

Minutes of West & East Putford Parish Wednesday, 19 January 2022 by Zoom at 7.30pm, due to the very high Covid-19 infection rates in the Torrridge District Council area and Bradworthy, in particular where the meeting was due to be held.

Chaired by: Councillor D Smith		
Present: Councillors	Agenda: -	
Mrs L Drake	Co-option of a Parish Councillor to fill one vacancy on the Parish Council	
S Carter	Items raised by members of the public	
M Cornish	Apologies	
T Hancock	Declarations of Interest	
N Moulder	Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 November 2021	
D Smith	Reports	
M Thomas	Items to discuss	
Mrs N Williams	Planning & Planning Correspondence	
J Wooldridge	Finance	
N Hancock	Correspondence	
District Councillor P Pennington until Minute No. 64.3	Date of next meeting	
57	Co-option of a Parish Councillor to fill one vacancy on the Parish Council. The Chair had received an application from Mr Nick Hancock to be co-opted as a Parish Councillor. Mr Hancock lived at a property in Sessacot within the parish and is a retired theatre and TV executive. He also volunteers in a local scout group and at the NDDH but would like to be involved in the local community. Application proposed by Cllr Moulder and seconded by Cllr Thomas and voted unanimously in favour. Cllr N Thomas was duly co-opted onto the Council.	
58.	Items raised by members of the public. None.	
59	Apologies. County Councillor J Morrish, Holsworthy Police.	
60.	Declarations of Interest. Councillors Cornish and Moulder have a Dispensation for items relating to Common Moor.	
61.	Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 November 2021. Approved as a correct record. Proposed by Councillor Mrs Williams, seconded by Councillor Drake and unanimously agreed. Minutes of all Zoom based meetings to be signed at the next face to face meeting	DS

