therefore this was **NOTED** by members and signed by the chairman. Clerk to publish on the BPC website.

2631 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: In accordance with matters discussed at the AMC meeting held 29.03.21 the following budget recommendations were considered.

.01 MUGA: Members considered the recommendation for the installation of a second basketball hoop. The original budget of £400 will need to be increased by £300. The first hoop will be positioned at 10ft, a second will be more suitable for junior players, at 8ft high.

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Support for this increase was proposed by Cllr. Lambert, seconded by Cllr. Watson, agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**.

.02 CEMETERY: To consider an increase to the budget previously set for the improvement of the footpath. It was proposed by Cllr. Head, seconded by Cllr. Lambert, to increase the budget by £1,350.00 as recommended by the AMC. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**.

.03 BENCHES AT THE LAWNES: It was recommended by the AMC that 2 additional bench seats, a wheelchair friendly picnic table and associated grounds works for this be provided at the Lawns, using a budget of £2,400 to be met using S106 for open spaces.

Support for this budget and use was proposed by Cllr. Shaw, seconded by Cllr. Gill, agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**.

Cllr. Shaw suggested this provision may be eligible for the Seaside Town funding reported by Cllr. MacGregor, clerk to investigate.

2632 PLANNING: The following new planning applications were considered, and it was resolved for these comments to be sent to Teignbridge District Council as the Local Planning Authority:

.01 **APP REF:** 21/00587/TPO - 3 Canons Close, TQ14 9RU
PROPOSAL: Remove epicormic growth on two Holm oaks and reduce secondary stem of one by 2-3m. Crown reduce one beech by up to 1.5m
It was proposed by Cllr. Benham, seconded by Cllr. Lambert, that the following comment be submitted. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**.
BPC COMMENTS: No objection.

.02 **APP REF:** 21/00578/HOU - 3 The Orchard, TQ14 9RB
PROPOSAL: Single storey side/rear extension and decking to rear
It was proposed by Cllr. Benham, seconded by Cllr. Merritt, that the following comment be submitted. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**.
BPC COMMENTS: No objection

.03 **APP REF:** 21/00299/MAJ - Land at Brunswick Street, George Street and 1A/1B Northumberland Place, Teignmouth, TQ14 8AF
PROPOSAL: Demolition of existing buildings and construction of health and wellbeing centre together with pharmacy
It was proposed by Cllr. Benham, seconded by Cllr. Grimble, that the following comment be submitted. FOR: 6, ABSTAIN: 5, therefore **RESOLVED**.
BPC COMMENTS: Bishopsteignton Parish Council object for the following reasons:

- A 5-storey building as proposed is out of character and dominant in this setting.
- The Conservation Area in which the site sits is not mentioned in the proposal application.
- It is believed the use of this building in this location will cause unacceptable traffic congestion as well as further impact parking provision which is already insufficient.
- The issue above may have a detrimental effect on tourism by discouraging visitors to the town.
- The Parish Council concur with the matter raised by the TDC Design & Heritage Landscape Officer in his report; that the Townscape and Visual Impact Assessment does not provide sufficient detail to make an informed planning decision and support his recommendation for amendments to the report.

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.04 **APP REF:** 21/00367/HOU - 46 Newton Road, Bishopsteignton, TQ14 9PP
PROPOSAL: Erection of a garage and 2m high wooden fence in front garden
It was proposed by Cllr. Grimble, seconded by Cllr. Lambert, that the following comment be submitted. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**.
BPC COMMENTS: No objection.

.05 **APP REF:** 21/00463/HOU - 11 Cockhaven Close, TQ14 9RJ
PROPOSAL: Loft conversion including front and rear dormers
Cllr. MacGregor advised the application has been called into for TDC planning committee decision.
It was proposed by Cllr. Benham, seconded by Cllr. Lambert, that the following comment be submitted. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**.
BPC COMMENTS: Bishopsteignton Parish Council object to the application stating the proposal is overbearing and out of character with the current street scene and would be overdevelopment of the site which would result in a loss of privacy with overlooking into the school at the front and bungalows at the rear. There is no desire to set a precedent for future application of this nature.

