

DRAFT

Minutes of a Meeting of **BRENTOR PARISH COUNCIL** in Brentor Village Hall
On **Monday 15th November 2021 at 7.00pm**

Present: Cllr T Pearce (Chair), Cllr S Chitty (Vice), Cllr S Fraser, Cllr G Hunt, Cllr A Arnold, Cllr B Dawson

Apologies: All present

In Attendance: Mrs C Oxenham (Parish Clerk), Cllr P Sanders (Devon County Councillor, Mrs S Burroughs and Mrs S Johnson (VH&PF Committee), Toby Russel (Air Ambulance), plus 2 members of the public.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Will Walker Smith wished to raise the issue of flooding at Liddaton/Coryton which is getting much worse and is likely to have serious significant impact on properties in the area if not dealt with as a matter of urgency. Both Cllr Sanders and Pearce are getting equally as frustrated about Highways and their lack of commitment to outstanding jobs. Cllr Sanders informed people present that all 60 County Cllrs have raised a complaint about the services.

Toby Russel gave a very informative and concise overview of the proposals to have an Air Ambulance landing site at the playing field. Costs had already been circulated to both the Village Hall committee and Parish Councillors. Briefly, a new power supply would need to be brought underground to a new pillar/lighting column, with MAT electrics working alongside Western Power to do the groundworks and other associated jobs (including permissions from landowners of any land which would need to be crossed). An extremely generous grant funding of approximately £18500 will be provided via the Air Ambulance Trust, with the balance of approximately £3325 being paid by the community. Any increase in costs will be met by the Air Ambulance Trust. Other ongoing costs to consider are:- Insurance for the equipment (Toby to provide the clerk with the necessary details to check with the PC insurers), running costs for the lights (expected to be no more than £10 pa), and monthly electric standing charge. Ownership of the equipment would also need to be established. The Air Ambulance would remotely check the lights at regular intervals.

VH Committee are happy with the proposed location and are happy to contribute £3000 towards the outstanding balance. Cllr Sanders very generously agreed to pay the remaining amount (approximately £325) from his Locality Budget. The VH Committee representatives asked if the PC would be able to apply for the necessary planning permissions (Toby can help with the application) and agree to be the owner of the equipment (this would need to be requested in writing by the VH committee).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

152-2021 All present.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

153-2021

Cllr Pearce declared an interest in item 5 – Matters Arising - Church Car Park Toilets and also Housing due to his personal interest, because of his position as West Devon Borough Council Ward Member.

154-2021 **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th OCTOBER 2021**

It was AGREED by all that the minutes of this meeting be adopted. Proposed by Cllr Fraser, seconded by Cllr Hunt.

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155-2021 AIR AMBULANCE DISCUSSION

It was AGREED that the application for an Air Ambulance landing site should be actioned. The Parish Council will submit and pay for the necessary planning permission to DNPA (Toby will help with this process), and will also pay for and organise any necessary insurance (Toby will provide details to the clerk). The VH committee will provide any necessary documentation to request that the PC will be the 'owners' of the equipment. The VH Committee will pay £3000 and all other regular running costs (ie electricity etc). Cllr Sanders to fund the balance from his Locality Budget. Proposed Cllr Chitty, seconded Cllr Hunt. Unanimously AGREED by all.

CLERK

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

156-2021 Members NOTED the action tracker circulated with the agenda.

a) Devon Climate Emergency – There is lots of information coming from various sources at the moment. It was AGREED that the best way forward would be to form a sub- committee. Meeting to be organised 29th November 7.30pm to formulate a plan. Any action points to be forwarded to the clerk prior to the meeting.

ALL

b) Councillor vacancy – No applications received. It will continue to be advertised locally. Councillors to encourage anyone who may be interested to get in touch.

ALL

c) Church Car Park Toilets – The PCC have stated that they are willing to take over the car park and toilets subject to certain conditions being met. Cllr Pearce advised that WDBC are now considering the conditions, and will be in touch, hopefully within a couple of weeks. All parties are keen for a resolution before the end of December.

ALL

Meeting suspended 19.50 when Rob Ormsby was asked about the 6- month break clause included in the PCC's conditions. This had been suggested at a recent remote meeting.

Meeting resumed 19.56

d) Wheelwrights Stone - no further progress. Simon/Bob will continue to liaise.

SC/BD

e) Cemetery restoration – The meeting with Richard (Williams and Burrows Heritage Repair Ltd) has been postponed. Cllr Dawson is liaising with him.

BD

f) Brentor Engine Nameplate – To be loaned to Plym Valley railway next spring.

TP

g) Housing – The Housing Officer is contacting all people on the original list to see if they are still interested in housing. No other information is available. Clerk to contact the housing officer (James Selby, copy to Chris Brook) asking for a statement that we can publish on the website. Cllrs extremely unhappy that once again there has been a long delay with no information forthcoming.

CLERK

h) Brentor Inn – Latest information is that the current officer is 'working with the owners to tidy up the site.' This is not acceptable. Clerk to write to Keith Palmer and Patrick Whymer expressing the PC's disappointment, referring to the previous letter sent in the summer, and asking for a statement we can issue to parishioners.

