

**MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF TAWSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
ON WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020 AT 7.00 pm**

**Present: -** Councillor Luggar (Chairman)  
Councillors Blackman, Bowden, Knight, Short (for minutes 101 – 111),  
M. Ward and S. Ward.

NDC Councillors Knight and Saxby

M Isaac (Clerk)

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

**91. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Lines, Lofthouse and Thorne and DCC Councillors Edgell and Mathews

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

There were no issues raised.

**93. PUBLIC SESSION**

A Parishioner asked if Councillors had seen his letter to DCC regarding the highway issues in Old Torrington Road and expressed concerns of bias if a proposed Old Torrington Road Sub Committee was constituted of Members who lived in Old Torrington Road

**94. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Luggar declared an interest in item 14 on the agenda 'Refurbishment of Telephone Boxes' as one of the contractors who had submitted a quote was known to him and had also done work for him.

**95. 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 he was waiting for the report that was being carried out regarding the Roundabout at Shorelands Road and had agreed that a second speed check would be carried out in OTR in Term time, the cost of which would be met from his budget.

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

No Update to report.

Councillor Knight stated that he had been told that the pavement scheme was not a DCC priority due to the ND Link Road works.

It was agreed that Councillor Knight forward information to Selaine Saxby MP who would take up the issue with DCC Members/Officers

iii) DCC Policy Update – 20 mph speed limits

The Council noted the latest DCC Policy update (previously circulated) on 20mph speed limits.

iv) Bus Gate -Old Torrington Road - Update

The Clerk reported an update from DCC regarding the provision of a Bus Gate in Old Torrington Road.

It was hoped that the DCC Traffic Regulation Orders team would shortly be able to confirm the associated costs to implement the Works and Services in connection with the bus gate. This would be a one or two camera operation with vehicle number plate recognition. The costings once received would be passed to the developers for their confirmation and acceptance.

The proposals would then be presented to Councillors for further consideration prior to being passed to DCC Legal to advertise the Order for public consultation. It was considered that the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO), and associated Works, did not require planning consent as it was part of a separate planning application. If successful, the TRO will result in the Larkbear traffic, and new development traffic at the end of Old Torrington Road, being directed to and from their properties via Gratton Way rather than Old Torrington Road as currently takes place.

In time there has been an identified need for a new junction on the A361 to the east of Larkbear which would become the principal access to the site, if ultimately implemented.

**b) NDC Councillor Knight**

Councillor Knight stated that Persimmon the developer of Larbear was ignoring planning conditions (61119) and were continuing to build houses without providing the infrastructure ie pavements, bus gate, the junction etc in breach of the planning consent.

He had tried to put a Stop Notice on the development but had been advised it was not something commonly used. He would be attending a Teams meeting next week to discuss a way forward.

It was agreed that Councillor Knight would email Selaine Saxby MP with a list of breaches and issues to raise with Secretary of State.

**c) NDC Councillor Saxby**

Councillor Saxby apologised for not attending meetings due to technical problems. She had no District Council issues to report but as the MP she thanked people of North Devon for adhering to the rules and keeping Covid cases to a low level. Data of cases and areas was available and the Police were now better prepared.

**96. MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

Minute 81 Protocol for Large Funerals: Update

It was noted that if mourners were parking on yellow lines it was a matter for DCC Parking Enforcement Officers and if it was an obstruction matter it was an issue for the Police

Councillor Blackman reported that she had spoken to the Crematorium Manager who had agreed to inform her of any large funerals

**98. HIGHWAY ISSUES**

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 95 above

Warning Signs along Elizabeth Drive – Deferred to next meeting when Councillor Lofthouse was in attendance.

**99. STREET LIGHTING FAILURE – GRANGE AVENUE, TUDOR DRIVE, REGENT CLOSE, ORCHARD CLOSE, MANOR CLOSE, BROAD CLOSE ROAD**

It was noted that the problem was in relation to the night lantern controller and the night control cell which were working against each other, throwing the timings wildly out. The solution was to replace the night cell with an all-night cell, allowing the lantern driver to operate the night timing routine.

As there were a considerable number of lights affected this had resulted in DCC stock of all-night control cells being rapidly depleted. Extra stocks were on order and the contractors would be working across the area changing them as they come into stock.

It was agreed that Councillor Knight would provide Selaine Saxby MP with the information regarding the street lighting problem to enable her to raise the issue with DCC Members/Officers

**100. PLANNING MATTERS**

- a) 72059 Outline application for the erection of 3 No. detached dwellings with some matters reserved, Carrick, Tawstock

RECOMMENDED Approval but concerns expressed regarding access and drainage systems issues

- b) 72060 Outline application for the erection of 3 No. detached dwellings with some matters reserved, Carrick, Tawstock

RECOMMENDED Approval but concerns expressed regarding access and drainage systems issues

- c) 72062 Removal of asbestos sheet roof and replacement with natural slate, replacement larger porch with natural slate roof & re-rendering of part of the property with lime render, Little Thatch, Chapelton, Umberleigh

RECOMMENDED Approval

- d) 71944 Replacement of 2 windows & doors together with removal of render at plinth level, replacement chimney & removal of iron gutter brackets and replace with oak pegs, Biddendon Cottage, Tawstock

RECOMMENDED Approval

- e) 71946 Listed Building Consent for replacement of 2 windows & doors together with removal of render at plinth level, replacement chimney & removal of iron gutter brackets and replace with oak pegs, Biddendon Cottage, Tawstock

RECOMMENDED Approval

- f) 72153 Siting of 1x internally illuminated fascia sign (amendment to 70693), Petroc, Old Sticklepath Hill, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval but questioned why the sign had been relocated.

