

Minutes of Woolsery Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 19 December 2023 in Woolsery Sports and Community Hall at 7.30pm.

Chaired by: Councillor L Spittles		Clerked by: Mrs Sue Squire
Present: Councillors B Beech D Hancock S Harding (District Councillor) R Heywood S Hill L Spittles S Salvidant 1 Member of the public		Agenda: - Public Comment Session Apologies Declarations of Interest Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21 November 2023 to be approved and signed as a true and accurate record Clerk's Report Reports from County, District and Parish Councillors Planning Neighbourhood Plan – Housing Survey Finances To consider a response to items raised under the Public Session Correspondence Date and time of next meeting
		Action:
23/24. 106	Public Comment Session. Potholes. The state of the Woolsery to Bradworthy road continues to be in a very poor state. Unadopted Minutes. It was stated that Minutes, whether adopted or unadopted, should be put on the website in a more timely manner. The Clerk advised that legally, Minutes in unadopted or adopted form, should be uploaded to a Parish Council website 30 days after the meeting.	LS to check the position
23/24. 107	Apologies. Councillor M Hill (personal commitments), District Councillor Dart,	
23/24. 108	Declaration of Personal / Prejudicial Interest for items on the Agenda. None.	
23/24. 109	Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21 November 2023 to be approved and signed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Councillor Spittles Seconded by Councillor Hancock and unanimously agreed.	
23/24. 110	Clerk's Report:	
23/24. 110.1	Parish Council Report in the Parish News. Arrangements have been made for the articles sent to be included.	
23/24. 110.2	Levelling Up Partnership Priorities. The number of votes for each item had been forwarded to Sir Geoffrey Cox MP KC together with other suggestions.	
23/24. 110.3	Payments made.	
23/24. 110.4	Clothes Bank. Arrangements have been made, following representations, for this to be emptied and on further enquiry, it has been advised that future collections are intended to be every two weeks. Thanks are expressed to everyone who has supported this initiative which is deemed to be going well and helping The Firefighters Charity and The Ambulance Staff Charity.	

23/24. 110.5	Ordered Christmas Tree for the village.	
23/24. 111	Reports from County Councillor, District Councillors and Parish Councillors	
23/24. 111.1	County Councillor J Wilton-Love. Not present.	
23/24. 111.2	District Councillor Andrews. Not present.	
23/24. 111.3	District Councillor Dart. Apologies sent.	
23/24. 111.4	<p>District Councillor Harding. There had been a meeting at North Devon Council's (NDC) Brynsworthy Offices regarding the Crime and Safeguarding Partnership where the former Chairman was Superintendent Toby Davies. The joint Chairman were now officers from TDC and NDC. The Partnership is working well and it was noted less criminal damage was occurring, although the worrying trend was that domestic abuse is increasing. County lines were spoken about. North Devon Council cover the cost of Street Marshalls in Barnstaple and the cost is recouped by lack of vandalism and the area is a safer place to be. The Street Marshalls have the same powers as PCSOs. An office is being opened on Jubilee Square for people to report incidents. An External Scrutiny meeting at which representatives from Lendololgy were present, could not proceed due to it being inquorate. At the last Full Council Meeting, Members were briefed on the levelling up position and more was expected to be known in June.</p>	
23/24. 112	Parish Councillors:	
23/24. 112.1	<p>M Hill Play area in the village – S Hill is now involved with this and reported: She was aware that parents of Primary School children had been approached about this project, and there had been confirmation that Woolsery Sports and Community Hall Committee would contribute towards the cost. There was agreement locally for the project to go ahead and Councillor S Harding will ask residents to sign an agreement. There is to be a Survey of parents to get more feedback. The land on which the proposed play area will be sited is owned by the Parish Council and will be driven by the Parish Council. Councillor Harding has a quotation for a tree on the site to be pollarded.</p>	SHarding
23/24. 112.2	<p>B Beech (1) Community Speed Watch. On hold. (2) Parking problems in Manor Park. This item will be further discussed at the January Parish Council meeting.</p>	
23/24. 112.3	<p>D Hancock. There was no further news about moving the dog bins. He had ascertained the reason for water running from the site of The Manor into the road which was drain related, of which MXB were aware. The grass on the verge at Manor Park is getting churned up, making the area</p>	DH to contact JWL

