

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 15th FEBRUARY 2022 AT 7.00 p.m.**

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

NDC Councillor Knight.

DCC Councillors Henderson and Leaver.

M Isaac (Clerk)

In Attendance: Parishioner/Members of the Public – 1

173. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Lofthouse, Thorne and Short and NDC Councillor Saxby.

174. PUBLIC SESSION

A Parishioner raised the following issues:

- a) Did the recent grant of planning permission on a site between Bickington and Fremington that required the upgrading of the Old Sticklepath/Old Torrington junction negate the need for a bus gate?

Councillor Henderson stated that they were separate issues and the bus gate would still be required.

- b) Would the ACE Rail proposal run along the route of the Tarka Trail?

Councillor Steer stated that various route options would be looked at but the Tarka Trail would remain.

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

There were no issues raised.

176. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Knight declared an interest in the quote to install a picket fence at the top of Tower View Recreational Area as he knew the person who had submitted the quote.

Councillor Steer declared an interest in the ACE Rail motion as a Member of the Group.

177. DCC COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

(a) DCC Councillor Leaver

Councillor Leaver reported the following:

- i) That application forms were now available to apply for 20 mph zones. The framework for considering requests would include additional factors to ensure that resource was directed to where there would be the greatest benefit, including speed related casualty collision history, community support, active Community Speed Watch, deprivation Index ranking and existing Air Quality Management area. All schemes would also be considered via a safety audit prior to progression and the framework for assessing and prioritising requests for 20 mph Speed Limits for use in the preparation of schemes for delivery in 2022/23.
- ii) That consideration of the Bus Gate would be referred back to HATOC for further consideration and public consultation. It was considered that the decision of HATOC was substantially different to the original traffic order.
- iii) There was no update on the Shorelands Road Roundabout or the outcome of the speed survey.
- iv) That Jurassic Fibre would be digging up Grange Avenue and Old Torrington Road to lay cables.

(b) Councillor Henderson

Councillor Henderson reported the following:

- i) That Devon County Council had set out an ambitious plan describing its strategic priorities over the next four years. The plan described goals that the Council believed would help make Devon the best place to grow up, and where more of us can live well and prosper. Supporting it, the Council would have annual plans setting out what it would do each year to achieve those strategic goals. It would be asking for the public's input to the annual plans, inviting people to let the council know what could and should be done in order to achieve the priorities.

The priorities were listed on the council's website.

- ii) That the NHS Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) was working with local health and care partners on a project that gave certain patients grants to help them leave hospital when they were ready to go home but still needed some extra care and support for up to four weeks. The Hospital Discharge Personal Health Budget Grant (HD PHB Grant) scheme aimed to facilitate timely, appropriate and safe discharges from hospital. The grant was a one-off payment of up to £1,200 per individual to support a patient's short-term health and wellbeing needs and can be used to pay for additional childcare or pet care so that family or friends can be freed to provide support. It can also be used for transport costs so a person can travel to provide care. The grant also covered the one-off purchase of equipment that can support a patient during their initial recovery at home and where this equipment cannot be sourced through the CCG's existing equipment services. The grant cannot be used for everyday living costs such as rent or utility bills, to

pay debts nor for purchasing additional medical treatment, tests, appliances, products and services.

- iii) That concerns had been raised regarding the state of the link road surface from the Landkey junction to the Portmore Roundabout and under the bridge at the Bishops Tawton roundabout. The road would to be surfaced dressed. He would find out when the works would be done.
- iv) That a proposed 2.99% Council Tax increase would be considered at a DCC Council meeting later in the week.
- v) That the pavement and lighting design scheme in Old Torrington Road had been agreed and the budget in place. The works would begin once Persimmon had completed works at the Crematorium end of the road.
- vi) That the roads around Sandringham Gardens would be adopted in the next 12 months.

The Clerk reported that a DCC Locality Grant application had been submitted to cut the Beech Hedge between Crematorium and New Larkbear entrance in Old Torrington Road.

Councillor Knight reported that the BT box outside Larkbear had been damaged.

c) NDC Councillor Knight

Councillor Knight reported that to reduce the Council Tax increase he was promoting the increase in efficiency of services, such as the use of contact less car park payments only.

Green Waste collection permits were set to increase as the present charge did not meet the cost of providing the service.

He raised concerns that a company who was not the Government contracted company was installing fibre broadband cables and blocking up the ducts for any further installation.

178. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

There were no issues raised.

180. HIGHWAY ISSUES

- a) Provision of traffic signs in Tawstock Village
No Update to report
- b) Update on hedge/vegetation cutting in Old Torrington Road
See minute 177 b) above.

- c) Speeding Survey – Update
See minute 177 a) above.
- d) Bus Gate – Old Torrington Road. HATOC decision
See minute 177 a) above.
- e) 20 mph speed limits – Expression of interest
See minute 177 a) above.

181 PLAY AREAS -TUDOR AND TOWER VIEW: REPAIRS

The Clerk reported the following:

- a) Bench – Tudor Play Area

That it had been reported that the wooden bench was not secured to the ground.