- g) 72189 Overcladding and replacement windows to the existing Block E at Petroc - Block E, Old Sticklepath Hill, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval subject to the cladding being fire retardant.

- h) 72235 Proposed conversion of a barn to 3 holiday units, Wick House Road from Combers Cross to Week Lane End, Harracott, Barnstaple

RECOMMENDED Approval subject to a condition requiring the provision of nesting facilities to protect the wildlife ie. Bats, Barn Owls etc.

#### **101. WILDFLOWER AREAS/TREE PLANTING**

Councillor M. Ward reported the receipt of the following quotes:

To purchase further hedging to complete all banking in a double row for depth & wind barrier. Hornbeam 200 hedging **£796.52 plus delivery**

To renew wooden gates x 2 and post & rail to form entrance to the fields. Quote received Chris Wallis **£1125** including disability gate style to be confirmed.

To remove large Ash Tree (approx. 30ft) and clear identified 3 large bank areas and make ready for hedge planting & associated treatments. To remove part of the eroding ends of the banking and build a stone/boulder retained wall. Quote received Gavin Hendry **£2695**

To purchase 30 local field established native trees for planting. Quote **£2970 plus delivery** (all trees 6ft high in 9-16litre pots ready for planting)

It was agreed to defer consideration of the quotes to the next meeting to obtain further information.

### **102 LITCHARDON CROSS SOLAR FARM COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND**

The Council noted the minutes of the meeting held on (previously circulated).

Councillor Luggar reported that it had been agreed:

- That as the parish council with the largest area of solar panels, Horwood, Lovacott and Newton Tracey Parish Council should be the administrator of the fund.
- That all 5 parishes nominate a representative to form a Trust or similar structure to participate in the decision-making process.
- That a constitution be set up to decide how the fund would operate, SFW/Aura Power can provide examples from other renewable energy community benefit funds for guidance.

It was agreed that each Parish Council should have an equal vote on the distribution of funds.

### **103 TAWSTOCK BURIAL GROUND**

a) Request to place curbing around a grave

It was agreed that the details of any curbing be provided to and agree by the Parish Council.

b) Cutting back of trees

It was noted that Gavin Hendry had agreed to cut back the trees free of charge

### **104. PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF AN OLD TORRINGTON ROAD SUB COMMITTEE**

The Council considered a draft 'terms of reference' previously circulated.

It was agreed not to appoint a Sub Committee or Working Party

### **105. TELEPHONE BOXES - REFURBISHMENT**

The Clerk reported the receipt of three quotes to refurbish three telephone boxes, Lake, Tawstock and Harracott as follows:

Cliff Milton £1,700 (Painting only)  
S & J Decorating £2,820 (Painting only)

Ashley Scott £1,412.67 + £407.34 to replace glass panels

Grants had been secured from DCC Councillor Edgell for £900 and NDC Councillor Saxby for £250 towards the project.

It was agreed that the quote from Ashley Scott for £1,820.01 (that included the replacement of glass panels) be accepted

Councillor Luggar declared an interest as one of the contractors had undertaken work for him

#### **106. TOWER VIEW RECREATIONAL AREA**

##### **a) Update re recent incident in Play Area**

The Clerk reported that he had not had a response from the Fire Service regarding the incident.

It was also reported that none of the nearby residents were aware of the incident

##### **b) Replacement of rotten fencing and new disabled access gate**

See minute 101 above

#### **107. REVIEW OF S106 FUNDING**

It was agreed that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

#### **108. NOTICE BOARDS**

The Clerk reported that following some research an aluminium noticeboard was approx. £1,000 and an Oak notice board approx. £1,320. The cost, however, was dependent on required additions such as a header board and fixings.

It was considered that a notice board would also be required for the Larbear area.

It was agreed that the Clerk seek prices based on the specification of the existing notice board in Tower View.

#### **109. CORRESPONDENCE**

The Council noted the following correspondence:

Update on the Rock Park Bridge repairs  
A letter from a resident regarding a complaint

#### **110. FINANCE MATTERS**

##### **a) Payments**

RESOLVED:

That the following payments be approved:

North Devon Council Clerks Salary	£643.84
Gavin Hendry Grounds Maintenance	£1,315.00
M Isaac Expenses	£13.92
PKF Littlejohn External Audit	£240.00

**b) Current Financial Position**

That the current financial position as on 5 October 2020 was Current A/C £48,605.36 and Business Reserve £16,001.77 be noted

**c) Audit 2019/2020.**

It was noted that the external auditor had signed off the accounts for 2019/2020 and had not raised any issues

**111. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next virtual Parish Council meeting would be on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7.00 p.m.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 8.48 p.m.