<p>62.</p>	<p>Reports:</p> <p>62.1 Police. The Rural Policing Update for the period 1/11/21 – 31/12/21 had been circulated.</p> <p>62.2 County Councillor J Morrish. E-mail report received as follows:-</p> <p><i>Over 2 million Covid injections have been organised by DCC in Devon. This has taken huge effort and I personally would like to thank both paid and unpaid workers who have made this happen in our county.</i></p> <p><i>I am very pleased to report that the Holsworthy Link project has been saved and will open in the town very shortly. A small project which makes a huge difference to some of our residents.</i></p> <p><i>17 communications from residents in your ward during December and January regarding topics such as child support, Rural bus services and Borris!!!</i></p> <p><i>As always if you need me please shout</i></p> <p>62.3 District Councillor P Pennington.</p> <p>Cllr Pennington acknowledged the problem with recycled waste being deposited on the road and confirmed that he had a similar concern raised by another council. Cllr Carter advised that this was due to the hatches on the lorries not being shut. Cllr Pennington asked for photographic evidence that could be sent to Richard Haste. Councillor Carter again pointed out that if a member of the public reported it, especially to VOSA, the Licence could be revoked.</p> <p>Cllr Carter to forward photographs</p> <p>Councillor Pennington's written Report was as follows:</p> <p>1) <i>I am still trying to get a planner to come and talk who parish councils can make the best of the planning process. The planning department has been very busy plus the effect of covid. Will continue to follow up.</i></p> <p>2) <i>Torrige seems to be coping with covid and maintaining services. Please let me know if there is any difficulty. Refuse and recycling have had an easier time as the wind has not blown rubbish around so much.</i></p> <p>3) <i>Budget setting - expect the decisions will be along last year's increase which is allowed before triggering the possibility of a referendum -£5 on band D property - will raise the Torrige take of band D property to a little over £180 a year (Torrige only get about 9% of the CT)</i></p> <p>4) <i>Leisure - check if the pools are open by going on the TDC website.</i></p> <p>5) <i>Is there any projects which would help with some funding. Let me know asap</i></p> <p>62.4 Common Moor. Councillor Thomas</p> <p>Report from Phoebe Miller, Land Agent at Kivells, had been circulated to Councillors.</p> <p>Cllr Thomas pointed out that the report did not contain any details of the work completed or due to take place in the next period. Councillors unanimously agreed that this was not the level of service we expect from Kivells and it was agreed that Cllr Thomas would write to Thomas Rattray Kivells expressing our dissatisfaction and detailing what we expected from Kivells going forward.</p> <p>Cllr Thomas to write to Kivells</p> <p>62.5 State of the roads / Roadmap update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All reported potholes had been repaired. ▪ Councillor Carter has not yet managed to contact the DCC Highways Officer regarding funding for signpost repair but will try again. ▪ Cllr T Hancock confirmed that the grit bins in the Parish had been topped up, 	<p>SC</p> <p>MT</p>
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<p>63.</p>	<p>Items to Discuss.</p> <p>63.1 Maintenance of hedges and trees in the Parish. Councillor Cornish confirmed that these hedges have now been cut back.</p> <p>63.2 Parish Website. Councillor Smith confirmed that the website has now been updated to comply with the latest accessibility requirements. The link to the old newsletter has been removed and a link has been added to the TDC Coronavirus information page.</p> <p>63.3 Devon Air Ambulance Night Landing Site. Councillors Moulder advised that he believed Cllr Headdon was waiting for the ground to dry out before commencing the works to improve the entrance to the landing site.</p> <p>63.4 Recruitment of Parish Clerk - Cllr Smith confirmed that adverts had been placed with DALC and on local Facebook community pages but had not attracted any applications. It was agreed to advertise in the Holsworthy Post and to approach parish clerks in adjoining councils.</p> <p>63.5 Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations - Cllr Williams led a discussion on whether the PC should arrange a community event to celebrate the forthcoming jubilee. Whilst some councillors were in favour in principle, the lack of a suitable venue with parking and toilets was identified as a major problem, In addition, other neighbouring councils are arranging events over the bank holiday period and it was felt that Putford residents would be drawn to these events rather than one in Putford. It was unanimously agreed that no event would be organised by the PC but we would be happy to support if local residents wanted to arrange an event.</p> <p>63.6 Fly Tipping at Common. Moor Cross - A further incidence of fly-tipping had occurred at the lay-by at Common Moor Cross and Councillors were concerned that this was happening on a regular basis and that the scrub behind the lay-by was being used as a toilet. Cllr Moulder suggested that one way to reduce the problem would be to arrange with Natural England for the scrub to be cleared from around the lay-by. Cllr Thomas agreed but felt that , as Natural England had refused to agree to the planting of a tree at this site, some other mitigation might be required such as the placing of a sign giving information about the SSSI. Cllr Thomas has contacted Natural England on that basis but it may be a month before we receive a reply.</p> <p>District Councillor Pennington asked that a record be kept of all fly tipping incidents together with photographic evidence .</p>	<p>DS</p> <p>MT</p>