CLERK

i) First Aid course – There are 15 people booked to attend the course on Saturday 20th November. Clerk will ask Helen de Carles if she can sort the heating and refreshments out. Parish Council will cover the cost.

CLERK

j) Broadband Universal Service Obligation (USO) – Things are progressing. There are several road closures scheduled in the new year to allow for poles etc to be fitted. Cllr Pearce will talk

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to Gemma Bristow (WDBC Digital connectivity Specialist) to ask if it would be useful for Cllrs to attend the webinars next month.

k) Brentor Community Trust discussion – There are various options available to us. Mike Whitfield has suggested that either it is taken over as a ‘going concern’ or the PC establish a new Trust Fund. Advice currently being taken from DALC. **ALL**

l) Grit Bin purchase – It was AGREED by all that due to the substantial increase in cost of the grit bins previously selected (now approximately £850 for 2 bins), a cheaper alternative will now be bought instead (£319.98 for 2). Proposed by Cllr Pearce, seconded by Cllr Dawson. Cllr Chitty will purchase. Clerk will contact Highways to ask if they can be filled. **SC/CLERK**

m) Liddaton/Lyd Valley flooding – Cllr Pearce reiterated that we are aware of the ongoing situation and agree that the lack of action by DCC Highways is unacceptable. Cllr Chitty will attend the Highways virtual meeting on 26th November. Clerk to write to WDBC Chief Executive (Andy Bates) with a copy to Phil Norry (DCC Chief Executive), John Hart (leader of DCC), Meg Booth (Head of Highways) and Cllr Stuart Hughes (DCC Cabinet Member for Highway Management) to express deep dissatisfaction with the lack of service being provided and to remind them that the newly adopted Plan for West Devon will not work if they don’t improve the services they are providing so far. DALC to also be consulted. **CLERK**

Meeting suspended 20.45 for Cllr Sanders and Will Walker Smith to speak.
Meeting resumed 20.48

n) Culvert by the War Memorial – No update. **ALL**

o) Remembrance Day – Cllr Hunt attended on behalf of the Parish Council to lay a wreath. All went well and there was a good attendance. It was noticed that some names in the book of remembrance are not on the plaque. Cllr Hunt to make further enquiries. **GH**

p) Queens Platinum Jubilee – Nothing planned as yet. To be discussed nearer the time. **ALL**

157-2021 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING MEETINGS/EVENTS OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS

VH&PF representative – It was AGREED that Cllrs would attend these meetings on a rota basis. Clerk will ask the VH secretary for dates so that Cllrs can indicate when they are free to attend. Cllr Dawson will attend the next one, believed to be in January some time. **CLERK**

158-2021 PLANNING MATTERS

There were no planning matters to consider.

159-2021 GENERAL FINANCE

a) The clerk had previously circulated an up-to-date financial summary as at 1st November 2021.

b) Receipts since the last meeting:
none

c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments made since the last meeting:

04/10/21	£47.74	BACS	Dog bin emptying
30/10/21	£418.60	S/O	Clerks salary
30/10/21	£20.00	S/O	Clerks admin

DRAFT

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

15/11/21	£64.80	CQ	Tavistock Times advert (Councillor vacancy)
15/11/21	£7.92	CQ	Stamps
15/11/21	£18.20	CQ	Clerk admin

Cllr Pearce proposed that a grant be made to the Royal British Legion of £125. Seconded by Cllr Dawson and AGREED by all.

e) Cllr Pearce has been approached by members of the VH&PF Committee to ask if the Parish Council would be willing to pay for a second dog poo bin to be installed and maintained in the playing field. Cllrs did not approve of the purchase of a new bin but did agree to cover the cost of it being emptied alongside the original one. Proposed Cllr Pearce, seconded Cllr Chitty, AGREED by the majority.

160-2021 INITIAL PRECEPT DISCUSSION

There have been no applications for grants. This will be advertised a final time in the Brentor News. Initial discussions are that it may be possible to keep the precept the same as before which would help the community who are facing increasing bills in other areas. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

ALL

161-2021 CORRESPONDENCE

Notice of road closure: - Road past Bowden Farm (17/01/22)

Thanks were received from the VH & PF Committee for second half of grant.

Thanks were received from Mike Whitfield and John Wheeler for the PC taking over the running of the Brentor Community Trust)

Notice from Trading Standards Service re Avian Flu

162-2021 MINOR ITEMS/ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Meeting dates for next year has been circulated by the clerk.

Cllr Hunt has been approached by a parishioner asking for his help regarding the way a planning application has been dealt with by the DNPA. He was advised that if details are passed to the clerk, the Parish Council can investigate the issue and take appropriate action. Cllr Pearce as Ward Member or Cllr Sanders would also be willing to look into the matter.

GH

163-2021 ITEMS FOR BRENTOR NEWS

Councillor Vacancy; Any requests for grants

164-2021 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING.

Monday 13th December 2021, 7.30pm, Brentor Village Hall

165-2021 CLOSE

The meeting was closed at 21.28pm