

**MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
ON WEDNESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JULY 2020 AT 7.00 pm**

**Present: -** Councillor Luggar (Chairman)  
Councillors Bowden (for minutes 33 - 48), Blackman, Knight, Lines,  
Lofthouse, Thorne, M. Ward and S. Ward.

NDC Councillors Knight and Lofthouse

M Isaac (Clerk)

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

**26. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Short, DCC Councillors Mathews and Edgell and NDC Councillor Saxby

**27. PUBLIC SESSION**

A Parishioner raised concern that the proposed traffic alterations/restrictions in Old Torrington Road would isolate the residents living at the bottom end of Old Torrington Road from Barnstaple.

Councillor Knight stated that before any proposals could be implemented DCC would need to undertake a public Consultation.

The Parishioner further asked that as the Larkbear planning application had been withdrawn did that mean that the proposed roadway link onto the A361 would not be built.

Councillor Knight stated that that was not the case. The original application for 820 dwellings had not been withdrawn but had been 'finally disposed of' in order to avoid it remaining open indefinitely as it had been superseded by smaller phased applications (61119 Larkbear Phase 1), as there had been no adopted local plan in place. The link road through would be delivered as part of further planning applications (Phases 2 & 3) to complete the original 820 houses.

**28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest announced.

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

**a) DCC Councillors Reports**

Report by DCC Councillor Mathews (see minute 33)

**b) NDC Councillor Lofthouse**

Councillor Lofthouse had no NDC issues to report

**c) NDC Councillor Knight**

Councillor Knight had no NDC issues to report

**30. MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

There were no issues to report

**32. CO-OPTION**

The Clerk reported that there were two vacancies on the Parish Council and that he had received a request from Joy Bowden to be co-opted onto the Parish Council

It was RESOLVED that Joy Bowden be co-opted onto the Parish Council.

**33. HIGHWAY ISSUES**

- a) Pavements/Footway Crossings/Parking Restrictions, Old Torrington Road, Gratton Way - Sandringham Gardens

The Clerk reported the following update from DCC Councillor Mathews:

That following discussions with Ian Sweetland the designer, comments had been passed to James Anstee who would prepare a report. It had been agreed that Street Lighting would be provided.

The report from James Anstee had been previously circulated to all Members

In the report he stated ‘that the comments about parking restrictions and crossing points were more difficult to incorporate. The parking restrictions were included by the designer in response to safety audit recommendations. The changes requested by the Parish to accommodate more on road parking would not meet with the safety audit requirements for either the proposed crossing points or the parish proposed modifications’

Members discussed the visibility and safety audit requirements.

It was also stated that the temporary measures in place at the Gratton Way junction were not sufficient and caused a safety problem for the disabled.

It was agreed:

- i) To ascertain what visibility requirements would be required if the speed limit was reduced to 20 mph.

- ii) To seek a copy of the safety audit report
- iii) To request a site meeting to get a better understanding of the issues raised by DCC.

- b) Traffic calming on OTR and proposed removal of Shorelands Road roundabout

The Clerk reported the following update from DCC Councillor Mathews:

That he had had discussions with Dave Black who was aware of local feelings on the matter.

It was agreed to re-iterate the request for a site meeting and defer any consideration of a financial contribution.

### **34. PLANNING MATTERS**

The Council considered the following planning applications:

- a) 71602 Extension to dwelling & erection of sunroom/study, Walnut Tree Barn, 4 Sticklepath Court, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval

- b) 71688 Extension to dwelling & demolition of small outbuilding, The Cottage, Eastacombe, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval subject to the extension being in keeping with the existing cottage

- c) 71687 Notice of an application to modify a planning obligation under regulation 3 of the T & C P (modification & discharge of planning obligations) Regulations 1992 in respect of Section 106 Agreement dated 26th September 2019 relating to planning application 61119 (Larkbear) at Larkbear, Tawstock, Barnstaple

Noted the application was to amend the wording of the section 106 agreement to bring it in line with the requirements of lenders.

- d) 71735 Installation of photovoltaic panels on the roof, Brannam Business Park, Oakwood Close, Roundswell

RECOMMENDED Approval

- e) 71742 Erection of double garage with ancillary room above. Change of use of agricultural land to domestic, erection of agricultural store and new track, White Haven, Eastacombe, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval subject to the use of the double garage and ancillary room and the store being tied to domestic use only.

