

MINUTES

OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Held at 19.00 Monday 1 September 2025
At The Old School House, Luton



2509.01 MEETING GOVERNANCE

.01 **Attendance:** Cllr. H. Merritt (Chair) Cllr. R. Gill Cllr. J. Grimble
Cllr. J. Hooper Cllr. L. Myers Cllr. D. Robbins
Cllr. A. Keohane Cllr. D. Dixon Cllr. R. Gateshill
Cllr. W. Vooght (10/11)
District Cllr. A. MacGregor, County Cllr. T. Dempster.
Clerk: Mrs. K. Ford, & 1 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr. Harris (1/11), PCSO. S. Bunce.

.02 **Declaration of Interests:** Cllrs. Grimble, Gill, and Keohane, declared a non-pecuniary interest for agenda item 2509.03.03.
Cllrs. Hooper, Merritt, Myers, and Robbins, declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 2509.04.01.

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

.04 **Ratification of Minutes:** Draft minutes of the Full Council meeting, held at Bishopsteignton Community Centre on 07.07.25, 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.

2509.02 OFFICIAL REPORTS

.01 **Police Report:** Crime reports for July and August had been provided; both had been circulated to members and shared on the BPC website. No enquiries for PCSO. Bunce.

.02 **District Councillors Report:** Cllr. MacGregor had not provided a written or verbal report.

.03 **County Councillors Report:** Cllr. Dempster had not provided a written or verbal report.

2509.03 FINANCE

.01 **Payments:** It was proposed by Cllr. Vooght and seconded by Cllr. Hooper, agreed unanimously, and therefore RESOLVED that the payments transacted by the clerk across the period 01.07.25 to 31.08.25, be approved retrospectively.

.02 **Financial Statement:**

- A financial statement for the period ending 31.07.25 was NOTED by members and signed by the Chair. Clerk to publish these on the BPC website.
- A financial statement for the period ending 31.08.25 was NOTED by members and signed by the Chair. Clerk to publish these on the BPC website.

.03 **BPC Grant Funding:** Members considered the two applications received for Q2 grant funding. Following discussion the following awards were proposed:

- £150 for Royal British Legion Bishopsteignton Branch. Proposed by Cllr. Robbins, seconded by Cllr. Gateshill, unanimously agreed therefore RESOLVED.

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b) £475.50 for Bishopsteignton WI Craft Club. It was proposed by Cllr. Gateshill, seconded by Cllr. Robbins to grant £250. FOR:8, ABSTAIN: 3, therefore RESOLVED.

Clerk to transfer allocated funds. Cllr. Dempster indicated he would be happy to give additional funds towards the WI craft club and for the clerk to pass on his contact details.

2509.04 COUNCIL STRATEGY & GOVERNANCE

Draft Bishopsteignton Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)

Members reviewed the plan in its draft form, the clerk explained its purpose and the next stages, including public consultation, before returning to the council for adoption.

A member of the public questioned why there was no inclusion or mention in the draft IDP of a youth provision, as previously discussed and included in the parish council's Community Infrastructure Policy (CIL) policy. The clerk admitted this had been omitted accidentally and shall be added to the draft. The clerk explained how it was hoped issues such as this will be highlighted during public consultation on the draft.

Members considered the project-specific allocation of CIL funds to be indicated in the IDP:

.01 **Bishopsteignton Community Centre Regeneration & Enhancement:** Cllr. Hooper explained the project including its aims, project trajectory and progress to date, listed building consent application, and possible funding streams including an application to National Lottery Heritage Fund. It was proposed by Cllr. Grimble, seconded by Cllr. Vooght, that £10k of CIL be allocated to this project. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.

.02 **Pedestrian access between The Lawns recreation ground and Newton Road/Cockhaven:** The clerk explained the history and issues over public access in the vicinity. Members considered the details within the report and resolved accordingly:

- a) It was proposed by Cllr. Keohane, seconded by Cllr. Dixon, to agree the project be included in the IDP with an allocation of £3k of CIL to cover the initial work and a contingency for maintenance or additional work, as required. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.
- b) It was proposed by Cllr. Gill, seconded by Cllr. Robbins, that the work be appointed to contractor B, at the quoted price of £1,780. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.

Should further funds be required for additional work such as fencing the matter be considered again. Cllr MacGregor suggested planning permission may be required and offered to investigate at TDC.

