

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE  
VILLAGE HALL, TAWSTOCK ON  
WEDNESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2020 AT 7.00 pm**

**Present: -** Councillor Luggar (Chairman)  
Councillors Blackman, Knight, Lines, Short, Thorne, M. Ward and  
S. Ward.

NDC Councillors Knight and Lofthouse.

DCC Councillors Edgell and Mathews

M Isaac (Clerk)

**In Attendance:** Parishioner/Members of the Public - 1

**149. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors I. Capon and L. Capon,

**150. PUBLIC SESSION**

There were no issues raised by Parishioners

**151. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Knight declared an interest in item 7 (a) Planning Application 70954 as he lived in Old Torrington Road.

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

**a) DCC Councillor Mathews**

Councillor Mathews reported:

- i) That there would be a review of the Transport Strategy for the Barnstaple area at an unofficial HATOC meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020.
- ii) That the overhanging hedge and blocked pavement in Old Torrington Road had been passed to the Director of Norfolk Property Services for attention
- iii) That a draft plan for the new pavements along Old Torrington Road had been prepared. A copy of the draft plan was passed to Councillors for discussion with James Anstee DCC.
- iv) That the road between Sainsbury's and the Old Bideford Road roundabout was to be resurfaced the night of 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> February 2020.
- v) That there was a public consultation on bus services in the Barnstaple area but only one bit referred to Roundswell. A leaflet was circulated to Councillors

- vi) That an issue regarding littering by students walking to the bus bays in the middle of Sticklepath Hill was being dealt with by the College.
- vii) He queried the view of Councillor Capon regarding the Larkbear development link onto the A361 and referred to an email from Paul Young DCC. The Council noted an e mail response from Paul Young DCC regarding the concerns raised by Councillor Capon
- viii) That the Halfords roundabout should had been cleaned the previous day
- ix) That subject to confirmation by Full Council DCC was proposing to increase its portion of the Council Tax by 2% with an additional 2% ring fenced for Adult Social Care

**b) DCC Councillor Edgell**

Councillor Edgell stated that any issues for HATOC should be raised through Councillor Knight who was an NDC representative on the Committee

He further stated that the pot holes reported along the road from Hiscott to Pristacott had been registered with Richard Sables DCC for action

**c) NDC Councillor Knight**

Councillor Knight reported that he had spoken to NDC Officer Ray Jones regarding the dog poo issue in the Tower View Area and littering issue in Old Torrington Road by the new Larkbear entrance. Mr Jones would be happy to attend a Parish Council meeting if required. It was agreed that Councillor Knight would report back to the Council on action taken.

**d) NDC Councillor Lofthouse**

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

**153. MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

There were no issues to report

**155. PLANNING MATTERS**

The Council considered the following planning applications:

The Council noted a letter from Selaine Saxby MP in response to a letter from Councillor Capon regarding the traffic issues in the Barnstaple area

- a) Application 70954 Erection of 252 dwellings together with associated works (Larkbear Phase 2) at Larkbear, Tawstock, Barnstaple

Recommended REFUSAL for the following reasons:

- i) The cumulative effect of one large planning application after another is leading to severe traffic congestion which adversely affects the health and well-being of residents.
- ii) The CO2 emissions from slow moving traffic affects the air quality and adds to the climate emergency

It was further agreed that if planning approval was given a condition should be imposed requiring that the link road through to the A361 is put in place before Phase 2 is built.

It was also agreed that Paul Young DCC be requested to support the views of the Parish Council and that no further properties from this development come out onto the Old Torrington Road.

- b) Application 70936 Extension and alterations to dwelling including insertion of dormer window, conversion of remaining loft space to form additional living accommodation and conversion of part of garage to form additional living accommodation, 28 Philip Avenue, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

Recommended APPROVAL

## **156 HIGHWAY ISSUES**

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

It was agreed that Councillor Knight and NDC Councillor Lofthouse liaise with Bill Banting DCC and agree the wording, size and location of the signs.

DCC Councillor Mathews offered £200 towards the cost of the signs from his Community Budget fund

- b) Provision of Bus Gate – Old Torrington Road: Update

Councillor Mathews tabled a plan of the proposed Bus Gate options by Persimmon in Old Torrington Road for Councillors information, analysis and consideration at the next meeting.

He stated that currently DCC did not use cameras in Devon and he would ask the question why. There was also no two way provision onto Gratton Way from Old Torrington.

- c) Lake Hill Road – Drainage Cleaning : Update

DCC Councillor Mathews reported that the drain/gullies had been cleared and the collapsed bank adjacent to Sticklepath Court had tidied up.

- d) Over hanging hedges and street lighting: Update

See minute 152 (a) (ii) above

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

Councillor Knight reported that he had managed to contact Birch's and awaited a quote. He would also seek another quote

**158 TREE PLANTING/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.

It was proposed to plant the trees at the bottom end of the Tower View Play Area and some small green areas in Elizabeth Drive had been identified as possible areas for wildflowers.

The main costs would be the scarifier and seeds. The initiative would also need to be advertised.

It was agreed to seek quotes to initially trial one small area in Elizabeth Drive as a wildflower area.

**159 WALL OUTSIDE TAWSTOCK VILLAGE HALL**

Councillor Luggar stated that the wall outside the Village Hall was in need of some repair.

It was agreed to seek quotes to repair the wall

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

Councillor Short reported that he was satisfied that the two quotes received were like for like quotes and therefore happy for the quote from M.R.Yeo to be accepted as agreed at the last meeting.

He stated that DCC Councillor Edgell had agreed to support the project with a grant from his Community Grants Budget

The Clerk reported that s106 monies was available for works to the Village Hall

**161 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 2020/21**

Councillor M. Ward reported that she had not been able to arrange the meeting to consider the grounds maintenance contract for 2020/21 but that she would circulate dates and arrange the meeting of the appointed working group prior to the next Parish Council meeting.

**162. 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	£ 10.85
North Devon Council Clerk Salary/Admin Fee	£ 553.72
Tivoli Grounds Maintenance (April 2019 – August 2019)	£5,094.14

**b) Current Financial Position**

The current financial position as at 5 December 2019 was noted

Current A/C £36,926.94, Business Reserve £15,988.09

**163. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Council noted an E Mail from North Devon Council regarding an invitation from the Office of the Police Crime Commissioner to attend Parish Council meetings to give a presentation on the work of the OPCC.

**164. AGENDA MATTERS FOR NEXT MEETING**

The following issues were raised:

The Burial Ground  
Hedges/Brambles in the Tower View play area

**165. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.00 p.m. at Tawstock Village Hall

Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.