If planning consent was granted it was stated that the site should be inspected to ensure compliance with planning conditions

**35 BURIAL GROUND FEES**

The Clerk reported that the internal auditor had commented that the charges should be reviewed annually.

It was agreed that the charges for the Burial Ground remain as at present except the fee for the interment of a child whose age at time of death exceeded 2 years but did not exceed 12 years being amended to 'No Charge'.

The Chairman reported that a gravelled area at the entrance to the graveyard needed weeding.

It was agreed that the Clerk contact Gavin Hendry.

**36. STORAGE FACILITY - REVIEW**

The Clerk reported that the Council currently hired a storage facility in South Molton.

It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk visit the facility to assess the records stored and the possibility of the electronic storage of any of the records.

**37. PROMOTING BETTER BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE**

Councillor Lofthouse reported that the Government had introduced proposals to provide a new green standard for new build homes to cut carbon emissions by up to 80% by 2025.

North Devon Council had written to the Government requesting that the new measures be actioned sooner.

It was agreed that the proposal to introduce the new green measures sooner be supported.

**38. TOWER VIEW RECREATIONAL AREA -ADJOINING HEDGES AND WALL**

Councillor M. Ward reported that there were some residents whose properties abutted the Tower View Recreational area who were not clearing away their hedge cuttings and leaving them in the recreational area to rot or be cleared away by the Parish Council contractor.

She further stated that the wall of another property abutting the recreational area had been blown down and was now listing inwards towards the recreational area and had been covered with a tarpaulin.

It was agreed:

- a) That a letter be sent to the residents requesting that they clear up their cuttings and in future dispose of them responsibly.
- b) That confirmation be sought from the owner of the wall as to when the wall will be repaired.

**39. WILDFLOWER AREAS/TREE PLANTING**

Councillor Lofthouse reported that he had been successful in obtaining 120 saplings from the Woodland Trust, which would be delivered in November.

He had received written permission from the landowner to plant the trees and the next stage was to consult with residents in the Tower View area and encourage them to volunteer to help plant the trees.

He stated that DCC were keen to support the promotion of the creation of wildflower areas on their verges. He further stated that Braunton Parish Council had equipment that it was willing to loan, to plant the wildflower beds

Councillor Knight had produced a draft wildflower/tree planting project plan which had been circulated to Members for consultation.

It was agreed that a site meeting be arranged for Members to consider/view the proposed wildflower and tree planting areas

**40. TOWER VIEW AND TUDOR DRIVE PLAY AREAS**

The Clerk reported the receipt of quotes from TK Play, Gavin Hendry and Barnstaple Town Council for OSMO protection coating of the wooden posts on the main multi tower and swings in the Tower View play area and to Swing Frame in the Tudor Drive play area.

It was agreed that the lowest quote from Gavin Hendry of £225 be accepted.

**41. PARISH ELECTORAL AND ECCLESIASTICAL WARD BOUNDARIES**

The Council noted an email from Rev Gary Owen explaining the difference between the ecclesiastical boundaries and civil parish boundaries.

**42. GENERAL DATA PROTECTION POLICY**

The Council considered and adopted the General Data Protection Regulations Policy (previously circulated)

**43. REVIEW OF S106 FUNDING**

Councillor Knight stated that he would prepare a report for the next Parish Council meeting regarding the submission of a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to DCC to ascertain; what s106 monies allocated for Tawstock Parish had been collected and when, and if spent where or if not spent and collected where the funds being held.

**44. PHONE BOX, HARRACOTT.**

The Council considered and agreed a request from a resident of Harracott to install a defibrillator in the Harracott phone box.

**45. NOTICE BOARDS**

The Clerk reported that the Parish at present had 5 Parish notice boards in the Parish but none in the newly developed area along Old Torrington Road

Councillor Knight stated that another notice board could be located at the southern end of Old Torrington Road.

It was agreed that the Clerk seek costs for another noticeboard.

**46. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Council considered and agreed a request to re-open the book exchange in the Tawstock phone box subject to an appropriate notice being erected informing users of the risks

**47. FINANCE MATTERS**

**a) Payments**

RESOLVED:

That the following payments be approved:

North Devon Council Clerks Salary (May)	£553.72
Gavin Hendry Grounds Maintenance	£1,250.00

**b) Current Financial Position**

That the current financial position as at 3 July 2020 Current A/C £42,982.01 Business Reserve £16,001.37 be noted

**48. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

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

It was agreed that an item be put on the next agenda regarding virtual meeting apps.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.