

BUCKERELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 13th November 2019 at Doug's Shed Splatthayes

Those Present

Clare Slater - Chair (CS)
Geoff Wright – Vice Chair (GW)
Dave Bowen (DB)
Chris Jacob (CJ)
Cllr Philip Twiss - Devon County Council (PT)
Cllr Suzie Bond - East Devon District Council (SB)
Ian Tucker - Clerk (IT)

There was one member of the public present.

1. Apologies

No apologies had been received.

2. Signing of the Minutes of the Meeting Held 18th September 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18th September 2019 were agreed as a correct record of that meeting and signed accordingly.

3. Matters arising (not on agenda)

- a) Parking at Weston – deferred to next meeting.
- b) Speed limits – following discussion it was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Parish Council would seek to i) change the existing 30 mph speed limit in Buckerell to 20 mph, and ii) extend a new 30 mph limit at the NE of the village. The motion was proposed by Dave and seconded by Geoff.

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Councillor Twiss setting out the reasons for wanting this change. Phil would then take this proposal to HATOC (Highways and Traffic Orders Committee) on receipt of the letter from the Parish Council.

IT

- c) Tarmac around war memorial – deferred to next meeting.
- d) Whilst the drain outside Mandolin Winds remained an issue the “ICE” sign would be left in place.

4. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Police Report – PCSO Darren England

No report received.

6. Public questions

A Buckerell resident had raised the problem of an overhanging hedge in the neighbouring parish of Awliscombe and Weston. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Parish Council there to see if action could be taken to get the hedge cut by the owner of the property.

IT

7. Finance and Governance

Balance at bank £6861.79 at 21st October 2019 (-£7 Restricted a/c defibrillator) leaving a balance of £6854.79

- a) Payments approved – Proposed by Clare, seconded by Dave and approved unanimously -

Martin Glaeser – repair of telephone box	£45
Ian Tucker – Clerk’s pay for quarter July to September	£145.87

IT

8. Councillor Philip Twiss – Report

My report this month is deliberately short due to a period of election ‘purdah’ which is in place until the election is completed and results announced on the 13th of December, but I am always happy to answer individual questions in the interim from councillors or residents as I am thankfully not a candidate in the election!

My contact details are as below.

Councillor Phil Twiss, DCC member Feniton & Honiton Division

T: 01404 891327

M: 07971 871651

E: phil.twiss@devon.gov.uk

Correspondence address during purdah;

Cllr Phil Twiss
Devon County Council
County Hall
Topsham Road
Exeter
EX2 4QD

Broadband

A public consultation that is due to run until the 10th of December following what is termed an Open Market Review (OMR) that took place in the summer, following the cancellation of the contract between Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) and Gigaclear, due to a number of performance and other issues.

CDS, which is responsible for rolling out publicly-funded broadband across the two counties, is establishing the remaining area where there are no current or credible future plans to deliver Next Generation Access (NGA) broadband infrastructure capable of download speeds of at least 30Mbps.

Nearly one million homes and businesses in Devon and Somerset now have access to superfast broadband thanks to the Government supported CDS programme and stimulation of the commercial market which is an important element of CDS's role. Of these, over 300,000 homes and businesses have access to superfast broadband as a direct result of investment by CDS.

A link to the CDS news release is attached which provides more information and links to the consultation webpage.

<https://www.devonnewscentre.info/superfast-broadband-public-consultation-launched/>

A new company called Jurassic fibre www <https://jurassic-fibre.com/> now have an operations base established on Heathpark and will be working up the A30 towards Dorset and South Somerset after completing their first phase delivery, where I have been told that their Ultrafast Broadband fibre offer (speeds over 100Mbps) will include Honiton and surrounding settlements, but I can't see this being for at least 18 months, probably longer.

DCC Highways

We are fast approaching budget time and I will be meeting my Neighbourhood Highways Officer in the next couple of weeks to agree work in the Feniton & Honiton Division, where clearly there are a number of remedial work that needs to be undertaken in the parish!

