

MINUTES
OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 7.30PM MONDAY 5 DECEMBER 2022
AT BISHOPSTEIGNTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, SHUTE HILL



2884 MEETING GOVERNANCE

.01 Attendance:

- i **Present:** Members: Cllrs. Merritt (Chair), Benham, East, Gill, Grumble, Head, Smith & Watson (8/11). Clerk: Mrs. K. Ford. There was no public audience.
- ii **Apologies:** Cllrs. Gateshill, Lambert, & Shaw (3/11). County Cllr. R. Peart, PC. Orchard & PCSO. Bunce.

.02 Declaration Of Interests: none.

.03 Order Of Business: No change requested, to proceed in accordance with the agenda.

.04 Ratification Of Minutes: Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Bishopsteignton Community Centre on 07.11.22 were considered. It was proposed and seconded that these be approved as a true and correct record. Agreed unanimously therefore **resolved to approve** and to be signed by the chair.

2885 OFFICIAL REPORTS

.01 Police Report

PC. Orchard was unable to provide a report of crimes for the period 01.11.22 to 30.11.22 due to a software upgrade at the policing central system. This will be forwarded once complete.

A report from Speed Watch had been provided, councillors asked for some clarification of this breakdown, clerk to contact PCSO. Bunce.

Cllr. Watson reported he will soon download and share data from the Vehicle Activated Signs on A381. The latest issue of the monthly Teignmouth & Dawlish Rural Neighbourhood Gazette is available to download from the BPC website. <https://www.bishopsteignton-pc.gov.uk/community-policing/>

.02 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr MacGregor did not provide a written report prior to the meeting and was not in attendance to give a verbal report.

.03 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Peart provided this report, which was circulate to members prior to the meeting:

Devon's gritting teams have been out for the first time this winter and they're prepared to face whatever the elements throw at the county's road over the next few months. Gritting depots across the county are fully stocked with around 24,000 tonnes of salt and Devon County Council's upgrade of its winter fleet has continued, with eight of its 37 frontline gritters replaced with newer models this year, reducing revenue spend on maintaining outdated vehicles.

This winter, Devon's fleet of gritters will be running on sustainably sourced Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil [HVO], which is a waste product from the food industry. The fuel produces 90% less CO2 than a regular diesel which will help meet Devon County Council's net zero targets by 2030.

A trial to salt some of Exeter's busiest cycle routes will also be extended to continues to provide additional support for communities as part of the Council's winter self – help scheme. The 325 volunteer snow wardens across the county treat their priority routes during prolonged spells of severe weather.

The chairman mention that the parish does not currently have a dedicated Snow Warden to receive weather warning notifications from DCC. It would be ideal to get this role filled; training, insurance and PPE are provided. Clerk to promote on social media.

In addition, currently there is no councillor in the membership of Bishopsteignton Emergency Resilience Team (BERT). The clerk reported that BERT are short of zone co-ordinators too.

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2886 FINANCE

.01 Payments:

Following various queries which were explained it was proposed and seconded, that the payments to be made 06.12.22 in accordance with '22.12 Payment Authorisation' be approved. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED** to approve and clerk to process payments.

.02 Monthly Finance Statements:

A statement for the period ending 30.11.22 had been forwarded to members. No questions were raised therefore this was **NOTED** by members and signed by the chair.
Clerk to publish both on the BPC website.

.03 Gifting for retiring Lunch Club volunteers: Following discussion it was proposed and seconded to purchase, using the General Power of Competence of the Localism Act 2012 section 1 (1), the following gifts to be presented by the Chairman at Lunch Club on Wednesday 14.12.22.

A plant for each member leaving, one bottle of both red and white wine to drink with their Christmas Lunch, and a gift voucher for Mrs. M. Worrall being the team coordinator who has been dedicated to the club for over 10 years. All within a total budget of £50. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**.

.04 BPC Grant Giving: Council discussed the application form which had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed and seconded to provide a grant of £230 subject to the following enquires to be made to the applicant:

1. Is there the possibility of purchasing a seconded-hand refurbished mower, to be more sustainably sourced than buying brand new? And
2. In previous experience on Cllr. Benham individual plot tenants have been tasked with maintaining the borders of their plots and the paths adjacent to these. Why is this practice not continued?

