

MINUTES
OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 7.30PM MONDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2023
AT BISHOPSTEIGNTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, SHUTE HILL



2973 MEETING GOVERNANCE

.01 **Attendance:** Cllr. H. Merritt (Chair) Cllr. K. Benham Cllr. R. Gill
Cllr. R. Gateshill Cllr. J. Grimble Cllr. N. Shaw
Cllr. J. Hanafin (7/10)
Clerk: Mrs. K. Ford.
6 members of the public at various times.

Apologies: Cllr. Edwards, Head, & Vooght (3/10).
PCSO S. Bunce & PC. C. Orchard.
District Cllr. MacGregor
County Cllr. Peart

.02 **Declaration Of Interests:** none.

.03 **Order Of Business:** The Chair proposed that agenda item 2309.06.02: Double Yellow Lines at Cleland Court be brought forward for the public audience. This was seconded and agreed unanimously.

.04 **Ratification Of Minutes:** Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Bishopsteignton Community Centre on 10.07.23, 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.

2974 HIGHWAYS: Double Yellow Lines at Cleland Court, Manor Road.

The Chair allowed several residents to explain the problems caused by irresponsible parking in the vicinity of the entrance to Cleland Court on Manor Road. The imminent double yellow lines were appreciated although it was felt the proposal was inadequate.

It was proposed by Cllr. Gateshill that a secondary application be submitted to Devon Highways/Teignbridge HATOC via the Neighbourhood Highways Officer which extends the double yellow lines heading East from the junction as far as the pavement travels. It was also proposed that the NHO is consulted regard the installation of permanent bollards along this same stretch, to reduce parking on the pavement. If permitted by Devon Highways these should be purchased by the clerk and installation arranged, within a budget of £1,000 from Community Infrastructure Levy funds currently held. These proposals were seconded by Cllr. Shaw, agreed unanimously and therefore **RESOLVED**.

2975 OFFICIAL REPORTS:

.01 **POLICE:** No crime report could be provided for this meeting and officers could not be present. The next Gazette will be circulated as soon as it's available. The next PACT meeting is to take place at 10.30am on Wednesday 13th September Jacks Patch.

.02 **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR:** The following report was provided by Cllr. MacGregor.

- *The Lido shut early this year due to a leak which saw water levels drop quickly and dangerously. The showers and toilets in the changing rooms also lost pressure and were also unusable. Effort is now going into establishing the leak location and how to fix it. I have lodged questions regarding this issue for full council.*

DATED:

CHAIRMAN:

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- *Broadmeadow Leisure Centre is to be refurbished after the project was agreed at the last full council. The project value is around £3m of which there is a grant of £300,000. There will be significant disruption as it involves considerable space changes. One of the key aspects which I and others disagree with is the decision to move from three separate changing facilities to a 'village' type changing area. This means removal of single sex spaces as well as the team changing facility.*
- *Ridgetop Park by Exeter was opened recently. It is funded entirely by developer contributions.*
- *No further responses at the stage (from TDC) of responding to the email from you regarding progress on the Scout Hut being built at The Lawns.*
- *I understand that there are free training opportunities for clerks and chairs at Parish and Town level being made available.*
- *Bakers Yard still hasn't made it back to consideration, but I understand that a revised plan is to be put forward specifying a safer route to town which the Parish I recall did not think was practical.*
- *There are additional funds - £33000 - being made available to assist with cost-of-living difficulties for those experiencing the most difficulty. It comes from the Teignbridge Lottery income.*
- *Cost of living drop in events start next week*
- *We've teamed up with the CVS and almost 30 other supporting organisations to run a series of six free, cost of living drop in events at locations across the district. The events – the first of which is at Bovey Tracey on 13 September - will provide a wide range of advice and information to help residents struggling with the cost of living pressures to manage their way through the autumn and winter months.*

The dates and locations of the events, which will be attended by several council teams, are set out below:

- *Wednesday 13 September 9.30 - 12.30 Bovey Tracey Riverside Centre*
- *Thursday 21 September 9.30 - 12.30 Moretonhampstead Parish Hall*
- *Thursday 5 October 9.30 - 12.30 Newton Abbot Courtenay Centre*
- *Monday 9 October 10.00 – 1.00 Teignmouth Pavilions*
- *Wednesday 18 October 9.30 – 12.30 Christow Community Hall*
- *Thursday 26 October 9.30 – 12.30 Buckfastleigh St Luke's Church Hall*

