

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE  
VILLAGE HALL, TAWSTOCK ON  
WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2019 AT 7.00 pm**

**Present: -** Councillor Blackman (In the Chair)  
Councillors I. Capon, Lines, Short, Thorne and M. Ward.

NDC Councillor Lofthouse.

DCC Councillors Edgell and Mathews

M Isaac (Clerk)

**In Attendance:** Parishioner/Members of the Public - Two

**130. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors L. Capon, Knight, Luggar and S. Ward and NDC Councillor Saxby

**131. PUBLIC SESSION**

A Parishioner raised concern that the road from Hiscott to Pristacott had several pot holes. She had reported the problem approximately 18 months ago to DCC but had no response or action to the problem. She had also passed the information to her DCC and NDC Councillors but had had no response. She also stated that the roads were single track and the only way to pass on coming vehicles was to pull into a field gateway which was not tarmacked causing vehicles to get stuck in the mud. She further stated that following heavy rain the roads flooded. She was informed that Councillor Edgell was her DCC Councillor.

It was agreed the information be collated and passed to Councillor Blackman who would then collate the information and send to DCC Councillor Edgell for action.

**132. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest announced

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

**a) DCC Councillor Mathews**

Councillor Mathews reported:

- i) That the recent accident in Old Torrington Road had been caught on dash cam and as from 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 the buses 5b, 71, 72, 85 and 319 between the times 16.40 – 17.00 would no longer be stopping in Old Torrington Road to pick up students
- ii) That he had spoken to the Head of Highways and the white lines at the Roundswell and Lake roundabouts would be re-lined in February 2020.
- iii) That the boxes on lampposts reported at the last meeting were nothing to do with DCC

- iv) That the chambers in the Sainsbury roundabout had been cleaned/jetted in September and again yesterday. However it had been discovered that the flooding was caused by tree roots blocking up the chambers.
- v) That the phase 2 Larkbear Planning Application may be submitted imminently and that DCC would oppose any further access onto Old Torrington Road.
- vi) That there was no further information regarding the provision of the Bus Gate. It was a NDC Planning matter.  
NDC Councillor Lofthouse reported that he had been advised that Persimmon was complying with the planning consent. He would contact NDC Planning to ascertain the present position
- vii) That from 10 February high speed fibre cables was being installed in Old Sticklepath Road.

**b) DCC Councillor Edgell**

Councillor Edgell reported that James Anstee, DCC had advised that the review of the road transport issues were controlled by the North Devon/Torridge Local Plan. He stated that he had requested meeting with James Anstee to discuss the Larkbear Development, the Bus Gate and the consequences of nothing being done at the Cedars roundabout in late January/early February. The next HATOC meeting was at the end of March 2020.

**c) NDC Councillor Lofthouse**

Councillor Lofthouse stated that he had no District Council issues to report

**134. MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

There were no issues to report

**136. PLANNING MATTERS**

The Council considered the following planning application:

- a) Application Variation of condition 1 and 2 of planning permission DCC/4106/2019 for Variation of condition 5 of planning permission DCC/3951/2017) for Waste Transfer Station including a waste transfer hall, single storey weighbridge office and welfare facilities building, hardstand including staff parking and external weighbridge, internal access road, new access from the existing highway, drainage, lighting and landscaping at Brynsworthy Transfer Station, Roundswell, Barnstaple

Recommended APPROVAL

**137 HIGHWAY ISSUES**

- a) Provision of Warning Signs on Elizabeth Drive advising of entrance to Tower View children's play area

Councillor Lofthouse reported that residents in Elizabeth Drive had expressed concern at traffic speeding along the short stretch of road that passed the Tower View children's play area. There was currently no signs warning drivers of children in the area

DCC Councillor Mathews agreed to investigate the provision of warning signs

- b) Provision of Bus Gate – Old Torrington Road

There was no update to report.

- c) Lake Hill Road – Drainage Cleaning and Snow Warden

It was reported that a bank had collapsed in the road adjacent to Sticklepath Court and that the gullies and drain was blocked with leaves etc. The Council viewed a photo produced by Councillor Knight of the collapsed bank

DCC Councillor Mathews agreed to investigate and action.