2509.05 HIGHWAYS

Members considered the proposals indicated in the clerk's appendix. This arose from a site visit held in July involving several members but with the addition of double yellow lines installation at the bottom of Murley Crescent following contact from a resident in the vicinity.

During discussion the need for stronger enforcement was raised, questioning who would police these new restrictions once established, it is likely some residents may ignore them, having always parked in these locations previously. The clerk reminded that anyone is welcome to call the enforcement department at DCC, an officer can be requested to visit troublesome spots until 10pm. Clerk to promote the enforcement contact details on social media.

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A member of the public questioned the restrictive signage in the passing place on Forder Lane, adding this space is occasionally used for visiting care workers. It is believed care workers have a time limited permit for such restrictions.

It was proposed by Cllr. Robbins, seconded by Cllr. Myers, that all proposals are submitted to DCC Highways for process to put them before the Teignbridge Highways and Traffic Orders Committee (HATOC). Agreed unanimously, therefore RESOLVED.

Important to note this request may still take up to two years to be considered and added to a program of works, if successful, due to the infrequency of HATOC meetings and large number of projects for its consideration.

2509.06 ASSET MANAGEMENT

.01 **Replacement playground gates:** Members considered the clerk's report, it was confirmed that S106 can be used to meet these costs. Cllr. Gill queried the number of gates required, it was agreed the total should be 4, rather than 3, with an additional gate at The Lawns playground. It was proposed by Cllr. Gill, seconded by Cllr Dixon, to install 4 new gates, as described, and apply S106 to this project. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.

.02 **Padel at the MUGA:** Members considered the clerk's report and discussed the proposal at length. There was scepticism about their budget plan, particularly the cafe income. It was proposed by Cllr. Robbins, seconded by Cllr. Gateshill, to accept the recommendation made by AMC; *that BPC give in-principal agreement to provide one court of the MUGA for padel courts and associated supporting development at The Lawns. That communications progress between BPC and SOVA on this proposed project.* FOR: 7, AGAINST: 3, therefore RESOLVED.
Clerk to advise SOVA partners accordingly and encourage them to tackle the covenant issue first, or at least simultaneously to planning permission.
Clerk to seek clarification from the applicant as to the number of padel courts intended, as throughout the business plan it says either 2 or 3 at different points.

.03 **Adopted BT Kiosk:** Members considered the clerks report. It was proposed by Cllr. Keohane, seconded by Cllr. Vooght, that the adopted ex-BT kiosk on Fore Street shall become a seed swap and information point for wildlife friendly gardening and the community plot. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.
Clerk to organise painting of the kiosk and liaise with CIA for input into the new seed swap and display.

2509.07 CLIMATE IMPACT ACTION

Pesticide Free Parish: Members considered the proposal brought to them by the three Parish Wildlife Wardens on behalf of the Climate Impact Action Committee (CIA). This was discussed at length, but it was felt more information about the alternatives was needed from Wildlife Wardens. Cllr. MacGregor commented that TDC have investigated declaring Pesticide Free but decided against it, he suggested the clerk liaise with Greenspaces officer Mark Payne to discuss the reasons. Newton Abbot had committed to being pesticide free and had purchased expensive foam treatment equipment that we may be able to hire or cost-share on, should we commit to going down this route.

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It was proposed by Cllr. Merritt, seconded by Cllr. Myers, to defer any decision on this proposal until further information, as above, can be provided for consideration. Agreed unanimously therefore RESOLVED.

2509.08 CLERKS REPORT: The report on 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 Cllr. Merritt asked members to consider any training needs important for the councils development and application for the Local Council Award Scheme.
- .02 It was highlighted by the clerk that BPC will not be responding to the final consultation on the final draft of the Teignbridge Local Plan.
- .03 Cllr. Grimble was pleased to report that her road had been selected for the extended kerbside recycling trial being run by TDC over the Autumn, she will report back in due course.

2509.09 MEMBERS REPORTS

.01 **Teign Estuary Trail – Cllr. Merritt.**

Cllr. Merritt, reported he is in the process of arranging a meeting with Cllr. Jaqui Hodgson, the new Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Biodiversity, to present and engage them with the latest progress and much needed pressure for the Teign Estuary Trail.

There were no further members reports.

2509. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: There were no public comments.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 21.15