

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021 AT 7.00 p.m.**

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

NDC Councillor Knight

DCC Councillor Henderson.

M Isaac (Clerk)

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

**98. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Lofthouse and Luggar and DCC Councillor Leaver and NDC Councillor Saxby.

**99. PUBLIC SESSION**

A Parishioner raised the following issue:

That he had not heard any information as to when the North Devon Highways and Traffic Orders Committee (HATOC) would be meeting to consider the implementation of the Bus Gate and possible times of operation.

It was stated that no further meeting to discuss the Bus Gate had been arranged, however, a HATOC meeting was scheduled for the end of November.

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

There were no issues raised.

**101. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest announced.

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

**a) DCC Councillor Henderson**

Councillor Henderson reported the following:

- That the introduction of 20 mph limits continued to be tested with no end date. Requests would be considered on an individual town-by-town basis.
- Quiet Lanes/Home Zones. That investigations were being undertaken into implementing the Quiet Lanes and Home Zones Regulations 2006 and if the Council had any suggested roads suitable for inclusion in the scheme that limited the speed and

size of large agricultural vehicles and HGVs in the interests of the safety of other road users on minor roads in rural parts of the Parish to inform him.

It was agreed that Members would compile a list of proposed roads in the Parish.

**b) NDC Councillor Knight**

Councillor Knight reported he had received complaints regarding the weeds on the bank in Tower View and access to the bench behind the fencing in the play area.

**c) NDC Councillor Saxby**

The Clerk reported that Councillor Saxby had been advised that the DCC had reviewed the site and new signs, sensors and associated works at Newton Tracy and the necessary parts had been ordered. It was anticipated that the works would be undertaken by end of September. There were currently no plans to undertake significant changes to road realignment or construction in the vicinity of St John's Chapel.

**103. MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

Storage Facility Visit. It was noted that due to Covid the agreed visit had not been undertaken.

It was agreed that the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk arrange to visit the storage facility.

**105. HIGHWAY ISSUES**

a) Shorelands Road – Proposed New Roundabout

It was noted that speed checks had been undertaken and the results were awaited. Concern was expressed that the speed check points had not been in the correct locations.

b) Delivery of the pavement on the western side of Old Torrington Road and the Gratton Way junction in advance of the works required by BT.

It was noted that the BT inspection chamber next to Sandringham Gardens had now been lowered.

Councillor Henderson stated that he would chase up the pavement scheme to get it considered and agreed at the next HATOC meeting.

c) Provision of traffic signs in Tawstock Village

The Clerk reported that DCC had advised that there were already sufficient advance warning signs situated at appropriate locations to allow a responsible driver to select an alternative to this route. There would always be the occasional driver who would not be

paying attention and unless there was clearly documented evidence of drivers regularly getting into difficulty then DCC would not be installing additional signs.

It was considered that the current signs were not in the correct location and advance warning signs should be located at the mini roundabout at the bottom of Old Sticklepath Hill indicating the height and width of the bridge.

DCC Councillor Henderson agreed to raise with the matter with DCC Officers.

d) Hedge Cutting: Update

DCC Councillor Henderson stated that the DCC hedge cutting team had a back log of 70+ jobs in the North Devon Area. If the Parish Council could obtain a quote from the Parish Council's Grounds Maintenance Contractor, he would recover any costs incurred.

Councillor Knight agreed to identify the areas of concern and seek a quote.

**106. NORTH DEVON/TORRIDGE LOCAL REVIEW**

Councillor Knight reported that North Devon Council and Torrington District Council had appointed a committee to undertake a review of the Local Plan. Working Groups would be set up and the Councils were looking to get people involved at an early stage in the process. To help alleviate the need to allocate large urban sites there was an opportunity for small areas of land for self-build in rural areas to be considered for inclusion in the plan review.

**107. TOWER VIEW RECREATIONAL AREA PROJECT.**

The Clerk reported that the seeds had been purchased and that NDC had completed the work and it was now ready for seeding.

Some of the turf had been used at the two cemeteries managed by NDC. The area had also been rotavated during the removal of the turf.

This would take £370 off the invoice taking the total to £645.

Councillor Knight reported that he had sought a quote from Mole Valley for the picket fencing.

