

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 18th JANUARY 2022 AT 7.00 p.m.**

Present: - Councillor Blackman (Chairman)
Councillors Knight, Lofthouse, P. Lines, Short and Thorne

NDC Councillors Lofthouse and Knight.

DCC Councillor Leaver.

M Isaac (Clerk)

In Attendance: Parishioner/Members of the Public – 4

152. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Bowden, Steer and Ward and DCC Councillor Henderson and NDC Councillor Saxby.

**153 74571 CONVERSION OF REDUNDANT AGRICULTURAL BUILDING TO
DWELLING, RIVERSIDE FARM, TAWSTOCK, BARNSTAPLE**

It was agreed to bring forward consideration of the above application to receive information from the applicant's agent.

The agent stated that as the building had been re-built after 2013 the application could not be considered as a class Q application. The building had been redundant for 2 years and complied with current redundant building policies. The owner had a right of way over the access lane.

It was agreed that the DCC Highways views be sought regarding the access prior to any comments/response being made.

DCC Councillor Leaver left the meeting during the consideration of the above application as a Member of NDC Planning Committee as an NDC Councillor.

154. PUBLIC SESSION

A Parishioner stated that a hedge along Old Torrington Road opposite Sandringham Gardens had been cut but most of the material had been left in the road.

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

There were no issues raised.

156. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest announced.

157. DCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Leaver reported the following:

- That no update had been received from DCC Legal team regarding a requirement to undertake another public consultation on the Bus Gate following the decision made by HATOC. She had been contacted by more residents on this matter than any other matters she had previously involved with.
- That a pedestrian/cycle crossing was to be installed on Station Road between Costa and B&Q, to replace the existing facility. Some trees would be removed.
- That the barge required to deliver the new structures for the Iron Bridge would be available in February.

b) NDC Councillor Knight

Councillor Knight reported that there had been a number of missed bins collections over the Bank Holidays due to staffing issues.

It had been agreed in principle that to ensure that collections are not missed each week that the rounds are done in reverse on alternate weeks.

c) NDC Councillor Lofthouse

Councillor Lofthouse had no issues to report

158. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st December 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

There were no issues raised.

160. HIGHWAY ISSUES

- a) Provision of traffic signs in Tawstock Village

No Update to report

- b) Update on hedge/vegetation cutting in Old Torrington Road

Councillor Knight stated that DCC Councillor Henderson response had referred to two separate areas.

The area opposite Sandringham Gardens was privately owned by Oakwood. The owners cut the hedge but left the material in the road.

It was not known who had cut the hedge by the Bus Stop.

It was agreed that the Clerk contact DCC Councillor Henderson to clarify if DCC had cut the

Hedge by the Bus Stop and to contact Oakwood regarding the disposal of their hedge waste left on the road.

c) Speeding Survey – Update

No update to report. DCC Councillor Leaver agreed to contact DCC Officers for the survey information.

d) Bus Gate – Old Torrington Road. HATOC decision

See minute 156 (a) above.

161. RESIGNATIONS

The Clerk reported the resignation of Councillor Luggar and N. Lines and that the legal process had been instigated.

162. OLD TORRINGTON ROAD SOUTH SLIP LANE ONTO A39 – PROPOSED LOCAL PLAN AMENDMENT

The Council considered a report by Councillor Knight (previously circulated) regarding a proposed amendment to the Local Plan to provide slip lanes from Old Torrington Road onto the A39.

He stated that to help alleviate pressure on the local highway Infrastructure, at the Wrey Arms, Sticklepath Hill roundabout and Gratton Way it would make sense to allow traffic to filter on to the wider highway network via the A39.

There were two possible positions for filter lanes:

1. At the bottom of Old Torrington Road allowing traffic to join the A39 in a easterly direction, and then proceed east in the direction of A361 Exeter.
2. Second position was further to the east where later phases of the Larkbear Development may be built extremely close to the A39.

It was agreed in principle that the two options be evaluated.

163. PROJECT PLANNING 2022/2023

It was agreed that the following projects be considered in 2022/2023:

Village Hall – New Heating

War Memorial and Garden – Installation of new steps and railing.

