

BISHOPS TAWTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25 September 2014 at Bishops Tawton Village Hall at 7:30pm

Present: Cllrs P Leaver (Chairman), Ms S Barber, K Barron, Ms S McKernan and Mrs E Peacock.

In attendance: R Edgell (DCC), G Lane (NDC), D Luggar (NDC), 12 members of the public, Parish Clerk.

54. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Fahy.

55. Police Report

No report received. It was believed that PCSO Paul Grantham was now stationed in Braunton.

56. Parishioners Open Session

1. It was reported that the lid was still missing from the dog bin at Park Villas. Cllr Ms McKernan offered to contact J&J Bins, and also to request that the bin in the Playing Field be moved to the stile.
2. Cars were still being parked in the gateways to the Playing Field. It was agreed to proceed with the purchase of signs requesting the gateways to be left clear.
3. It was reported that the reported water leak had been repaired by South West Water.
4. A parishioner enquired into the regulations regarding the attendance of councillors at meetings. It was confirmed that councillors were required to attend one meeting in any six month period.
5. It was agreed that agendas and minutes would be posted on the parish website.
6. It was reported that drains throughout the village were blocked. Cllr Leaver offered to contact Highways.

57. Approval of Minutes of meetings held on 26 June and 24 July 2014.

The minutes of the last two meetings were agreed and signed as a true record.

58. Matters Arising from meeting held on 24 July 2014

- Min. 43 No update on the defibrillator was available.
Cllr Barron questioned the need for a defibrillator in the village due to the close proximity to the ambulance station. It was noted that an ambulance had recently attended the village approximately two minutes after being called.
Cllr Edgell reported that many villages had made the decision to purchase a defibrillator.
- Min 44. It was reported that the Fun Day had been a great success with £700 being raised, in addition to £100 being donated and £1000 being promised.
The Village Tidy-Up would take place the coming Saturday, meeting outside the Village Hall at 10am.
It was agreed not to proceed with the purchase at the present time.
- Min. 46 The Clerk reported that two spaces had been booked for the new councilor training session being arranged by DALC.

59. Declarations of Interest

None.

60. Planning

1. **Applications:** None received.

2. **Decisions**

57787 Re-configuration of three residential apartments to form two units of accommodation, conversion of coach house to form one unit of accommodation & conversion of garage to form games room/ bar at Mount Sandford Guest House Landkey Road Barnstaple

57788 Listed building application for re-configuration of three residential apartments to form two units of accommodation, conversion of coach house to form one unit of accommodation & conversion of garage to form games room / bar at Mount Sandford Guest House Landkey Road Barnstaple

57809 Application for consent for works to trees covered by a tree preservation order in respect of selective crown reduction of one horse chestnut, crown lifting of one ash & removal & replacement of two ash & one beech at Rosehill Deer Park Road Barnstaple

57467 Listed building application for installation of solar thermal evacuated tubes to an internal valley roof at The Old Vicarage Bishops Tawton Barnstaple

3. Application Withdrawn: 57728 Erection of three wind turbines at Hollamoor Farm, Tawstock

4. Update on Riverbend application

It was reported that the planners had requested additional information from the applicant.

61. Playground/Play Area

1. Report on annual safety inspection

The Chairman reported that the recent inspection had shown most items to be either of 'low risk' or 'no risk'. The exception was the goal posts, which were loose in their foundations. It was agreed to inspect the problem on Saturday.

2. Funding and donations received

Previously covered under 'Matters Arising'.

3. Approval of quotes for new play area and funding applications

The Chairman reported that four companies had been approached, with their proposals put on display at the Fun Day.

It was proposed that the work be carried out in two stages, the first being to replace the old fort with climbing apparatus and a slide. This proposal had been made following consultation with the school, and through Facebook.

The second stage would look at a larger scheme.

Three quotations had been received at the time of the Fun Day, all in the region of £130k + VAT. There was currently £1700 in the Playing Field Fund. It was hoped that the remainder could be sought through Awards for All funding and grants from County and District Councillors. It was reported that there was approximately £1000 in the parish council's playing field account. It was agreed that this should be used.

Cllr Peacock and Mrs Leaver to complete the grant application forms.