Councillor Knight reported that he had received a complaint regarding the work undertaken and that the required preparation had not been completed.

It was agreed that Councillors Knight and Lofthouse clarify the works agreed.

The amended invoice amount was accepted.

**108. BURIAL GROUND: QUOTE TO CROWN LIFT 5 BEECH TREES**

The Clerk reported the receipt of a quote from Gavin Hendry to Crown Lift 5 Beech trees in the Burial Ground of £678.00. Following the last meeting he had sought further information regarding the quote. The quote only included the crowning work and removal of the waste.

It would be an additional £75 to submit a planning application. This included putting in a report of the work and chasing up the planning permission.

It was agreed that both quotes be accepted.

**109. LITTER BINS**

Councillor Knight reported that complaints had been received from residents in Osborne Road/Sandringham Gardens that the litter bins had not been emptied in the play area. The Park was owned by a management company.

Councillor Knight agreed to investigate further and find out the current situation.

In relation to the litter bins in the Tower View Councillor Knight agreed to arrange a site meeting with NDC Officers to resolve the problems.

**110. VILLAGE HALL**

Councillor Short reported:

a) Trustee

That he considered that the Parish Council should be the Trustee of the Village Hall.

Councillor Bowden agreed to research the possibility/legality of the Parish Council becoming the Trustee.

b) Solar Panels

That he had obtained 2 quotes for the provision of Solar Panels in the region of £24-25,000.

It was stated that there were several companies who provided solar panels and further quotes should be obtained. It was also suggested that Councillor Short contact Councillor Lofthouse, NDC Lead Member for Climate Change.

**111. TAWSTOCK ADVOCATES OPCC**

Councillor Bowden reported following her and Councillor Steer's appointments as Tawstock Advocates for the OPCC they had created a Facebook Page and Twitter Group to update parishioners with information from the OPCC and had also put the information on the Next-Door account.

The Facebook page was [www.facebook.com/tawstockcllrpublicinformationadvocatesforOPCC](https://www.facebook.com/tawstockcllrpublicinformationadvocatesforOPCC)  
The Twitter page was [tawstock information advocates to the OPCC@advocatesOPCC](https://twitter.com/tawstockinformationadvocates)

Councillor Steer was requested to raise the following issues with Mike Harrison, the OPCC Liaison Officer:

Information regarding Flashing Speed Signs

Help regarding the setting up of a Speed Awareness Group.

**112. PLANNING MATTERS**

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

RECOMMENDED Insufficient information regarding location to make an informed decision.

- b) 74009 Extensions and alterations to dwelling to include annex, Vellacott, Tawstock, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Insufficient information regarding location to make an informed decision.

**113. TRACKER.**

The Tracker was noted.

Councillor Knight updated Council on the following:

- a) NDC Grassed Areas. That he and Councillor Lofthouse had consulted residents regarding the 4 areas at the bottom of Philip Avenue and the 4 areas and that the residents in Elizabeth currently cut but unfortunately there was no agreement as to future use. He agreed to undertake further research/consultation.
- b) Installation of Gas Pipes, Tawstock Green, Tower View. It was noted that no new pipes would now be placed across the green.
- c) Drainage Capacity/Flooding. That NDC had had meetings with the appropriate agencies regarding flooding in Barnstaple and that at present a Freedom of Information request (FOI) to South West Water was not required.

**114. CORRESPONDENCE.**

The Council considered a letter from Rev. Owen regarding the holding of the remembrance service at the war memorial.

It was agreed to hold the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial.

It was noted that the Chair and Vice Chair would attend the service and lay a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

**115. FINANCIAL MATTERS.**

**a) Payments**

RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

North Devon Council Clerks Salary	£568.74
M. Isaac Clerks Expenses	£15.29
Gavin Hendry Grounds Maintenance	£1,254.00

## Tawstock Minutes 19 October 2021

PKF Littlejohn External Audit	£240.00
Ucanstore.com Storage	£72.00
Zurich Municipal Insurance	£685.00
Tawstock Village Hall Room Hire	£15.00
P. Prouse Fix Lake Noticeboard	£30.00
DALC Training Course	£72.00

### **b) Financial Position**

The half year bank reconciliation was noted.

### **116. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.