NDC Councillor Lofthouse reported that a resident in Sticklepath Court had volunteered to be a Snow Warden for the Sticklepath area

It was agreed that Mr Duncan Nichols, 4 Sticklepath Court be appointed as a Snow Warden for that part of Tawstock Parish.

- d) Over hanging hedges and street lighting

The Council viewed pictures provided by Councillor Knight.

DCC Councillor Mathews stated that it was DCC land and he had reported it to Norfolk Property Services who undertook such work on behalf of DCC to action

**138 TOWER VIEW PLAY AREA – TARMACKING OF NARROW LANE TO THE REAR OF THE PLAY AREA**

Councillor Lofthouse reported that there had been no response/quote from Birch's

**139 PLANNING FORUM**

Councillor Ward reported that there had been a large turnout at the NDC Planning Forum on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. However it had been a disappointing meeting as many of the Officers did not attend. The Head of Place Mike Tichford took the meeting.

She stated that the Head of Place was also frustrated by the amount of development in the area and due to cuts there were no Officers for house counting to trigger s106 payments.

It was suggested that Parish Councillors may volunteer to house count

**140 WEBSITE: UPDATE**

Councillor M. Ward reported that the web site was progressing with more hits and by mid January there would be a Facebook link and Public Notices page.

**141 WILD FLOWER AREAS**

NDC Councillor Lofthouse stated that he and Councillor Luggar had walked the Elizabeth Drive/Tower View area and highlighted some areas as possible wild flower areas.

He also stated that DCC had also advertised a free tree scheme and he had applied for 2 trees for the Parish. He further stated that the Woodlands Trust was also offering free trees and Councillor Luggar had some Mazzard trees that could be planted.

In the absence of Councillor Luggar it was agreed to defer further consideration to the next Parish Council meeting

**142 WALL OUTSIDE TAWSTOCK VILLAGE HALL**

In the absence of Councillor Luggar it was agreed to defer further consideration of the matter to the next Parish Council meeting

**143. TAWSTOCK VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK RESURFACING**

Councillor Short reported that he had now received a quote from Birch & Sons.

The 2 quotes received were:

M.R.Yeo & Sons Ltd £4,850 + VAT  
Birch & Sons Ltd £9,840 + VAT

It was RESOLVED that the quote from M.R Yeo and Sons Ltd to undertake the re-surfacing of the Village Hall Car Park be accepted subject to Councillor Short confirming that the quote is for what is required.

It was agreed that the Clerk ascertain the s106 monies available for works to the Village Hall

**144 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT**

a) Invoice from Tivoli

The Council considered the amended invoice for grounds maintenance work undertaken. Tivoli having reviewed the work undertaken had offered a discount of £784.88

It was agreed that the discount offered of £784.88 be accepted and the amended invoice sum of £5,094.14 including VAT be paid

b) Grass Cutting Contract 2020/21

Councillor M. Ward agreed to arrange a meeting of the appointed working group prior to the next Parish Council meeting.

**145. FINANCE MATTERS**

The Council considered the following Payments:

**a) Payments**

RESOLVED that the following payments be agreed:

Tawstock Village Hall Hire of Hall 19/11	£	15.00
Clerks Expenses – Mileage/Postage	£	10.15
North Devon Council Clerk Salary/Admin Fee	£	553.72
Gavin Hendry Tree Cutting	£	295.00
North Devon Council May Election Expenses	£	586.06
UcanStore.com Quarterly Storage	£	72.00
C. Waldron Final Web Site Payment	£	388.39

**b) Current Financial Position**

The current financial position as at 5 December 2019 was noted

Current A/C £37,942.21, Business Reserve £15,985.29

**c) Precept and Budget 2020/21**

The Clerk reported that NDC was withdrawing the Parish Grant and Council Tax Support grants as from 2020/21

RESOLVED:

- a) That the Parish Precept for 2020/21 be £17,875.
- b) That the budget 2020/21 (previously circulated) be adopted

**146. CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to report

**147. AGENDA MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING**

There were no issues raised.

**148. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2020 at 7.00 p.m. at Tawstock Village Hall

Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.