Cllr. MacGregor was asked for advice on how to go about escalating the unresolved matter regarding the covenant on the Lawns transfer deed which according to TDC solicitor, Mr. P. Woodhead, restricts the installation of the proposed building for community use, mainly scouts. 1st Bishopsteignton Scouts, a registered charity, have now spent more than £7,000 to gain planning permission but now are being held up by this issue. He reported liaising with Mr. P. Shears, Managing Director of TDC, to bring him up to speed on this case. He suggested BPC write formally to both Mr. Shears, and Cllr. Martin Wrigley, leader of the council, to ask for the matter to be resolved. It was proposed by Cllr. Merritt, seconded by Cllr. Gateshill, agreed unanimously and therefore RESOLVED to take this recommended action.

.03 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR:** Cllr. Peart provided the following report.

Free Trees Scheme. *Landowners and communities in Devon are being reminded to apply for this year's free tree scheme. Devon County Council is offering up to 50 free tree packs, each containing 45 native broadleaved trees and other items to support their planting and establishment. This project will help achieve carbon net zero, tackle the Climate Emergency and support nature recovery. Last winter, more than 17,000 trees were planted in Devon through the Emergency Tree Fund, a project run in partnership with the Woodland Land Trust, with additional support via the Forestry Commission. This breaks down to 6,750 trees awarded to landowners and more than 9,800 trees planted on County Farms Estate and other council owned land. Applications for this year's scheme need to be completed online by Wednesday 27th September. Applicants will be notified if they have been successful before the end of October and the free tree packs will be delivered*

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in time to be planted during National Tree Week from the 25th November – 3rd December. To find out more about the Emergency Tree Fund visit the County Councils dedicated webpages.

2976 FINANCE

- .01 **Payments:** It was proposed and seconded, agreed unanimously, and therefore RESOLVED that:
- i. payments transacted by the clerk across the period 11.07.23 to 29.08.23, be approved retrospectively.
 - ii. the payments as listed for payment on 05.09.23 shall be transacted by the clerk.
- .02 **Financial Statement:** A statement for the period ending 30.06.23 was forwarded to members prior to the meeting. No questions were raised therefore this was NOTED by members and signed by the Chair. Clerk to publish this on the BPC website.
- .03 **Reallocation of Budget:** The clerk recommended that the budget of £350 which was set for the Kings Coronation, to plant a commemorative tree and printing services for a community program/brochure, be reallocated. A program was not required as posters were sufficient. A tree is going to be approximately £50-100. It was proposed by Cllr. Shaw, seconded by Cllr. Head that the remaining balance of approximately £200-250 be allocated to a new budget heading for 80th Anniversary of D-Day and that this be used to cover any costs relating to beacon lighting and possibly arrangements for a community event. Agreed unanimously, therefore RESOLVED.

2977 ASSET MANAGEMENT

- .01 **Land at Little Haldon Heath:** Full Council considered the clerks' report, which gave updates on this issue since previously discussed, and the recommendation within. It was proposed by Cllr. Gateshill, seconded by Cllr. Grimble, that no further action should be taken by BPC at this time, other than to politely decline to opportunity presented by the voluntary working group and wish them every success in their endeavors. FOR: 6, AGAINST: 1, therefore RESOLVED.
- .02 **Fore Street Toilets Regeneration:** Members considered the report provided by the clerk. Cllr. Gateshill, as Chair of the Asset Management Committee (AMC) summarised the options; to leave it as it is structurally, with redecoration only (setting a budget for this work); Improvements to provide one toilet unisex with disabled access, developing the remaining building for alternative use (options to be considered); or, reconfigure to allow separate male and female toilets, and a disabled access facility, and develop any remaining space for storage or an alternative use. All options were discussed in depth.
It was proposed by Cllr. Benham, seconded by Cllr. Shaw, to defer this consideration until a future meeting of the full council, when future rental charges for the continued use of the Bishopsteignton Community Centre as a storage facility and meeting location are known. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.
Members were encouraged to research and consider alternative uses for the space, and to explore local unisex/disabled access facilities for reference.
- .03 **Advertising Banners:** Members considered the recommendation made by the Asset Management Committee at its meeting held 24.07.23 (minute ref. 2307.06). It was proposed by Cllr. Gateshill, seconded by Cllr. Grimble, that there should be no advertising banners at the new railings at

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Cockhaven Junction and the businesses/charities currently displaying banners should be asked to remove them. FOR: 5, AGAINST: 1, ABSTENTION: 1, therefore RESOLVED. Clerk to contact Bishopsteignton School and Shaldon Zoo.

