

DRAFT

Minutes of a Meeting of **BRENTOR PARISH COUNCIL** held in Brentor Village Hall
On **MONDAY 20th January 2020** at **7.30pm**

Present: Cllr T Pearce (Chair), Cllr D Percival (Vice Chair), Cllr B Dawson, Cllr A Arnold, Cllr S Fraser

Apologies: Cllr L Bristow, Cllr D Williams

In Attendance: Approximately 12 members of the public and Mrs C Oxenham (Parish Clerk)

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Several parishioners expressed their concerns about the increased number of vehicles regularly driving at excessive speed. The roads in question are used frequently by dog walkers, horse riders, pass 4 or 5 junctions, a dozen or so houses, and one road has a school bus stop on it. The public were advised by Cllr Pearce and Cllr Percival that they were concerned with comments made by some residents that the Parish Council had been unwilling to help. Contact was previously made on several occasions with Highways who carried out speed checks and deemed that the periods tested did not warrant further action being taken. They were unwilling to consider further monitoring at this time. Cllr Percival also advised that the Parish Council had advertised for concerned residents to come forward and had offered help to set up a community Speedwatch scheme but there had been no interest. A parishioner stated that he and others had passed their details direct to the Speedwatch organisation, rather than to the Parish Council. It was AGREED that the clerk would contact Highways, County Cllr P Sanders and the police and ask for a public meeting. Cllr Fraser reminded those in attendance that Parish Council minutes and agendas are available each month on the village website and noticeboard.

Brentor Inn – There were further complaints about the state it is in and the fact that nothing seems to be being done to force the owners to tidy it up and meet planning requirements. One parishioner offered to write a letter on behalf of the community, inviting the owners to come before the Parish Council and explain why they had let it fall into such a bad state of repair. Another asked if a risk assessment could be carried out as there is a large amount of ivy on the property and there are concerns that the building is no longer safe. Cllr Pearce advised that WDBC are aware and are dealing with the matter. He agreed to speak to the Devon Building Control Partnership about the structural safety of the property, in particular the chimney stack.

Helen Harris (churchwarden) provided a briefing sheet of her perspective of the issues concerning the public toilets and car park. The church is happy to contribute to the running costs of the toilets but are not keen to commit to a specific annual amount as it depends year on year how much money is donated by visitors to the church. This year approximately £4800 was raised – half of which has to be kept as income towards the upkeep of the church. She AGREED that the church would contribute £2000 for the 20/21 financial year which would enable the toilets to remain open for another year. Going forward, further discussions will need to take place and a long- term strategy put in place.

Ms. Bickle would be interested in running a refreshment van which will be discussed at a later date when the future of the car park is resolved. Clerk to contact WDBC to advise that payment will be made in September.

Most of the parishioners then left the meeting

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1-2020 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr D Williams and Cllr L Bristow

2-2020 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr T. Pearce declared an interest in item 4 – Matters Arising - Church Car Park Toilets and also Housing due to his position as West Devon Borough Council Ward Member. Cllr D Percival declared an interest in Housing as previously stated.

3-2020 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9th DECEMBER 2019

It was AGREED by all that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

4-2020 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT LISTED AS SEPARATE ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

Members **NOTED** the action tracker circulated with the agenda.

- a) Church Car Park Toilets – As above. **CLERK**
- b) Wheelwrights Stone – No further progress. Still ongoing.
- c) Cemetery restoration and maintenance – Cllr B Dawson has produced a new draft specification. Further discussion to be deferred to a separate meeting. Clerk to organise. **ALL**
- d) Brentor Engine Nameplate – Cllr T Pearce is hoping that the legal paperwork will be in place within the next couple of weeks.
- e) Housing – Following some hold ups, things are progressing again slowly. Latest information is that plans should go in to DNPA before the end of March.
- f) Review of Code of Conduct/Standing Orders/Financial Regulations – Date to be set. **TP/DW/
CLERK**
- g) Darke Lane/finger post renewals – Nothing further to report
- h) Highland cattle – Cllr D Williams is going to contact DNPA again following their disappointing response to his first letter. **DW**
- i) Grant requests – Following discussions with Councillors present at the meeting, grants were approved as follows: -
 - Brentor Commons – Application for £400, approved in full.
 - Brentor Community Trust – Application for £500, approved in full
 - CAB – General support requested, £100 approved
 - Poppy wreath - £75 donation to be made to Royal British Legion
 - Brentor VH & PF – Applications for £1350 for insurance, approved in full
 - £200 waste collection, £100 approved
 - VE Day, £250 approved
 - Hardstanding area £1500, not approved.

As the Parish Council are already repaying £3200 per annum for a loan taken out some years ago to fund the building of the hall kitchen, it was AGREED that further funding for a hardstanding area was not possible. There are grants which the VH&PF committee can apply for, Cllr Pearce is happy to advise if required. All grant requests were proposed by Cllr Dawson, seconded by Cllr Arnold and AGREED by all. Clerk will inform the relevant parties. **CLERK**
- j) Devon Climate Emergency – Cllrs are still of the view that this needs to be discussed further when they have come up with some actions.
- k) Lynton Town Council Fire Response – No further action required.

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l) Devon Communities – Council Emergency Plan & Big Energy Saving Network Programme – This will now be held on 9th March. Clerk to make sure the hall is available earlier for a 7pm start.

CLERK

m) Public Rights of Way Map – Being produced.

5-2020 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING MEETINGS/EVENTS OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS

VH & PF – Attended by Cllr Percival. Approximately 20 people in attendance.

Maintenance/rebuild of the Village Hall was discussed. Cllr Percival (speaking on behalf of the Parish Council), informed the committee that further requests for grants to maintain the hall were unlikely to be considered as the long-term aim needs to be a rebuild. There is to be a further meeting on 22nd Jan although it is now widely accepted by the committee that the way forward is to start planning for a rebuild.

6-2020 PLANNING MATTERS - none

7-2020 GENERAL FINANCE

a) The Clerk had previously shown the Chair the Bank reconciliations and cash flow sheets, together with Bank Statement dated 1st January 2020

b) Receipts

03/12/19	£390	CQ	Cemetery re Mr Palmer dec'd
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c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments made since the last meeting:

11/12/19	£1600.46	BACS	PWLB
28/12/19	£20.00	S/O	Clerks admin expenses
28/12/19	£377.65	S/O	Clerks Salary

d) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

20/01/20	£492.00	CQ	J Jefferey (lengthsman services)
20/01/20	£12.80	CQ	Clerks expenses
20/01/20	£109.00	CQ	SLCC membership (to be offset with contribution of £35 from Plasterdown PC)

8-2020 PRECEPT 2020/21

Following further discussion, Clerk will request £14,686 proposed by Cllr T Pearce, seconded by Cllr B Dawson and AGREED by all. CLERK

9-2020 CORRESPONDENCE - none

10-2020 MINOR ITEMS

Cllr D Percival asked for an update about the property Heathermeads. Cllr Pearce advised that progress was being made and WDBC were in contact with the owner.

Sandbags are now being kept in the store at the back of the Village Hall.

11-2020 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING Monday 10th February at 7.30pm, Brentor Village Hall.

12-2020 CLOSE The meeting was formally closed at 9.14pm