

MINUTES
OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 19.30 MONDAY 7 JULY 2025
AT BISHOPSTEIGNTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, SHUTE HILL



2507.01 MEETING GOVERNANCE

.01 **Attendance:** Cllr. H. Merritt (Chair) Cllr. R. Gill Cllr. E. Harris
Cllr. J. Grimble Cllr. J. Hooper Cllr. D. Robbins
Cllr. A. Keohane Cllr. D. Dixon Cllr. R. Gateshill
Cllr. W. Vooght (10/11)
District Cllr. A. MacGregor.
Clerk: Mrs. K. Ford, & 2 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr. Myers (1/11). Cllr. T. Dempster, PCSO. S. Bunce.

.02 **Declaration of Interests:** None.

.03 **Order of Business:** No change necessary.

.04 **Ratification of Minutes:** Draft minutes of the Annual meeting of BPC and the Full Council meeting, held at Bishopsteignton Community Centre on 06.05.25, were considered. It was proposed and seconded that both these be approved as a true and correct record. Agreed unanimously therefore **resolved to approve** and to be signed by the Chair.

2507.02 OFFICIAL REPORTS

.01 **Police Report:** A crime report had been provided, which was read aloud by the clerk; this will be circulated to members and shared on the BPC website. No enquiries for PCSO. Bunce.

.02 **District Councillors Report:** Cllr. MacGregor had provided the following written report:

- The only key elements are that Waste and Recycling is building a covered recycling facility in line with environmental licence requirements. This is a significant investment in improving the facility in Newton Abbot.
- Bakers Yard has had an application approved. I spoke against it the grounds of highway safety, ecological concerns and the reduction in employment and increase in general housing which neither reflects the original BNP or the revised view on 'live to work' options that were in the last application.
- I have asked about the usage of Michaels Field changing area as a comparison of the total use of the playing fields. I'm not sure the changing rooms are adequately used.
- Local Government Reorganisation continues. There are meetings arranged in Teignmouth and other town council locations to discuss this process. Monday 21st at 10am. Runs for two hours.
- People power has worked in two recent cases where Wolborough NA3 development has ceased altogether and Teignmouth TE3 was stopped while the developer was forced into delivering the conditions required, which have now been met. It should encourage community groups that at least in some cases voices are heard and action taken.
- The local plan is still pending for adoption. Although I have a view, I'd like the Parish to help inform my choice for the vote.

.03 **County Councillors Report:** No written report had been provided by Cllr. Dempster.

2507.03 FINANCE

.01 **Payments:** It was proposed by Cllr. Vooght and seconded by Cllr. Gill, agreed unanimously, and therefore **RESOLVED** that the payments transacted by the clerk across the period 01.05.25 to 30.06.25, be approved retrospectively.

DATED:

CHAIRMAN:

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.02 Financial Statement:

- a. A financial statement for the period ending 31.05.25 was NOTED by members and signed by the Chair. Clerk to publish these on the BPC website.
- b. A financial statement for the period ending 30.06.25 was NOTED by members and signed by the Chair. Clerk to publish these on the BPC website.

.03 Payment Card: members considered obtaining a payment card for business use only. This was discussed briefly and several useful suggestions made. It was proposed by Cllr. Grimble, seconded by Cllr. Gill, that the clerk be instructed to research the use and fees associated with a payment card for BPC business, either prepayment card or a debit card, and to obtain the right o for the council. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.

2507.04 COUNCIL STRATEGY & GOVERNANCE

.01 Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

- a. **Collaborative Working:** The recent invitation from the Chair of Newton Abbot Town Council has since been withdrawn. Further investigation into collaborative work between Parish & Town Councils in Teignbridge may happen in the future but for now there was not enough interest to proceed.
- b. **TDC LGR Consultation:** A consultation opportunity from Teignbridge District Council is imminent but not available for this meeting.

2507.05 ASSET MANAGEMENT

.01 Food Vendor at The Lawns: Members considered the opportunity to permit a food van at The Lawns. As the vendor was hoping to trade during the evenings, several times a week councillors felt it may be intrusive to neighbouring residents and could affect local traders/businesses. Therefore, it was proposed by Cllr. Merritt, seconded by Cllr. Gateshill, to reject the proposition. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.

It was suggested that it is recommended in BPC response to the vendor to contact TDC licensing department to gain permission such as Nippy Chippy, to trade in the same locations on a different evening.

2507.06 CLERKS REPORT: The report of all ongoing BPC business and activity was provided to members and the public prior to this meeting. The following further matters were raised by the clerk and members:

- .01 BT Kiosk Adoption, Fore Street:** The Clerk reported that the phone kiosk shall be adopted imminently; contracts have been exchanged and the transfer fee paid. An engineer will remove telephone equipment before the final consignment notice is issued. The clerks asked the council what they wish to use the kiosk for. It was unanimously agreed the community should be consulted with a deadline to enable BPC to discuss it further at their next meeting, 01.09.25.
- .02 VJ Day:** Following the clerk's research it was agreed that the beacon should not be lit for VJ Day 80. However, it was agreed a small service of Remembrance should happen at the War Memorial, similar to that held on VE Day in May this year.
- .03 Asset Management Issues:** The issues below were raised by different members, and the following resolutions agreed:
 - a. Caravan dumped at The Lawns car park: Information to be shared on social media and PCSO. Sal Bunce to expediate removal.

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- b. Bollards outside Community Centre: The decision to approve this installation was queried. The clerk explained the process. The car parking alongside these, opposite the Radway Hill junction, is unfortunate. The matter will be discussed with the Neighbourhood Highways Officer.
 - c. The maintenance gate at The Lawns playground was reported as damaged, hanging off its hinges. Clerk to investigate and instruct a contractor.
 - d. Defibrillator at Old Walls: This matter was briefly discussed again; but there is no resolution.
 - e. Damaged public gate at the Cockhaven Close playground was noted. Clerk to investigate and liaise with a contractor.
- .04 **Bishopsteignton Village Festival** – All members agreed the 2025 BVF was excellent and greatly appreciated by the community. The Chairs email of thanks to the chair of the BVF committee was appreciated by councillors.

2507.07 MEMBERS REPORTS

- .01 **Teign Estuary Trail – Cllr. Merritt.**
An update was provided by Cllr. Merritt, to accompany the minutes previously circulated. There were no further questions raised.
- .02 **Community Centre Heritage Renovation – Cllr. Hooper.**
Cllr. Hooper gave an update for intentions to make improvements to the listed building including the need for appraisal from the conservation officer at Teignbridge District Council. This project should be considered a joint effort with both Bishopsteignton Heritage and BPC in the future as it will benefit all organisations, but most of all the community, whilst preserving the historic building. For this, large grants will be required which will be applied for following a grant of listed building consent. Cllr. Hooper wished to acknowledge the invaluable support of Mr. Chris Grimshaw in the management of this project. He requested some financial support from Teignbridge District Council towards the match funding, Cllr. MacGregor agreed to make further enquiries about this.
- .03 **Newton Abbot Cattle Market – Cllr. Vooght**
Cllr. Vooght reported he has a meeting arranged with MP. Mr. Martin Wrigley and representatives from the agent Rendells, at the cattle market to consider its future. He will report back at a future meeting.

There were no further members reports.

2507.08 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There were no public comments.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 21.12