

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2021 AT 7.00 p.m.**

**Present: -** Councillor Blackman (Chairman)  
Councillors Bowden, Knight, N. Lines, P. Lines, Lofthouse, Short, Steer  
and Ward.

NDC Councillors Knight and Lofthouse.

DCC Councillor Leaver.

M Isaac (Clerk)

**In Attendance:** Parishioner/Members of the Public – None

**117. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Luggar and Thorne and NDC Councillor Saxby.

**118. PUBLIC SESSION**

There were no issues raised by Parishioners.

**119. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE  
CHAIR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY**

The following issues were raised:

War Memorial – The Chair stated she and the Vice Chair had attended the recent Remembrance Sunday Service and it had been brought to her attention that the steps and balustrade leading up to the Memorial Garden needed repair/replacement.

The Clerk reported that the War Memorial and Gardens were not included on the Council's Asset Register and therefore he was not sure of ownership.

It was agreed that the Clerk investigate ownership of the War Memorial and Gardens.

Tower View Recreational Area

Cracked Wall – It was noted that the new wall had been completed and NDC Building Control had advised that the crack was not a safety issue.

It was agreed that Gavin Hendry remove the Council's fencing.

Green Fencing – It was noted that work was in progress and the property owner had dug out behind the fencing.

**120. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest announced.

**121. DCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

**a) DCC Councillor Leaver**

Councillor Leaver reported the following issues:

- That DCC were undertaking a review of the Link Centres for Open Access Mental Health drop-in services in Northern Devon. The Centres had been closed during the pandemic and there was a possibility that they may be closed. It was hoped that some level of service would remain.
- That work to the Iron Bridge over the River Taw had not yet been undertaken. It was hoped that this would now be done after Christmas.
- That the introduction of 20 mph speed limits were still under review. The trial in Newton Abbot had not yet started.
- That the speed survey data in relation to the Shorelands Road Roundabout was not yet available.

**b) NDC Councillor Knight**

Councillor Knight reported the following:

- That red and white stickers had appeared on litter bins advising of disposal of general and dog waste. He was investigating.
- That he had submitted a formal request to get staggered fragmented parking along Old Torrington Road included in a new traffic order. He also hoped to get the same included around Shorelands Road.

**c) NDC Councillor Lofthouse**

Councillor Lofthouse had no NDC issues to report.

**d) NDC Councillor Saxby**

The Clerk reported the following from Councillor Saxby:

- That she had called in planning application 72282 for consideration and determination by NDC Planning Committee.
- That there were concerns of over fibring in Tawstock by Airband that had been escalated to CDS.

**122. MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**123. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA**

There were no issues raised.

**124. HIGHWAY ISSUES**

- a) Provision of traffic signs in Tawstock Village

Councillor Lofthouse stated that he would contact the farmer who raised the concerns.

It was agreed that pursuant to minute 105 (c) the Clerk e mail DCC Councillor Henderson to get an update.

- b) Update on hedge cutting

Councillor Knight reported that a new DCC team had cleaned/scraped pavements and chopped the required overhanging tree branches and cut back the verge by 2 feet behind Sainsburys.

They had no knowledge of the required work in Old Torrington Road and he would contact DCC Councillor Henderson.

- c) Speeding Survey – Old Torrington Road update and location of black survey box

See Minute 121 (a) above.

**125. COVID 19 - MEETING PROTOCOL.**

It was agreed:

- a) That Councillors and Members of the Public be requested to wear face masks when entering, leaving and moving around the Hall.  
b) That the room layout be in a semi-circle.  
c) That the tables be wiped before and after use.

**126. TOWER VIEW RECREATIONAL AREA PROJECT: UPDATE.**

Councillor Knight reported that Mole Valley Farmers had offered the Council a £50 voucher and a small discount off the purchase of fencing products. He would visit Mole Valley Farmers to get a quote for the top section.

He further stated that no agreement had been made regarding the fencing of the top section and it was agreed that a Site Visit to clarify and agree what fencing was required.

Councillor Lofthouse reported that NDC had left a grass border around the areas that we specifically wanted to be fully cut, particularly the area under the trees where we stated that the whole area from the wall over to the pathway was to be a wildflower and nature area.

He stated that NDC had agreed to cut the additional area and he would get a quote.

Councillor Lofthouse stated that he would organise a team of volunteers to clear some of the brambles/weeds in the bottom end.

