

**MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 15th DECEMBER 2020 AT 7.00 pm**

Present: - Councillor Luggar (Chairman)
Councillors Blackman, Bowden, Knight, Lofthouse, Short and S. Ward.

NDC Councillors Knight and Lofthouse

M Isaac (Clerk)

In Attendance: Parishioner/Members of the Public - 1

135. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Lines, Thorne and M. Ward and DCC Councillors Edgell and Mathews

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

There were no issues raised.

137. PUBLIC SESSION

There were no issues raised by Parishioners

138. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest announced.

139. DCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

a) DCC Councillors Reports

The Clerk presented a report from DCC Councillor Mathews:

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

That the recommendations from the review of the safety audit agreed that a feasibility design should be produced that moved the give way line forward to create a smaller roundabout and incorporate enlarging the splinter island and greater raised areas. The alterations to the junction must not increase the speed of vehicles through the junction.

Dave Black DCC had agreed to progress the design and include the scheme in next year's work programme.

He had agreed to meet Cllr Knight to go through the safety Audit on site.

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

After the HATOC meeting it was agreed to have a meeting of County/District Councillors re the Pavements, Street Lights and Bus Gate etc. probably end of February 2021

iii) Bus Gate -Old Torrington Road - Update

See ii) above

iv) Larkbear

The Clerk reported that DCC Councillor Edgell had raised the issues regarding Larkbear at the November HATOC meeting and he had concerns regarding the ownership of the land required to create the access onto the A361.

The next HATOC meeting was scheduled for 3 March 2021.

It was agreed that clarification of the ownership from Larkbear for A361 road link be sought.

b) NDC Councillor Knight

Councillor Knight reported the following:

- That the Environment Agency were dealing with an oil spillage issue in Highgrove
- That Selaine Saxby MP had agreed to meet him after Christmas to discuss the issues relating to Larkbear and she was seeking a meeting with a Senior person from Persimmon.
- That the Community litter picking WhatsApp group in conjunction with an NDC Officer had been a success.
- That the Planning Officer had advised that there had been no progress on the Grange Avenue School site as the applicant had not responded to her question.

c) NDC Councillor Lofthouse

Councillor Lofthouse reported that he had had a meeting with the NDC Conservation Officer regarding the desecration of trees in Larkbear and would be having another meeting to go through the findings.

He further reported that s106 open space funds would be available from the Carrick development and that the Parish Council needed to identify projects for the funds.

Councillor Short stated that Village Hall Committee had been looking at Solar Panels and Air Pumps for the Village Hall from the Eastacombe development. He was also in discussions with the school.

140. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

There were no matters arising

142. HIGHWAY ISSUES

- a) Traffic calming on OTR and proposed removal of Shorelands Road roundabout and Pavements/Footway Crossings/Parking Restrictions, Old Torrington Road, Gratton Way – Sandringham Gardens: Updates

See minute 139 above

Councillor Knight stated that progress on the provision of pavements was held up due to the ND link Road.

He reported a recent incident where a resident had fallen over as the road had not been cleaned/cleared properly

It was agreed to contact the Site Manager regarding the cleaning of the road.

- a) Verge Maintenance and Pavement Obstruction, Southern End of Old Torrington Road.

The Clerk reported the following response from DCC:

That the dangerous immature oak tree that had suffered a broken branch has removed and taken away.

That the tress to the rear of the footpath were not the liability of the highway authority and therefore should be maintained by the landowner. He was however satisfied that was no sufficient obstruction to warrant further action. The verges were no longer cut by the highway authority for reason other than visibility in accordance with DCC policy.

It was agreed to write to Steve Short DCC informing that the Parish Council was not happy with the response and that if the growth obstructing the pavements were not cut back as a matter of urgency as far as possible to provide as wide a pavement as possible as it is causing a safety hazard for pedestrians.

- b) DCC Highways s106 funds

The Clerk reported that he still awaiting a response from the FOI request and Paul Young, DCC regarding s106 funding.