164. TOWER VIEW RECREATIONAL AREA PROJECT: UPDATE.

a) Project Phase 2: Fencing, Seating, Sowing of Seeds, Purchase and erection of bug hotels, information boards, bank maintenance and planting and footpath.

The Clerk reported that there was still £383 available for phase 1 and £15,000 s106 funds available for future phases.

The Council considered a report by Councillors Knight (previously circulated) regarding the provision of fencing and concerns from residents on access to their rear walls.

It was agreed:

- i) That a new Post and Wire Fence 1.8 metres away from the wall at the bottom of the area with access gates for machinery and access to resident's rear walls outlined in (GREEN) be provided and quotes sought.
- ii) That the wire fence section in (RED) be removed and the end of the (BLUE) section be re-strained and secured.
- iii) That the fencing removed from the (RED) area be re-used and the wire fence re-routed around the bench so that it can be used.

Total Length Required = 33.3 metres.

- iv) That a quote be obtained for the fence panels and posts at the top end of the site.



- b) Quote to undertake Weeding.

Councillor Knight stated rather than rely on volunteers a quote should be sought to weed the bank to enable the hedging plants to grow.

It was agreed that Councillor Lofthouse seek quotes to undertake the weeding.

- c) Health and Safety Issues.

The Council noted an update from Councillor Lofthouse.

165. VILLAGE HALL

- a) Appointment of Trustee

The Clerk reported that he had contacted the Council's Insurers and had been advised that the Council's current insurance policy covered the legal liabilities of the council if it became trustees of the village hall as long as a risk assessment was undertaken and maintenance and inspection regimes put in place.

The insurers raised issues regarding cover for volunteers running of the hall, and/or the hall being managed separately by a third party and building and contents.

The Clerk stated that an informal meeting with Members of the Village Hall Committee should be arranged.

- b) Solar Panels/S106 Funding

Councillor Lofthouse reported that there was £23,500.36 s106 funds available for improvement/enhancement of the Village Hall and provision/enhancement of community play equipment and ancillary equipment for the school. The deadline for spending the s106 funds was 1st April 2029.

He agreed to check if expenditure on PV Solar Panels was permitted as part of the s106.

It was agreed to defer further consideration of all matters to the next Parish Council meeting

166. WAR MEMORIAL AND GARDENS

The Clerk reported that he had been unable to ascertain who owned the War Memorial and Gardens.

It was agreed that the Clerk make a formal Land Registry application to try and identify ownership.

167. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) 74567 Conversion of barn to one dwelling and associated works including extension of domestic curtilage, foul drainage and revisions to the barn design including some

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demolition (conversion of barn has already been approved under permission 66520),
The Cattle Shed, West Pristacott Farm, Harracott, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED No Comment

- b) 74546 Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to dwellinghouse Class Q (a)(b), Barn Adjacent Taw Valley Cottage, Harracott, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED

168. TRACKER.

The Tracker was noted.

169. CORRESPONDENCE.

The Clerk reported the following correspondence:

- a) The Council noted a letter from DCC informing that the proposed variation in respect of the Waste Transfer Station application was likely to be considered by the Development Management Committee on 26 January 2022.
- b) The Council noted a letter from M N Brailey to NDC Planning Officers, widely circulated, regarding the Outline Application 66229 for residential development & extra care housing on land off Bideford Road and evidence that it can be lawfully developed for housing and the legal obligation as requested by the late owner of the site.

170. FINANCIAL MATTERS.

a) Payments

RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

M. Isaac Clerks Expenses	£8.09
Tawstock Village Hall Hire	£15.00
Ucanstore.com Storage	£72.01

b) Financial Position

The financial position as of 5 January 2022 was noted.

c) Cheque Signatories

The Clerk reported that due to the resignation of Norman Lines there were now only two signatories to the account.

It was agreed to defer consideration to the next meeting.

171. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

It was agreed that the following be considered at the next Council meeting:

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Provision of Litter/Dog Bins and a Defibrillator in Tawstock Village

172. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Tuesday 15th February 2022 at 7.00 p.m.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.