Response to be circulate to members and if satisfactory the grant to be released by the clerk. Agreed unanimously therefore **RESOLVED**.

.05 Preschool Update: Unfortunately, the meeting of the school governors was scheduled for 07.12.22 therefore only a very brief update could be provided. The clerk to the Governors advised, as taken from a report to the Governors:

"... numbers are increasing... I think we can feel a bit more confident. I don't think we will need any of the income from the Parish Council in this financial year. This was a great buffer to have. Moving into the next financial year, we will have to ensure that we have enough funds available to pay redundancies, should they be required."

Councillors were please to hear the Preschool seemed to back on track financially but as the grant was promised to be available to the end of the financial year (31.03.23) it was proposed by Cllr. Merritt, and seconded by Cllr. Benham, for this amount to remain earmarked for the Preschool for this period unless a report from their meeting on 07.12.22 stated it is no longer required. If this is the case the £7,500 will be reallocated to general reserves. Alternatively, if the report is inconclusive the total amount of funding offered could be pro-rata across the three terms, therefore £2,500 could remain earmarked and £5k moved to general reserve. Agreed unanimously, therefore **RESOLVED**.

.06 Chairs Regalia: The clerks report which was deferred at the October meeting was reviewed again and discussed at length. It was proposed and seconded that the repairs of the chairman's civic regalia be carried out within a budget of £1,500.00 but only once a decision is reached for the fund earmarked for the Preschool. When this fund is available and has been reallocated to general reserves the repair work should be instructed.

FOR: 7, AGAINST: 1, therefore **RESOLVED**.

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2887 CLERKS REPORT: The clerk provided a report, available to download from the website.

The following matters were considered further:

- The clerk highlighted the recently published and ongoing advent calendar on the BPC Noticeboard Facebook page, as a public relations exercise to promote the work of the council.
- When asked by Cllr. Gill the clerk confirmed quotes were still awaited regarding War Memorial refurbishment. He asked if less than three quotes materialised would this affect any grant funding from Bishopsteignton Heritage if offered. Clerk to investigate.
- Cllr. Head advised of changes to personnel at the Devon Air Ambulance Trust and that the new contact wished to meet at the site. This will be in the new year.

2888 COUNCIL GOVERNANCE:

Members considered and discussed the clerks report regarding proposed changes to the full council meeting schedule for 2023. Most members felt uneasy about the change and that the schedule should remain the same with one meeting per month, on the first Monday, commencing at 7.30pm.

It was proposed by Cllr. Head, seconded by Cllr. Benham that there be no change. FOR: 5, AGAINST: 1, ABSTAIN; 2. Therefore **RESOLVED**. Clerk to produce and publish unchanged schedule in due course.

2889 COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE:

It was proposed, seconded, unanimously agreed, and therefore **RESOLVED** that Cllr. East become a member of the BPC Finance Committee.

2890 PLANNING:

.01 **Concerns regarding Teignbridge Planning Department:** Members considered the email from the Chair of Doddiscombsleigh PC and discussed possible responses. The clerk advised many other local councils in Teignbridge have responded to thank them for this correspondence, sharing the concerns and asking to be part of any future communications. Cllr. Benham wished for it to be included that many of the ongoing issues with planning, the lack of response and agreement with officers' decision arises from Central Government, not Local Authority policy, so would require the input of local Members of Parliament. It was proposed by Cllr. Benham to send this response, seconded by Cllr. Smith, agreed unanimously, therefore **RESOLVED**.

.02 **New Application:** The following application was considered, and it was proposed, seconded, unanimously agreed and therefore **RESOLVED** for the comment below to be sent to Teignbridge District Council as the Local Planning Authority:

App Ref: 22/02162/HOU – 16 Manor Road

Proposal: Front balcony including removal of ground floor lounge window and replacement with new bi-fold doors

BPC Comment: No objection.

2891 WORKING PARTY / MEMBER TRAINING UPDATE REPORTS:

.01 The Chair reminded members of the Teign Estuary Trail working party of the liaison meeting to be held in the Community Centre on 08.12.22. Cllr. Head gave her apologies.

THE CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING AT 9.10 PM