143. PLANNING MATTERS

Councillor Luggar informed Council that he had been appointed to the NDC Planning Committee

- a) 72513 Addition of porch and garage to barn (approved under 71574), East Harracott Farm, Harracott, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL subject to the porch and garage being in keeping with the existing property

- b) 72282 Outline application for 22 industrial/business units some matters reserved except access, Land South of Lake Roundabout

RECOMMENDED REFUSAL for the following reasons:

- i) Outside the Development Plan
 - ii) Provision of an extra junction on an already busy round about and would interfere with the free flow of traffic
 - iii) Located in the critical drainage area
- c) 72514 Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) planning permission 64673 (extension to dwelling to provide porch together with erection of garage) to allow for increase in ridge height to garage, Biddeden Cottage, Tawstock

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL

- d) 72528 Listed building consent for Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) planning permission 64733 to allow for increase in ridge height to garage, Biddeden Cottage, Tawstock

RECOMMENDED APPROVAL

- e) 72540 Extension to dwelling to provide improved domestic accommodation, Annexe Clanton, Roundswell, Barnstaple

No comment as inadequate information provided to make a reasoned decision

144. PARISH GREEN AREAS: INSTALLATION OF POSTS TO STOP DAMAGE BY VEHICLES

The Councillor Knight reported that on 2/3 occasions vehicles had driven over the green areas in Elizabeth Drive causing damage to the greens.

He considered that the erection of small posts would stop this occurring.

It was agreed to keep a watching brief and in the interim permission be sought from DCC to erect temporary 'keep off the grass' signs in Elizabeth Drive.

145. TUDOR DRIVE PLAY AREA

The Clerk reported following research he had via the builder obtained a copy of the conveyance, conveying the play area to the Parish Council.

It was agreed to look at registering the land with the land registry.

146. TOWER VIEW RECREATIONAL AREA

The Clerk reported that NDC Strategy and Resources Committee had approved the s106 application for approval by NDC Full Council in January 2021.

It was agreed that the Chairman be authorised to sign the funding agreement.

147. THE TRACKER

The Clerk reported that the tracker was an evolving document.

Members requested that the changes be tracked and highlighted and perhaps an index page included.

148. BROADBAND

Councillor Knight reported that a Broadband Review was being undertaken and he had requested that Matt Barrow from DCC update the Council at the next Parish Council meeting in January.

149. NEW NOTICE BOARD: LAKE

The Clerk reported that he was awaiting a quote from Mr Maynard.

149. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported the receipt of the following correspondence:

- a) An E Mail from Mr Barstow regarding hedge maintenance around Sticklepath Court and the provision of fibre optic cables for Broadband.

The following response was sent to Mr Barstow by DCC:

DCC had never carried out any maintenance on the hedge banks in the area, there was a part of the verge at the base of some hedge banks that would form part of the highway, but as the bank supported private land it had no benefit to the highway and would be considered part of the private land above.

The broadband issue was an Open Reach issue that was a private matter between Open Reach and the landowner.

- b) Information from Devon Climate Emergency

That the net Zero Task Force had prepared the interim Devon Carbon Plan. The plan had been launched on 7 December and DCE would be running webinar series and consultation.

It was agreed that Councillor Lofthouse report back to the Parish Council on the Carbon Plan.

- c) Meeting Communications – Resident in Lake

Councillor Knight raised the issue of agenda communications to a resident in Lake who did not have internet access.

The Clerk informed that the agenda was placed on the Lake noticeboard.

150. FINANCE MATTERS

a) Payments

RESOLVED:

That the following payments be approved:

North Devon Council Clerks Salary	£568.74
M Isaac Expenses	£15.44
C. Waldron Quarterly Website Maintenance Fee	£33.00
Zurich Municipal Insurance Renewal	£674.67

b) Current Financial Position

That the current financial position as on 5 November 2020 was Current A/C £47,570.60 and Business Reserve £16,001.90 be noted

151. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next virtual Parish Council meeting would be on Tuesday 15th December 2020 at 7.00 p.m.

Item for next meeting: Grass Cutting – NDC Areas. Councillor Knight reported that NDC were looking at contracting local people to cut its grass areas.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.