- .04 **Garden Wall at St Johns Churchyard:** This item did not appear on the agenda however consideration was expedient to resolve the matter.
The recent concerns with the wall and the remedial actions taken so far were explained and the need for future remedy was considered. It was proposed by Cllr. Shaw, seconded by Cllr. Head, that a second opinion is sought from a Stonemason. Agreed unanimously, therefore RESOLVED.

2978 COUNCIL STRATEGY & GOVERNANCE

- .01 **Member Sabbatical Request:** Members considered a request from Cllr. Edwards, for a 3-months leave of absence due to ongoing health concerns. It was proposed by Cllr. Merritt, seconded by Cllr. Benham, that this request be granted. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.
- .02 **Council Strategic Plan 2023-2027:** Members considered the final draft of this plan. Cllr. Benham suggested the introduction of a Carbon Reduction Plan be included, alongside the proposed Biodiversity Plan. Other than thanks to the clerk for the production of this document, no further comments were made.
It was proposed by Cllr. Merritt, seconded by Cllr. Gateshill, that this version, including the addition suggested by Cllr. Benham above, be adopted for immediate use and referral and its regular review be scheduled into Full Council meeting agendas. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.
- .03 **BPC Policy Review:** The following policies were recommended for adoption, following review and necessary alterations carried out by the clerk:
- i. **BPC Financial Regulations (P.012):** Several amendments were discussed and recommended. It was proposed by Cllr. Gateshill, seconded by Cllr. Shaw, that this version be adopted for immediate use, subject to actioning of the amendments discussed. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.
 - ii. **Freedom of Information Policy (P.021):** This was considered, and no comments raised. It was proposed by Cllr. Shaw, seconded by Cllr. Benham, to adopt with immediate effect. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.

2979 HIGHWAYS:

- .01 **20's Plenty Campaign:** Members considered the clerk's report and recommendation within. It was proposed by Cllr. Shaw, seconded by Cllr. Head, to act in accordance with the recommendation: - *Bishopsteignton Parish Council fully supports the 20's Plenty for Devon campaign. The Parish Council calls on Devon County Council to request the implementation of 20mph in the village of Bishopsteignton and Luton. The Parish Council will write to Devon County Council to express support for the campaign to implement 20mph limits on streets throughout Devon where people live, work, shop, play or learn.* Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.
- .02 **Double Yellow Lines at Cleland Court:** *Discussed earlier, see minute reference 2974, on page 1.*

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.03 **Road Closures:** The notifications, as listed in the circulated appendix, were noted. To be shared on BPC website and social media for public information.

2980 DISRUPTED WATER SERVICE IN LUTON/IDEFORD:

Members considered the issues highlighted in the clerks report and it was proposed, seconded to act in accordance with the recommendation: - *To offer its support to its residents BPC might consider writing to both A. Morris and SWW to strengthen the arguments put forward by residents and Ideford PC.* Agreed unanimously, therefore RESOLVED.

2981 CLERKS REPORT: The report of all ongoing BPC business and activity was provided to members and the public prior to this meeting. The following comments were raised/points added:

- **Remembrance:** Planning for Civic Services for 2023 is underway.
- **Paperchase:** As there have recently been flytipping incidents after several paperchase skip visits Cllr. Hanafin questioned the agreement in place with the Preschool. The clerks advised there was nothing official in writing, but this should be remedied. A draft agreement to be drawn up and considered at a future meeting.
- Cllr. Benham asked if Bishopsteignton School are affected by RAAC. Clerk to liaise with School Manager and report back to the council.

2982 MEMBERS REPORTS:

- Cllr. Merritt reported an upcoming meeting of the TET working party, with DCC, and TDC representatives. Any report from this can be circulated/discussed at the next full council meeting.

2983 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 21.47