It was agreed seek a picture of the bench. Councillor Ward agreed to have a look.
- b) Swing – Tower View Play Area

That it had been reported that the 4 shackles on the swing needed replacing.
He had agreed that as a safety issue that Barnstaple Town Council replace the shackles at a cost of £50.

It was agreed that the replacement be re-affirmed but that a before and after picture be sought.

182. CO-OPTIONS

The Clerk reported the Council were now able to co-opt to the two vacant places.

It was agreed:

- a) That the Clerk approach the people who had expressed an interest in the Urban vacancy and request information as to their background and what skill they could bring to the Parish Council.
- b) That the Rural vacancy be advertised in the School Newsletter, Eastacombe Newsletter and the Church Newsletter.

183. TOWER VIEW RECREATIONAL AREA PROJECT: PHASE 2.

a) i) Fencing – Top End of Recreational Field

Councillor Knight reported the following:

Mole Valley Farmers:

Provision of Picket Fence panels 1.8m x 16.

Fence post 2.4 m (cut in half) x 10.

Picket gate panels x 3.

Total including VAT £698.04

Labour Mark Hendry 3Days @£160 £480.00

Sundries to complete project (estimate)

Gate hinges x3pairs @6 £18.00

Gate latch x2 @ £6 £12.00

Drop bolt x1 £10.00

Aggregate to fill holes. £65.00

Cement bags x3 @£6 £18.00

Large treated screws 200off £30.00

Total Estimate £153.00

It was agreed that the above quotes/estimate be agreed and accepted.

ii) Fencing – Bottom End of Recreational Field

It was agreed that the quote from C. Wallis to install the post and wire fence at the bottom end of Recreational Field of £400 be agreed and accepted.

b) Quote to undertake Weeding.

The Clerk reported the receipt of 3 quotes to undertake the weeding.

It was agreed that the quote from K Body Garden Maintenance of £850 be accepted.

d) Quote for Seed and Bulb Planting and Installation of Wet Area and Bug Houses.

The Clerk reported the receipt of a quote of £500 from Chris Lofthouse to undertake the above work.

It was agreed that the quote from Chris Lofthouse to undertake the above work be accepted and agreed.

184. VILLAGE HALL

- a) Appointment of Trustees

It was agreed that a meeting be arranged with Members of the Village Hall Committee and to obtain a copy of the most recent set of accounts.

- b) Solar Panels/S106 Funding

In Councillor Lofthouse's absence the Clerk reported that it had been confirmed that the s106 funds could be used for Solar Panels.

185. PROVISION OF LITTER/DOG BINS AND A DEFIBRILLATOR – TAWSTOCK VILLAGE

Councillor Bowden stated that she had undertaken some research regarding defibrillators. Currently there were none listed in Tawstock Parish.

She agreed to investigate costings/locations and report to the Parish Council meeting

186. MOTION TO SUPPORT THE RE-INSTATEMENT OF BIDEFORD TO BARNSTAPLE RAIL LINK

Councillor Steer outlined the proposals of Atlantic Coast Express (ACE) to seek the re-instatement of a Bideford to Barnstaple Rail link.

It was agreed to support the re-instatement of Bideford to Barnstaple rail link for passenger and other services, as proposed by ACE Rail and include the policy aim within the revised joint local plan.

187. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) 74648 Erection of flat roofed extension to the rear to create additional living accommodation, The Coach House, Old Sticklepath Hill, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval but disagreed with the Critical Drainage Statement and the discharge of surface water on an already over capacity system

- b) 74596 Demolition of garage and porch and erection of 2 storey extension together with new detached double garage, 7 Broadclose Road, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval Recommended but raised the following concerns:

- a) The Council disagreed with the Critical Drainage Statement and the discharge of surface water on an already over capacity system.
b) That the removed trees be replaced with mature trees

188. TRACKER.

The Tracker was noted.

189. CORRESPONDENCE.

There was no correspondence reported.

190. FINANCIAL MATTERS.

a) Payments

RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

North Devon Council Clerk Salary + Admin Fee	£568.74
M. Isaac Clerks Expenses	£16.93
Gavin Hendry Grounds Maintenance	£1,694.40
Tawstock Village Hall Hire	£15.00

b) Financial Position

The financial position as of 4 February 2022 was noted.

c) Budget 2022/2023

The Council considered and adopted the draft budget 2022/23 (previously circulated).

d) Cheque Signatories

The Clerk reported that due to the resignation of Norman Lines there were now only two signatories to the accounts.

It was agreed that Councillors Bowden and Lines be appointed as signatories to the accounts.

191. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

Councillor Lines reported that one of the legs on the noticeboard at Eastacombe had collapsed.

It was agreed that the Clerk be authorised to investigate and get repaired if possible.

192. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Tuesday 15th March 2022 at 7.00 p.m.

Chairman

The meeting ended at 9.00 p.m.