2633 BPC FUTURE MEETING GOVERNANCE

.01 SCHEME OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY: Members considered a draft Scheme of Delegated Authority. It was proposed by Cllr. Lambert, seconded by Cllr. Shaw, that this be adopted for use as required, to assist with the continuation of BPC business during the phasing out of covid restrictions and remote meetings. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**.

.02 FUTURE OF REMOTE MEETINGS FOR LOCAL COUNCILS: Members considered the submission of a letter/response to government expressing disagreement and concern over the government refusal to extend the authority of local councils to conduct its meetings virtually/remotely. This came about following receipt of correspondence from Luke Hall MP, Minister for Regional Growth and Local Government, explaining the decision, despite the success of such meetings.
It was proposed by Cllr. Lambert, seconded by Cllr. Benham that a letter be prepared and submitted by the clerk. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**.

2634 FUTURE OF SUPPLY STORES

Cllr. Shaw gave a full report regarding the status of the village shop, the current business owner/lessor and possible future for the shop/building. The property owner will not sell the freehold. It was agreed much more detailed research and deeper conversations were needed to establish what must and could be done by the Parish Council to support this local business. Cllr. Benham suggested a working party be formed to move this forward and conduct the necessary research. Cllr. Tucker commended the matter should be assessed from two angles: lease/business ownership and management/day-to-day running.
It was proposed by Cllr. Watson, seconded by Cllr. Head, that a working party be formed. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**. Members to report to the clerk if they are interested to join.

2635 HIGHWAYS: Members considered the following public consultation - Devon County Council (Traffic Regulation & On-Street Parking Places) Amendment Order reference IMR/B06948-5867; changes which apply to everywhere there are no waiting, limited waiting, pay & display and residents parking bays across the whole county of Devon.

It was proposed by Cllr. Lambert, seconded by Cllr. Moore, that BPC support the proposals. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**. Clerk to respond to the consultation on behalf of BPC.

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2636 MEMBERS REPORTS: *The opportunity for members to report back on external communications, training, working party meetings and developments:*

CLIMATE & ECOLOGICAL ACTION GROUP: Cllr. Watson reported on the most recent meeting of this working party who are currently focusing on options for the Tool Share initiative, assessing possible carbon trackers for promotion to the community and the Recycle Shed at the Lawns. Proposals/recommendations from these considerations will be made to the full council at a future meeting.

2637 CLERKS REPORT: *A full report of BPC business was provided to members prior to the meeting and uploaded to the BPC website. The following queries and additional comments were raised:*

- .01** Cllr. Gateshill expressed his disapproval of using an external provider to run PAYE. The chairman advised the decision was taken as the minimal cost is exceeded by the hourly rate of the clerk. It is cost effective as well as a preferable process in terms of BPC efforts to remain open and transparent in accordance with the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and the Local Government Transparency Code 2015.
- .02** Cllr. Benham asked if a litter/dog waste bin might be considered for the Village Green. It was suggested and unanimously agreed this be added to the next agenda of the Asset Management Committee.
- .03** Cllr. Grimble reported how impressive the Cemetery was looking, including the rewilding and new planting. Cllr. Head agreed and added the recent planting at the War Memorial. Both had received positive responses from the community and visitors. It was suggested thanks be conveyed to Ms. Yeo, Mr. Parkes and MS. Davies for all their voluntary support and dedication to these areas.

2638 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- .01** A member of the public audience asked about brown tourism road signs pointing visitors into the centre of the village and toward local businesses. The clerk responded offering to share the application form to DCC, as the correct authority for this provision but also for the BPC grant application form to consider an application of a grant from BPC to support a collective of local businesses with this venture if required.
- .02** The same member of the public commented that the provision of cycle racks/bike parks throughout the village will be essential in the future, with developments in sustainability and the Teign Estuary Trail. A location suggested is in front of the public toilets on Fore Street. It was unanimously agreed for this matter to be deferred to the Asset Management Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 21.19PM