

Minutes of the Virtual Woolfardisworthy Parish Council held on the 16th March 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom

1.0 Attendance

Parish Cllrs: M Hill (Chair), L Spittles, S Hill, R Heywood, S Raffe, S Harding (also District Cllr), A Sealey and S Salvidant.

County Cllr Inch.

Member of the public.

2.0 Apologies

No apologies, the Chair welcomed Cllr Salvidant.

3.0 Public Comment Session

None

4.0 Declaration of Personal / Prejudicial Interest for items of the agenda

None

5.0 Minutes of the previous meeting to be approved and signed as a true and accurate record

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record, to be signed by the Chair at the next face-to-face meeting. Proposed by Cllr S Hill, seconded by Cllr Sealey.

6.0 Clerk's Report

- 1) **Bucks Mills - Broken Fence by Car Park** - To be fixed by TDC. It was noted that there are piles of rotten wood chippens and an old picnic table, which are taking up parking space. **Action: The Clerk to liaise with TDC to see if it can be removed.**
- 2) **Defibrillator (Woolsery Hall) - Lights (Cllr S Hill)** - The hall had worked on the electrics, which had disconnected the defib. Should the electric be disconnected in the future, the Hall will erect a sign to remind people to check that the defib still has power.

- 3) **Defibrillator @ Ivy Cottage - (Cllr Harding)** - To be progressed by Cllr Harding, when able to do so.

7.0 Reports from County Cllr, District Cllrs and Parish Cllrs

County Councillor Inch

1. Devon County Council will be increasing the Council Tax by 4%, 1.99% is the Council Tax with 3% for Adult Care. Cllr Inch did not vote in favour of the decision. A motion was put forward to take the 1.99% from the reserves, however this was rejected.
2. As we come out of lockdown, Cllr Inch realises how important Parish Councils are for their communities and how appreciative he is of all the hard work.

District Councillors

Cllr Harding:

1. Torridge District Council will be increasing Council Tax. Cllr Harding voted in favour of the decision, as it was stated that there is support for people who cannot afford to pay.
2. A hotel in Torrington is hoping to establish apprenticeships and Holsworthy continues to fight for their pool to reopen.
3. It was noted that the owner of the cabin at Higher Town will be applying for Agri-Tourism.

Parish Councillors

Cllr Heywood

1. Asked why the call in request for the planning application at Marshall Farm was withdrawn. Cllr Harding stated that he had liaised with Shaun Harrington at TDC, who stated that the reasons provided were not strong enough.

Going forward it was agreed that any future call in requests would be discussed at the Parish Council meeting, so it is minuted. It was agreed that training is required to understand TDC Planning Policies, as well as the valid reasons why a planning application can be called in and how.

Cllr Hill

1. Has been contacted by Louise Leonard with regards to disabled access from the Hall down to the Hard Surface Paying Area. The Hall Committee has stated that the Youth Club would need to make a contribution towards the costs, therefore Louise is in the process of looking at grants.

8.0 Planning Applications

Applications

1/0223/2021/FUL - Replacement of existing bungalow porch and bay window with extension to gable end. Y Wurry, Bucks Cross - No objections raised.

Decisions

1/1155/2020/FUL - Three proposed commercial fishing lakes, amenity building, parking and access. Land at Higher Ashmansworthy, Woolsery. Application granted.

1/1193/2020/FUL - Proposed extensions and alterations. Walland Barn, Bucks Cross. Application granted.

1/0061/2021/FUL - Proposed two storey extension to provide additional living space. Green Cottage, Woolsery. Application granted.

Complaints

Planning Enforcement Complaint Re: 1/0738/2018/FUL, Walland Farm.

9.0 Progress of Highways Issues

Woolsery

a. **No parking cones and Chapter 8.** - The parking cones are Mr Lucketts. It was asked whether the PC could purchase their own cones, approx 15 would be required. In terms of Chapter 8, it was questioned whether Cllrs could access the training without the need of establishing a road warden scheme. Cllr Sealey noted that he would undertake the training.

ACTION: The Clerk to obtain a quote for cones and to liaise with Highways with regards to accessing the Chapter 8 training.