4. Confirmation of situation re VAT on purchase of new play area.

It was confirmed that as the play equipment would remain the property of the parish council that it would be possible to reclaim the VAT.

A request to plant a memorial tree in the Playing Field was agreed.

62. Update on Gospel Hall car park and S106 contribution

It was reported that the S106 contribution would be £18000. It had already been agreed that the car park would be transferred to the parish council. North Devon Council solicitors were taking this forward on behalf of the parish council.

It had been agreed at a previous parish council meeting that spaces would be let to local businesses and residents, rather than it be a public car park available to everyone.

A meeting had been arranged with the planners, developer, solicitor and parish council.

63. Meeting with new owners of Venn Quarry

The parish council had been contacted by the new owners of the quarry, requesting an informal meeting. It was understood that the owner was planning to convert in into a holiday complex, with 4-500 properties. It was agreed that the meeting should on a formal basis, and that the owner should attend a meeting of the flood sub-committee, to be arranged on a date convenient to all.

64. Road Signs in the Village

It was reported that the post of the humpback bridge sign was rusty, and in need of replacement.

The No Entry sign at the top of School Lane was rusty.

The Village Street name sign was missing.

The hatch markings on the corner outside the Village Hall were very worn, and in need of repainting.

All these defects to be reported to Highways for action.

The continual problem with cars parking on the pavements near the school was reported. Cllr Ms Barber offered to contact the school

65. Memorial Service – 9 November

Cllr Mrs Peacock reported that tea, coffee and cake would be available in the Village Hall after the Remembrance Service, and would be available to all, not just those attending the service.

She agreed to make arrangements for a poppy wreath, to be laid at the service.

66. Reports**1. District Councillor**

Cllr Luggar reported that a Pay on Exit system was being introduced to some of the car parks in Barnstaple.

The recent sale of unwanted land in North Devon had raised £250k.

A joint meeting with Torrridge District Council had been arranged to look at water quality in the Rivers Taw and Torrridge.

2. County Councillor

Cllr Edgell reported that the County Council were looking to move out of the Civic Centre by April 2015. The future of the Civic Centre was currently being reviewed.

The lengthsman service which was suspended in order for damage to the roads during the winter storms to be repaired, is due to be reinstated. The programme of planned visits was not yet available.

67. Finance**1. Request for donation towards planters at corner of Mount Pleasant**

A request had been received from the Bishops Tawton Community Ladies for a donation towards the cost of bulbs for the recently acquired flower tubs.

It was agreed to make a donation of £25.00

Cheque No. 907

2. Budget for next year - focussing on planned expenditure.

It was agreed that the budget for next year would need to be reviewed. It was noted that some items of expenditure this year had not been budgeted against, including the Playing Field and Training. It was also agreed to have a fixed total of £1250 for grants to village organisations. Other items were increased to reflect actual costs.

3. Receipt: WDP – Wayleave £16.50

4. Payments:

1. J & J Bins – emptying dog bins (2months)	£104.00	Cheque No. 900
2. Mr J Harding – grass cutting (2 months)	£380.00	Cheque No. 901
3. Edf Energy	£ 73.83	Cheque No. 902
4. Play Inspection Co.	£114.00	Cheque No. 903
5. BT Construction – repairs to benches	£384.00	Cheque No. 904
6. Grant Thornton – external audit	£ 60.00	Cheque No. 905
7. Mrs E Peacock – reimbursement for cost of hiring school hall (replacement of cheque 898	£ 8.00	Cheque No. 906

The seven accounts were approved for payment.

68. Correspondence Received

1. Letter of resignation from Cllr Clayton, due to work commitments.
2. Notice of temporary 10mph speed limit A377 northerly direction for 600 metres from the junction with Village Street. 10 – 12 December 2014. 9am – 3pm.
3. Notice of Road Closure A377 New Bridge Cross 12 – 13 December 2014.
4. Notice of Road Closure, Codden Hill Cross to Hearson Cross. 30 November 2014. 8.30am-4.30pm.
5. Clerks & Councils Direct – September 2014.
6. DALC Annual Report.

69. Items to placed on the agenda of the next meeting

Village Hall; Venn Quarry; Playground; Car Park.

70. Date of Future Meetings: 23 October; 27 November; 22 January; 26 February; 26 March; 23 April.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.25pm