

Minutes of the Woolfardisworthy Parish Council held on the 15th June 2021 at 7.30pm at Woolsery Sports & Community Hall

1.0 Attendance

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

County Cllr Wilton-Love and District Cllr Anna Dart

Member of the public.

2.0 Apologies

Parish Cllr: A Sealey

3.0 Public Comment Session

The following items were raised by a parishioner:

- Potholes, including Dipple Road, which is becoming impassable.
- It was asked if the up-to-date Parish Cllr contact details could be published in the Parish Newsletter, as well as the meeting dates in Woolsery Village Shop. **ACTION: The Clerk to send the details again to the Parish Magazine and Cllr Hill to liaise with Woolsery Shop.**

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. Proposed by Cllr Harding, seconded by Cllr L Spittles.

6.0 Clerk's Report

- 1) **Bucks Mills - Old Picnic Table** - Removed.
- 2) **Litter Picking & Cleaning of Signs on the A39** - Cllr Harding spoke to Torridge District Council, if Woolsery PC pick up litter, TDC will collect it. However, due to Health & Safety, Torridge District Council is not insured for Woolsery to carry out the work. The Parish Council would need the insurance and relevant training. Having been informed that litter picking is the District Council's responsibility, it was agreed that this should be pursued first. **ACTION: The Clerk to liaise with Richard Haste.**
- 3) **Planning Enforcement Matter - 1/1155/2020/FUL | Three proposed commercial fishing lakes, amenity building, parking and access. | Land At Higher Ashmansworthy Woolsery** - Reported to Torridge District Council.
- 4) **Update re Bottle / Clothes bank proposal** - To be discussed by Woolsery Hall Committee at their July trustee meeting.
- 5) **Complaint re 9 Abbots Close** - Being dealt with by Torridge District Council

7.0 Reports from County Cllr, District Cllrs and Parish Cllrs

County Councillor

Due to becoming a new Councillor it was noted that there was not a great deal to report at present. Cllr Wilton-Love will raise the issues regarding potholes, as well as the cleaning of signs on the A39.

The Locality Budget is available for projects in the Parish.

The Chair raised the issues/history of Bucks Cross A39 Refuge / Dropped Kerb. The Stage 4 Safety Audit did not take place in March due to Covid, however it is on the HATOC agenda for the meeting on Monday 21st June. Cllr Wilton-Love stated that he would report back after this meeting.

District Councillors

Cllr Harding

Attended his first face-to-face TDC meeting at Caddsdawn, where the Carbon Plan and Play Strategy were adopted. Also discussed the Levelling Up Fund, of which Torridge District Council has submitted a bid.

Cllr Harding has also spoken to Torridge District Council with regards to recent correspondence regarding District Councillors and court action. It was stated that no correspondence should be entered into.

In terms of Parish, Cllr Harding has been to Ivy Cottage and measured the area for the defib. **ACTION: Cllr Harding to forward details to the Clerk, so a quote can be obtained for the next meeting.**

Cllr Dart

Discussed affordable housing replacement for Rachel Webdale, at present Sean Harrington is handling it himself until a person is in post.

In terms of the Parish Plan, Ian Rowlands or Dawn Burgess would be the best person to present to the Council. **Action: Cllr Dart will chase.**

Parish Councillors

Councillor Spittles

- The resurfacing is now complete at Bucks Mills. Cllr Salvidant stated that it had started to break up at the bottom.
- Raised concerns with regards to the four way crossing at Bucks Cross, witnessing many near misses between traffic pulling out of Woolsery and opposite at Bucks Cross. It was questioned whether anything could be done i.e. a message on Facebook.
- Cllr Spittles proposed the following; "I believe that the following proposal complies with S10a Xii of our Standing Orders which states:

Motions at a meeting that do not require written notice to not hear further from a councillor or a member of the public;

The proposal is that the Parish Council should seek advice from the TDC Solicitor and DALC regarding the Parish Council having any further written correspondence with a particular parishioner, while he continues to threaten legal action against individual Parish Councillors and the Parish Council as a whole. He has suggested in his letter dated 28th May 2021 that any further communication will be through his legal representation, so I believe that we need to do the same."

Seconded by Cllr Heywood, In Favour 6, Abstained 1.