Councillor Knight further added that some hedging plants needed to be replaced and required a Member Site Visit.

**127. LITTER BINS REMOVAL OF PRIVATE MANAGEMENT COMPANY  
LITTER BIN IN OSBORNE ROAD/SANDRINGHAM GARDENS PLAY  
AREA**

Councillor Knight reported that following complaints from residents in Osborne Road/Sandringham Gardens that the litter bins had not been emptied in the play area, the Park a management company had removed the litter bin.

It was agreed that the Clerk express the Parish Councils disappointment on behalf of residents, who are still paying the management costs at the removal of the bin and ask if the bin is going to be replaced.

**128. VILLAGE HALL**

a) Trustee

Councillor Bowden reported that the Parish Council was eligible to be nominated as the Trustee of the Hall.

Concern was expressed as to the legal obligations if the Parish Council was to become the trustee.

Councillor Bowden agreed to investigate the legal obligations and the possibility of the Hall becoming an Incorporated Charity (CIC) to limit liability.

It was agreed to ask if the existing trustee would be prepared to be removed as a trustee.

b) Solar Panels

Councillor Lofthouse reported on behalf of Councillor Short.

He stated that Councillor Short had provided him with copies of quotes received for 32 solar panels. Unfortunately, the roof orientation was East to West and the amount of energy produced may be negligible. The strength of the roof to hold 32 panels was a concern.

It was considered that funding may be better spent on improving the heating and insulation the building.

Councillor Lofthouse agreed to find out by the date that the s106 funding for the Hall had to be spent.

**129. PLANNING MATTERS**

a) 73604 Erection of slurry store, Higher Rollestone Farm, Road from Harepie Cross to Higher Week, Harracott, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval.

b) 74199 Amended garage design for ancillary and store to dwelling, Sweetfield, West Harracott, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval.

- c) 74245 Removal of condition 37 (flood defence scheme) attached to planning permission 59837 to allow the condition to be removed from the application, Anchorwood, Old Sticklepath Hill, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval.

- d) 73895 Alterations to dwelling to include cladding at first floor level, replacement of windows and alterations to roof for dormer windows, 14 The Firs, Rhododendron Avenue, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval

- e) 74157 Selective crown reduction of Oak (T182 - Plot 2,) Ash (Plot 3,) Oak (T183 - Plot 5,) Ash (Plot 7,) Group of Ash, Oak & Hazel (Plot 10) and removal of Ash (T184 - Plot 9) at Plots 1-10 Larkbear, Tawstock

Concern was expressed regarding the removal of trees.

DEFERRED pending a Site Inspection.

- f) 74166 Install Conservatory to existing base, 6 Andrew Road, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval.

- g) 74213 Demolition of existing extensions, erection of new extensions and raising of roof ridge for additional accommodation to dwelling (amended design to approved planning permission 72847), 48 Elizabeth Drive, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Refusal for the following reasons:

- i) Overintensive development of the site.
  - ii) Not in keeping with adjacent properties.
  - iii) Overlooking of adjacent properties - intrusion of privacy
- h) 74191 Siting of 1 Internally Illuminated 10mtr Bucket Pole Sign. Kentucky Fried Chicken, Roundswell Services, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Comment - Lack of information as to how the scale/height of the sign relates to the adjoining trees.

### **130. TRACKER.**

The Tracker was noted.

### **131. CORRESPONDENCE.**

The Clerk reported that when the new Lake noticeboard was erected the broken Neighbourhood Watch sign was discarded. The local neighbourhood watch co-ordinator had requested that the sign be replaced at a cost of approx. £17.00 + delivery charge.

It was agreed to pay the cost for a new neighbourhood watch sign.

**132. FINANCIAL MATTERS.**

**a) Payments**

RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

North Devon Council Clerks Salary	£568.74
North Devon Council Wildflower Area Preparation	£645.00
M. Isaac Clerks Expenses	£15.14
TK Play Outstanding Balance Tudor Play Equipment	£6,104.40
Microsoft 365 Renewal	£59.99
Tawstock Village Hall Hire	£15.00

**b) Financial Position**

The bank reconciliation as of 5 November 2021 was noted.

**c) Precept 2022/23**

RESOLVED that the Precept for 2022/2023 be £20,000.

It was agreed that an item Project Planning be included on the next agenda.

**133. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 9.25 p.m.