Project Funding

We are all asked at some time or another about funding of projects and the Devon County Council Economy Team publishes a regular update of opportunities for a diverse range of interests and it is worthwhile signing up to it at <https://www.devon.gov.uk/fundingnews/>

A couple of current opportunities published recently that might apply locally are the **Condition Improvement Fund** which provides Capital funding for academies, sixth-form colleges and non-diocesan VA schools to improve the condition of school buildings, including health & safety issues and building compliance and the **Rural Development Programme for England: Growth Programme** which provides Funding for small rural businesses for capital investment in food processing, rural tourism infrastructure and business development. Most of East Devon outside of Exmouth and Sidmouth is classified as rural.

Dave asked about the drain outside Mandolin Winds and Phil stated that this **PT** would be pursued at his next meeting with Mike Brown (Highways).

9. Councillor Susie Bond – Report

Given the reduction in central Government funding, EDDC is looking at ways of bridging the gap in our finances to avoid cutting discretionary services. One of these initiatives was a review of EDDC car park charges, which have remained the same since 2010. A report to Cabinet recommending we go out to public consultation with a proposal to increase charges by 20% increase (from £1/hour to £1.20/hour) in our most popular car parks, resulted in a storm of protest from district councillors. The decision has been called in and a TAFF will be established to look at our car parking strategy in its entirety.

The new Council Plan is going through the committees and we hope it will be adopted at the December full Council meeting. This sets out the Council's priorities for the next four years, with a strong emphasis on the climate change agenda.

The work being undertaken on the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan was put on hold after the May election to gauge the appetite of five councils (East Devon, Mid-Devon, Teignbridge, Exeter City and Devon County) to continue with the process, given the changed political make-up of all the councils. It has now been agreed to continue with formulation of the Plan which will seek to address housing provision (through allocation of sites) up to 2040.

On a lighter note, if residents have an Alexa, they can now ask EDDC a question, starting with the phrase, "Alexa, ask East Devon District Council ..." followed by (for example) "when are my bins collected?". Equally, for users of a Smart phone, the EDDC App provides similar information.

Chris asked whether the Parkmobile app for EDDC car parks offered the £2

winter parking option. Susie will find out about this.

SB

10.Planning

Planning application 10/2315/VAR was discussed. The applicant is a Parish Councillor who was not at this meeting. The Clerk was asked to submit the fact that the application had been noted by the Parish Council.

IT

11. Roads Report

a) Road flooding along the road from Westcroft – despite a search of the Land Registry details it had still not proved possible to ascertain ownership. It seems clear that whoever owns the field needs to create a ditch on the inside of the hedge to prevent water running off the field and across the road.

b) Ditches near Summerhayes – Geoff will draw up a plan which the Clerk can then use to obtain some options from Devon Highways for clearing the ditches. Options are either a concrete gully or to dredge the ditch with possible damage to the cable left behind by Gigaclear. It was agreed that the Parish Council would be prepared to consider part funding any necessary works.

GW

c) The drain in the road opposite Broadlands is still broken. Clare will report this again.

CS

12. Trees, Footpaths, Hedgerows and Drains

a) Track from Deer Park Farm to Deer Park Country House – deferred until next meeting.

RG

13. Defibrillator – Update and decision on Volunteer Emergency Telephone System (VETS)

Clare explained the scheme and the costs involved (£45 per annum year 1 then £120 per annum in subsequent years). Clare **proposed** that the scheme be adopted in Buckerell and the cost be borne by the Parish Council. This was **seconded** by Geoff and **passed unanimously**. Clare would contact the Community Heartbeat Trust to manage the recruitment of volunteers for the scheme. Dave asked that it be made clear that any volunteers should be willing to assist at any emergency when the AED is deployed.

CS

14. Village Maintenance – Repairs to telephone box

Martin Glaeser has carried out the required repairs to the telephone box. It was noted that the telephone box would benefit from a new coat of paint in the spring.

15 Police Advocate Report

Chris gave an update on the materials previously circulated to Councillors. He will be attending a conference on issues around travellers in the County.

CJ

15. Matters for next meeting

- a) Parking at Weston
- b) Tarmac around war memorial
- c) Painting of telephone box

16. Dates of Future Meetings

Agreed dates for future meetings as follows:

Wednesday 15th January 2020 (Venue – Doug's Shed)

Wednesday 18th March 2020 (Venue – Doug's Shed)

Wednesday 13th May 2020 (Venue – Doug's Shed)