Councillor Salvidant

- Thanked Councillors for their help in bringing up the rubbish from the bottom of Bucks Mills. The area now looks great.
- Following numerous incidents, it was asked whether a sign could be placed on the sharp corner at Bucks Mills, which states "sharp bend, slow down". **ACTON: The Clerk to liaise with Highways.**
- Parking at Bucks Mills over the weekend was horrendous. It was questioned whether a sign could be placed by the carpark, for example; "no parking in the village", "dead end", "no

through road”. or “access required for emergency vehicles” **ACTION: The Clerk to liaise with Highways, copying in Cllr Wilton-Love.**

- No progress with the ownership of the sheds to date. Cllr Hill stated he would do a land search.

Councillor Raffe

- Reported Knotweed on the road from Cranford to Bucks Cross, by the double bends, just past the sign on the left. As previously raised with Highways, if the Knotweed is on private land, it is the landowners responsibility. Highways will also treat it if it is on a visibility splay. **ACTION: The Clerk to forward previous Highways correspondence to Cllr Wilton-Love.**
- There is also Horsetail weed, it was questioned whether this was notifiable.

8.0 Planning Applications

Applications

Replacement of 1no. window & 1no. set of French doors to the North elevation of dwelling

Corner Cottage Bucks Mills Bideford Devon EX39 5DY Ref. No: 1/0549/2021/FUL - Submission date 2nd July 2021

The Parish Council raised no comments.

Decisions

1/0294/2021/FUH - Demolition of single storey lean-to and erection of two storey extension. 1 Moorman, Woolsery - **Application granted.**

9.0 Progress of Highways Issues

Woolsery

a. Inspection Pit (between Kennerland Cross and the Passing Place) - Reported to Highways

Bucks Cross

- Update re Bucks Mills Road Closure - End of June / July (date to be confirmed) - As stated above this is now complete.
- A39 Bucks Straight Resurfacing and Stage 4 Safety Audit - As detailed above now on the agenda for the HATOC meeting, 21st June 2021.

Road Closures

None. It was noted that there is a road closure sign at Kennerland Cross for the 21st June.

10. Update: Bucks Mills First Time Sewerage Application

Update from Mark Beer TDC states that SWW is unable to provide comment on progress and they are currently not able to confirm a timelines for determining the application. They are exploring the proposal to include dwellings at Bucks Cross. **ACTION: It was agreed to write to the Environment Agency highlighting concerns with regards to a lack of decision being made by the end March 2021, and the impact it is having in terms of not being able to sell properties.**

11. Affordable Housing & Parish Plan 2021

Due to Colin Savage being made redundant and Rachel Webdale leaving Torridge District Council, the Parish Council has not been able to move forward. Cllr Hill met with Sam Bovak from Westward Housing, including the landowner, of which they are keen to move forward. There is also interest from another housing association, who would like to look at the site.

In terms of the Parish Plan, it was noted that the District Council is in the process of updating their plan, therefore it is a good time to review. It was suggested that the Parish Council could start off with a Parish Plan, developing it into a Neighbourhood Plan if required.

There is an existing Parish Plan, which would form the basis, followed by any amendments / updates. As well as a survey, it was suggested that a link/question could be put on Facebook to find out what the Parish wants. **ACTION: Cllr Hill will circulate the information on the CD.**

12. Update from MXB Sub-Committee

It was questioned how the previous parking survey in 2019 was determined, i.e. areas surveyed, parking space size, etc. **ACTION: The Parish Clerk to obtain a copy of the report for review at the next meeting.**

13. FINANCES

Payments to be authorised

- a) Lisa Hutchings - May 2021 - £439.68
- b) HMRC 20% Tax - May 2021 - £109.92

Cllr Spittles proposed to authorise items above, seconded by Cllr S Harding. All in agreement.

Income received & Bank Account Balance

Current account - £3911.36 Reserve account - £18,246.18

Quotes to Authorise

CTA Centre - Chapter 8 Training £175.00 + VAT per person - Cllr S Harding proposed to authorise training for Cllr Sealey and Cllr Raffe. Seconded by Cllr L Spittles. All in agreement.

14. Correspondence

- D Willetts - Emails - 29/05/2021, 18/05/2021, 17/05/2021, 16/05/2021, 14/05/2021, 06/05/2021
- Parking in the Parish - J Heath - Stated in a letter that there was only one car in the vicinity, however the driver of the delivery lorry blocked Chapel Street out of convenience to unload. It was agreed to raise this at the next MXB Sub-Committee meeting.
- Thank you emails re grants.

15. Date and Time of Next Meeting

20th July 2021 @ 7.30pm at Woolsery Sports & Community Hall