



A remote meeting of the Parish Council by zoom on Wednesday 16 June 2021 at 7:00pm.

Present: Cllrs F Benbow (Chairman), Mrs A Bell, Mrs L McLean, P Huxtable and M Prowse (from agenda item 30).

In attendance: 5 parishioners, Cllr Mrs Davis (DCC), Parish Clerk

18. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr T Shapland.

19. Public Participation

1. It was reported that even during dry weather there was still water running across the road at Loxhore Cross, where there was also a pothole. This had been raised with county Councillor Mrs A Davis.
2. The faulty streetlight at The Glebe had been reported, but not yet repaired.

20. Declaration of Interests

Cllr Mrs Bell declared an interest in item 27.
Cllr Huxtable declared an interest in item 23.

21. Approval of Minutes of the meeting held 5 May 2021

The amended minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

22. Matters Arising from Minutes of meeting held 5 May 2021

North Devon Council had confirmed that no requests to fill the vacancy on the parish council by election had been received. It was agreed to advertise the vacancy at the event on the Millennium Green in August.

23. Planning Application

73125 Reserved matters application (Appearance & layout) for Erection of dwelling (amended design & layout) to approved reserved matters 51423) at Plot to east of Beechcroft Road from the White Hart to Beara Cross Bratton Fleming

Cllr Huxtable declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.

Two letters of objection had been received from parishioners, concerned over the increased height of the roofline, changes to the roof design and change to the outline to the dwelling. It was noted that the site of the proposed dwelling had been changed from the previous application. It was considered that the overall mass of the proposed dwelling was too great for the site.

It was agreed to recommend that the present application was refused.
The council would support the application if re-submitted with reduced mass and changes to the roofline to bring it in line with the adjacent properties.

24. Correspondence Received

1. An email had been received from NPS South West acting on behalf of DCC detailing the proposal to develop the Beara Down Farm site.
It was agreed to invite a representative to the next meeting, noting that a full public consultation would be necessary. Cllr Mrs Bell to contact NPS.
2. A parishioner had raised concerns over the condition of the seat on the verge at the top of the village which was in need of repair/replacement. It was agreed to inspect the seat before the next meeting.

25. Memorial

It was understood that a suitable stone had been secured, and that a contractor had been engaged to move it to the Millennium Green.

26. Aerial Photography of the Community Woodland

Cllr Benbow reported that the video had been shot, but was still awaiting a narrative.

27. Lynton & Barnstaple Railway Project in Relation to the Parish

It was agreed to invite a representative from the Lynton and Barnstaple Railway Company to the next meeting.

28. Highways

The road surface at Loxhore Cross was breaking up, with water across the road which could become dangerous in winter. Cllr Mrs Davis stated that she would speak to the highways Officer regarding the problem.

Benton Road was in a poor condition. Cllr Mrs Davis confirmed that the road had been inspected, but that there had been no response regarding any planned work.

29. Composting Credits

Deferred to the next meeting.

30. Play Area

Cllr Mrs Bell reported that she had met an officer from North Devon Council. Who confirmed that the present equipment would soon be in need of replacing.

Mrs Shapland, Chair of the PTA had been working on the childrens' aspirations for the play area.

Cllr Prowse joined the meeting.

31. Management of Public Open Space

Deferred to the next meeting.

32. Reports

1. District Councillor's Report

Cllr Prowse reported on the Future High Street Programme. This would include some changes being made to the Pannier Market. The council was about to agree a deal to acquire the derelict properties in Boutport Street, opposite Butchers Row.

Anti Social Behaviour in the town centre was becoming a problem which needed to be tackled.

The council was in discussion with the Bridge Trust over some of its properties which were looking shabby, and under used.

The funding deadline for the levelling up programme was approaching. The council was proposing a cultural hub outside the Landmark Theatre in Ilfracombe.

The Local Plan was being reviewed, it being noted that NDC did not have a 5 year land supply for housing. It was hoped to produce a new Plan in two years.

The council had appointed Maria Bailey as the new planning manager.

2. County Councillor's Report

Coronavirus updates from Devon County Council

The link below may be of interest to residents with the situation changing and many interested in what is happening locally this link is a useful starting point for questions and the current situation in Devon.

The link takes you to the Covid-19 pages on the Devon County Council Website, it has daily updated information as to positive cases within the area, information about testing and track and trace.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/coronavirus-data/>

DCC Cabinet Member remits following the recent Annual council meeting

The responsibilities of the Cabinet are divided into the following Remits. Cabinet Members will also exercise regular budget monitoring of the resources allocated by the Council for those purposes, seek to achieve best value in the services for which they are responsible and have regard to the Council's policies and strategic objectives with respect to sustainability and health and wellbeing generally, to achieve the co-ordinated management of the Council's plans and policies and the integrated delivery of services for the people of Devon. Where elements of these Remits overlap with another, Cabinet Members will exercise their responsibilities jointly, particularly in respect of identifying the future delivery and direction of services.

Policy, Corporate and Asset Management (Leader-John Hart)

Responsibility for the overall strategic direction and the development of external relations and partnerships including Team Devon, and oversight of the formulation and coordination of corporate planning and policy development within the Council's Policy and Budget Framework and, in particular, the oversight of its governance and external affairs arrangements.

Also responsible for the management of the Council's property, the use of its assets and the development of its estates, including the schools' and education property portfolio and the Farms Estate.