	<p>muddy. Councillor Hancock to contact County Councillor Wilton-Love to ask. If the verge can be made narrower.</p> <p>In the field next to the Potting Shed, a caravan had been noticed which appears to be occupied. A horse box is also parked on site.</p>	<p>DH</p> <p>RH to speak to occupier</p>
23/24. 112.4	<p>S Harding. Regarding the play area, a TDC officer is making enquiries about cables under the site and a site meeting in January was being planned.</p>	<p>Next Agenda</p>
23/24. 112.5	<p>R Heywood</p> <p>(1) Bus Shelter at East Park. There was no further news to report.</p> <p>(2) Disputed landownership bordering Woolserly's Manor House. Enquiries continue to be made. The plans say the tarmaced area is due to be replaced by grass, but this does not answer the question.</p> <p>(3) The telegraph pole opposite the entrance to All Hallows Church is now isolated due to the hedge being taken away and there are fears that it could be hit.</p>	<p>Next Agenda</p> <p>Clerk to contact National Grid</p>
23/24. 112.6	<p>S Hill</p> <p>(1) Grit bin location at Cranford, in liaison with Councillor Heywood. Councillor Heywood had spoken to nearby landowners and it was felt that a grit bin halfway up the hill was the preferred location. A letter to be sent to householders in the area advising as follows: 1st choice: Corner halfway up hill towards Cranford 2nd choice: Cranford House (near bridge at Cranford Water) 3rd choice: Bungalow owned by the residents who live at Cranford Proposed by Councillor Spittles, seconded by Councillor S Harding and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>(2) In liason with Councillor Heywood, a report on Royal Mail Letter Post and Broadband which was raised in the communication from Sir Geoffrey Cox MP KC is being pursued.</p> <p>(3) Distribution of black refuse sacks. Comparisons / costings had been circulated to Councillors. Proposed by Councillor S Hill to order 40 boxes of black refuse sacks from Shalla Trading, to be delivered to Councillor Heywood. Seconded by Councillor Hancock and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>The bags would be distributed from Woolserly Sports and Community Hall at a Community Day on 24/2/24.</p> <p>(4) Roads Petition organised by Sir Geoffrey Cox MP, KC. Due to GDPR, names and addresses on the Petition could not be on display. Councillor S Hill had prepared packs for people to sign and not be on display and would be distributed to local business and details also included in a Facebook post.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Next Agenda</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>SHarding will collect Petitions on 14/1/24</p>
23/24. 112.7	<p>L Spittles. At Cranford, an A frame building has been commenced at a different pitch and height than what was there before. The What3Words reference is wordplay.gurgled.bats.</p> <p>The question was asked if the animal rescue Rainbows End was still functioning as on the website it was noted as being based in Barnstaple. No further information was known.</p>	<p>Clerk to report to TDC Enforcement</p>