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<p>64</p>	<p>Planning and Planning Correspondence. There were no Planning Applications to consider.</p> <p>64.1 The following TDC Decision Notices were noted:</p> <p>APPROVAL for 1/1007/2021/FUL Erection of a replacement dwelling following certificate of lawful use approval – The Stud Barn Caravan 2, West Putford.</p> <p>64.2 The following response was made by the Parish Council under its scheme of delegation.</p> <p>Planning Application 1/1023/2020/AGMB Demolition of agricultural building and erection of 3no. dwellinghouses with associated works in lieu of Class Q permission. Building at High Chollaton, West Putford Devon,</p> <p><i>West & East Putford Parish Council objects to this application on the following basis :-</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. The previous Class Q approval does not give any right to an alternative planning approval to replace it and if it were granted it would remove any protective constraints that were applied to under the Class Q regulations and as such we would request that the constraints that applied to Class Q are applied to this application</i><i>2. Although the previous application was granted under Class Q, this replacement application is outside those guidelines. As such it conflicts with TDC planning policy ST07 (Spatial Development Strategy for North Devon's Rural Area) and section (4) in particular – 'development will be limited to that which is enabled to meet local economic and social needs, rural building reuse and development which is necessarily restricted to a Countryside location.' It will add very little economically when it is built; it doesn't satisfy social needs (agricultural worker accommodation or 'affordable housing'); it is not reusing a building as the current one will be demolished; the development does not need to be in a countryside location.</i><i>3. The location of the development is in excess of 4.5 km of Bradworthy, the closest settlement with a range of facilities such as Milton Damerell (2.9km) and Sutcombe (3.5km) lie in surrounding countryside but have very limited facilities and could not be classed as sustainable developments, nor are they accessible from the site other than by private motor car due to the rural network of winding narrow lanes. The development will result in increased car journeys and cannot be considered sustainable under the National Planning Policy Framework.</i><i>4. We remain concerned that the proposal also conflicts with policy ST10 as there is only narrow access and egress to the site which is neither safe nor appropriate for the total number of proposed dwellings on the site 8 in total.</i><i>5. Neighbour consultation should be undertaken but was not listed for the property at South Worden Farm who will be most affected by the increased traffic as the single traffic road passes between their property and some of their land.</i> <p>64.3 Letter to TDC regarding Parish Council responses to Planning Applications.</p> <p>In the absence of a parish clerk it has not been possible to provide further examples of planning applications where TDC ignored the views of the Parish Council. This will be monitored going forward and raised when DCllr Pennington arranges a visit from TDC planning.</p>
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<p>65.</p>	<p>Finance.</p> <p>65.1 Cllr Smith reported that it had not been possible to arrange a handover of Council records from Mrs Squire but this now was arranged for 8 February. A number of cheques for recent payments approved at our last meeting appear to have been lost in the post and Mrs Squire is arranging for replacements to be issued.</p> <p>65.2 Balances. Lloyds Bank Treasurers Account as at 11/11/21: £19,499.90. Mrs Squire advised Cllr Smith that there has been no movement in the bank account balances since our last meeting.</p> <p>65.3 The following payments were approved and authorised: Proposed by Councillor Moulder seconded by Councillor N Hancock and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>Mrs S Squire Redacted under the Data Protection Act. Councillors had been shown the details</p> <table data-bbox="331 645 1166 784"> <tr> <td>PAYE & Expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£48.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 9.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Smith Zoom Call Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£14.99</td> </tr> </table> <p>65.4 Bank Account. The new bank mandate was amongst the documents lost in the post and Mrs Squire is arranging a replacement. Once this is in place arrangements will be made to move to internet banking.</p>	PAYE & Expenses	£48.90	HMRC	£ 9.00	Cllr Smith Zoom Call Costs	£14.99	
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<p>66.</p>	<p>Correspondence.</p> <p>66.1 Environment Agency – have your say about the flood and water environment. The flood risk response was due by January and the river basin response by April. Cllr Thomas gave some background on the Environment Agency’s River Basin Management activity and advised that in our area the report rated our river basins are rated as moderate ecological status mainly due to the amount of phosphates found in the water. The PC agreed that little could be done to reduce phosphate levels in a rural area.</p>							
<p>67.</p>	<p>Date of next Meeting: Wednesday, 16 March 2022 at 7.30pm in Bradworthy Memorial Hall.</p> <p>The meeting ended at 8:52pm.</p>							

Summary of Decisions:

- **Minutes of 17 November 2021 (by Zoom) were agreed in principle and will be ratified at the next face to face meeting**
- **Further letter to be sent to Kivells regarding Common Moor Management.**
- **Natural England to be asked to support clearance of shrubbery around Common Moor Cross lay-by to reduce fly-tipping**
- **Payments.**

These Minutes are agreed by those present as being a true record.

Signed:

Date:

Chair of West & East Putford
Parish Council