Adult Social Care & Health Services (James McInnes)

Responsibility (a) as Lead Member for Adult Social Care for the discharge of all the Council's statutory functions, powers and duties under Social Services legislation and all the functions of the Council which relate to the care and welfare of adults and those entering adulthood, including those with additional needs, the commissioning of integrated social care and health services for those in need; adult protection and harm reduction services and the provision of services for families with most complex needs and support for careers and (b) for fulfilling the Council's statutory lead role in relation to the Council's Health & Wellbeing Board.

Children's Services and Schools (Andrew Leadbetter)

Responsibility as Lead Member for Children's Services, for the discharge of all the Council's statutory functions, powers and duties in relation to children's social care and education and learning: this to include the Council's functions as local education authority particularly in respect of schools, support to children with special educational needs, provision of learning services, strategic commissioning of integrated services for children & young people, school planning, school transport and early years services; for child protection and harm reduction services, the Youth Offending Service, children in care and support for young carers: having regard to the Council's strategic objectives and working collegiately to secure the future delivery and direction of these services.

Cabinet liaison for co-ordinated management of the Council's plans and policies and the integrated delivery of services for the people of Exeter by the County Council and partner organisations acting as the Cabinet proponent for advancing the needs of and aspirations of the County's Capital City.

Climate Change, Environment and Transport (Andrea Davis)

Responsible for the Council's commitment to Climate Change and the principles of the Devon Climate Declaration, in particular carbon reduction and working in partnership with public, private and voluntary organisations to achieve its objectives.

Responsibility for strategic and infrastructure planning generally and for the provision of transport services in the community, for flooding and coast protection planning and for those Council services which safeguard individuals in the community and enhance their quality of life including countryside management, heritage, biodiversity and conservation.

Responsibility for delivering the Council's major infrastructure schemes including all transportation links and the children's and adults services, highways, environment and corporate capital programmes, in cooperation with other Cabinet Members, integrating resources and utilising external partner relationships, and for the discharge of the Council's functions relating to public transport, waste disposal, recycling and other energy-related issues: having regard to the Council's strategic objectives and working collegiately to secure the future delivery and direction of services.

Economic Recovery and Skills (Rufus Gilbert)

Responsibility for the progression and promotion of economic recovery and development of the County; the encouragement of employment through regeneration and investment; fulfilling the Council's lead role relating to the provision of post-16 education, training and skills for employment in schools, colleges and other settings and for the provision of trading standards and consumer protection: having regard to the Council's strategic objectives and working collegiately to secure the future delivery and direction of services.

Also responsible for fulfilling the Council's role in relation to Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs).

Finance (Phil Twiss)

Responsible for and the oversight of the Council's finances, annual budget setting, medium and long term financial planning, monitoring of expenditure, year-end closure of accounts and Treasury Management activities, to achieve value for money in the delivery of Council services.

Highway Management (Stuart Hughes)

Responsibility for the discharge of the Council's powers and duties as a Highway Authority, taking particular account of road safety requirements and asset management of the county highway network and for the implementation of a Local Transport Plan including the provision of cycle routes; having regard to the Council's strategic objectives and working collegiately to secure the future delivery and direction of services.

Organisational Development, Workforce & Digital Transformation (Andrew Saywell)

Responsibility for co-ordinating the management of organisational development and digital transformation in the Council to secure effective Council wide transformational outcomes for the benefit of citizens and communities including digital inclusion and digital skills.

Responsibility for the continuous improvement of performance and risk management across the Council, for all workforce issues which fall outside the remit of the Personnel Partnership, the development of the Council’s digital and technology platforms, Procurement systems and procedures, oversight of the Council’s legal and communications services, including Freedom of Information, customer service arrangements and access to services by users and clients.

Public Health, Communities and Equality (Roger Croad)

Responsibility for the discharge of the Council’s public health functions and health protection and promoting the health and wellbeing of the public and also responsible for those Council services which safeguard individuals in the community and enhance their quality of life: in particular community safety, food insecurity, financial hardship, emergency planning and gypsies and travellers.

This includes collaborating with and supporting other public sector bodies, voluntary and community organisations to develop relationships for mutual advantage and community gain, working together for the benefit of people and communities in Devon.

Responsible for the Council’s statutory duties and responsibilities in relation to equality, diversity and inclusion together with its own equality policies and objectives.

Responsible also for the Registration Service and for the provision of a basic adult learning services, a library and archives service and support for the arts and for the discharge of all the Council’s statutory functions, powers and duties in relation to the provision of youth services.

Responsible for the Armed Forces Covenant and initiatives thereunder.

NDLR

Night work is over for the time being. This allowed the contractor to install semi-permanent barriers and re-line the road reduced to narrow lanes and remove temporary traffic lights before the summer increase in traffic.

3. Composting Group

No report received.

4. Woodland Group

Cllr Shapland was compiling a list of awards etc won by the Community Woodland.

5. Chairman’s Report

Cllr Benbow reported that the number of Covid infections was still rising, and that there was still a 20% risk of infection even after two jabs. He was there reluctant to return to face-to-face meetings. It was understood that South Molton Town Council had found a way to continue holding remote meetings.

33. Finance

1. Payments:

Came & Co Insurance (replacement cheque)	£442.06	Cheque No.1248
Terry Barrow	£360.00	Cheque No.1251
Clerk’s Salary and expenses	£122.78	Cheque No.1252

The three accounts were agreed for payment.

34. Items for consideration for the next Agenda.

Memorial; Lynton & Barnstaple Railway; Mary Orchard Collection; Compost Group Credits; Public Open Space. Digitising old editions of the Bratton Fleming News.

35. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 21 July 2021

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:00pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date