23/24. 112.8	S Salvidant. There had been a previous request for TDC to move the grit bin at Bucks Mills to be re-located to the car park.	Clerk to ask TDC again									
23/24. 113	Planning. The following applications were considered:										
23/24. 113.1	<p>1/1168/2023/LBC & 1/1167/2023/FUL – (Listed Building and General Application) – additional window on the North elevation at The Old Mill, Bucks Mills.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Spittles, seconded by Councillor S Hill and unanimously agreed to respond:</p> <p>Woolserly Parish Council wish to make the following comment:</p> <p>There is significant modification to a listed building and the potential overlooking of neighbouring properties.</p> <p>The Parish Council want it noted that there is a listed asset of the Parish Council in the shape of a Fitzroy Barometer fixed to the wall of the property and not allowed to be disturbed, and the Parish Council is to be advised of any work that may impact the barometer.</p>	Clerk									
23/24. 113.2	<p>The following application is in the Parish of Clovelly and included on the Agenda should Councillors wished to respond as an adjoining Parish. The Parish Council has not been invited to respond as a statutory consultee:</p> <p>1/1221/2023/FUL – Erection of 1 no. replacement owner’s dwelling at The Milky Way Adventure Park, Higher Clovelly.</p> <p>Councillors decided not to comment.</p>										
23/24. 114	Planning Correspondence: Decisions, Enforcement & Appeals. The following TDC Decision Notices were noted:										
23/24. 114.1	<p>Approvals for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1/1034/2023/FUL – Extension to dwelling and associated works – 10 South Park, Woolserly. ▪ 1/0267/2023/FULM – Extension to cheese storage building (affecting a Public Right of Way) – agricultural building at Higher Alminstone Farm, Woolserly, EX39 5PX <p>Refusal for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1/0933/2023/FUL – Conversion of and replacement of derelict agricultural buildings at No. 1 dwelling in lieu of Class Q applications 1/0545/2022/AGMB and 1/0540/2022/AGMB – agricultural buildings and land at Grid Reference 233576 119938, Woolserly. <p>It has been noted that the Parish Council’s submission has not been mentioned in the Delegated Report.</p>	Clerk to ask why the PC’s reps were not considered in the planning officer’s report									
23/24. 115	Neighbourhood Plan – Housing Survey. Deferred until the January meeting.	Next Agenda									
23/24. 116	Finances.										
23/24. 116.1	<p>Payments to be authorised:</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor S Harding, seconded by Councillor S Hill and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>a. Sue Squire:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">December 2023 salary</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">£480.62</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenses (broadband/photocopying/mileage)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£16.50</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£497.12</td> </tr> </table> <p>b. HMRC PAYE</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;"></td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">£120.20</td> </tr> </table>	December 2023 salary	£480.62		Expenses (broadband/photocopying/mileage)	£16.50	£497.12			£120.20	Clerk
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	<p>c. Stacey's Christmas Trees. Provision of Christmas tree for the village £99.00</p> <p><i>Not £99.99 as shown on the Agenda.</i></p> <p>d. Mr R Stoneman. Grass cutting. July – November 2023 £1,300.00</p>	
23/24. 116.2	<p>Income and Bank Account Balances:</p> <p>NatWest Current Account as at 19/12/23: £708.74</p> <p>NatWest Business Reserve Account as at 19/12/23: £24,727.66</p> <p><i>Interest of £25.07 earned in November 2023.</i></p>	
23/24. 116.3	<p>To set and agree the 2024/25 Budget and Precept.</p> <p>Part of this item included a review of the Clerk's salary which was carried out under Part II Confidential, being a personnel item.</p> <p>The Clerk and member of the public left the room while this item was discussed. The Clerk was advised of the outcome in the form of a note from the Chairman.</p> <p>2024/25 Budget Proposed by Councillor S Hill to agree the Budget. Seconded by Councillor Salvidant and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>2024/25 Precept Proposed by Councillor Spittles that the Precept remains unaltered at £15,002.00. Seconded by Councillor S Hill and unanimously agreed.</p>	<p>Formal letter to be prepared and given to Clerk confirming the review</p> <p>Clerk to advise TDC & return forms</p>
23/24. 117	To consider a response to items raised under the Public Session. None.	
23/24. 118	Correspondence received. Emails from various agencies have been forwarded to Councillors.	
23/24. 118.1	North Devon Coast AONB. Email received and circulated to Councillors on 22/11/23 advising that the organisation is being rebranded and has changed its name to North Devon Coast National Landscape. <i>Noted.</i>	
23/24. 118.2	TDC. Email received and circulated to Councillors on 23/11/23 regarding Notice of Polling Districts and Polling Places Review. A public consultation is running from 21/11/23 to 2/1/24. <i>Noted.</i>	
23/24. 118.3	TDC. Email received and circulated to Councillors on 23/11/23 regarding a new Landscape Character Assessment for North Devon and Torridge. The updated LCA can be found at the Councils' websites via www.torridge.gov.uk/lca and www.northdevon.gov.uk/lca . The interactive mapping can be found alongside the local plan maps via www.torridge.gov.uk/ndtllp/maps <i>Noted.</i>	
23/24. 118.4	TDC. Email giving an update of the Five Year Housing Land Supply, received and circulated to Councillors on 1/12/23. <i>Noted.</i>	
23/24. 118.5	Devon Association of Local Councils. Email received & circulated to Councillors on 12/12/23 regarding an increase in the subscription fee for 2024/25. Councillors felt this second increase did not give value for money and was unfair to advise Councils at this time, when most would have completed their budgets for 2024/25.	
23/24. 119	Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday, 16 January 2024 at 7.30pm at Bucks Cross Village Hall. The meeting ended at 9.33pm.	

	Councillor Spittles gave her apologies in advance.	
Summary of Decisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21 November 2023➤ Location of grit bins➤ Planning➤ Payments➤ 2024/25 Budget➤ 2024/25 Precept to remain unaltered at £15,002.00		
These Minutes are agreed by those present as being a true record.		
Signed: Chair of Woolsery Parish Council.	Date:	