Bucks Cross

a) **Bucks Cross A39** - The Clerk confirmed that the A39 Bucks Cross is in Highways financial budget for 2022/2023.

b) **Green Verge - Bucks Cross Junction** - Cllr Spittles spoke to Robert Stoneman and the owner of the property and it will be sorted when the ground is drier.

Road Closures

1st - 26th March 2021 - Road from Cranford Water Bridge to Farmers Arms. TAKE OUT EXISTING KERBS AND REPLACE WITH NEW GRANITE KERBS. INSTALL NEW CROSSOVER. INSTALL NEW GRANITE DISH CHANNEL STONES. LAY GRANITE STONES IN FARMERS ARMS FOOTPATH.

17th - 28th May 2021 - Road from West Town Cross to Auction Way, Woolsery. S/O 5 Manor Park, Inc Road from Kennerland Cross. Closed to install 282m of 1 way Poly Duct in Carriageway. **ACTION: The Clerk to obtain more details related to the road closure.**

10. Update: Bucks Mills First Time Sewerage Application

A site visit took place on the 3rd March with Parish Councillors and representatives of the company who will be undertaking the Feasibility Study. The meeting was positive, and Cllr Salvidant has informed the company undertaking the study how many bedrooms there are in each property.

They are looking at placing the Pump Station in the Square, pumping effluent up the road to the carpark where the main treatment unit would be placed. There could be a loss of some parking spaces and access needed is in the carpark.

The next step is to submit the Feasibility Study and for SWW to make a decision. If SWW rejects the scheme, the Parish Council can appeal. Should it be rejected again, the Parish Council can appeal again with the Environment Agency. This could be a long process.

Because of the sewerage situation at Bucks Mills owners are unable to sell their properties.

11. Wildflower and Village Gateway

The School is too busy to get involved in a project this year. Cllr Harding stated that options include;

- a. Purchasing wildflower seed (£40) and sowing them into the ground.
- b. Purchasing 50 plugs of plants at a cost of £42
- c. Purchasing meadow mats, which are approx £400.

Cllr Spittles proposed to purchase the wildflower seed as a starting point, seconded by Cllr Sealey. All in agreement.

County Cllr Inch reminded the Council of the “no cutting” ground stakes.

ACTION: The Clerk to liaise with Cllr Harding with regards to purchasing the seed.

12. Covid-19 Updates

At present legislation means that Parish Councils can meet online up until the 7th May. The Clerk will be attending a webinar with DALC on the 30th March, and will provide further information at the next PC meeting. **ACTION: Agenda item for April meeting.**

13. Affordable Housing & Parish Plan 2021

Colin Savage (Devon Communities Together) is liaising with Rachel Webdale at TDC with regards to undertaking a noise test on the identified site. Cllr Hill suggested having a meeting on the 13th April to discuss these two areas.

Cllr Heywood asked if the Clerk would send a copy of the current Plan to Cllrs. **ACTION: The Clerk to circulate the Parish Plan.**

14. Update from MXB Sub-Committee

The minutes from the meeting 11th March were circulated, and uploaded onto the website.

Following the meeting, Cllr Heywood undertook further research with regards to parking outside Ivy Cottage. The land outside the front of the Manor is not common land, but an unadopted Highway, therefore parking would be fine. A planning application in 1981 means that there is pedestrian access only to the front of the Manor.

15. FINANCES

Payments to be authorised

- a) Lisa Hutchings - February 2021 - £439.68
- b) HMRC 20% Tax - October 2020 - Feb 2021 - £744.10

Cllr Spittles proposed to authorise items a and b, seconded by Cllr S Hill. All in agreement.

Income received & Bank Account Balance

Current account - £1300.98 Reserve account - £17,503.57.

16. Correspondence

Mr Willetts Correspondence - 11/02/2021 (inc response to TDC), 12/02/2021 (inc response to TDC) 15/02/2021 (inc response to TDC), 17/02/2021, 18/02/2021.

Draft Resource and Waste Management Strategy for Devon and Torbay - consultation

TDC - Street Drinking and Anti-social Behaviour in Bideford - Consultation Notification
Census 2021

17. Date and Time of Next Meeting

20th April 2021 @ 7.30pm via Zoom (unless other notified). ***Please note that the Annual Parish Meeting will take place at 7pm, followed by the Parish Council Meeting at 7.30pm.***