

**Minutes of East Down Parish Council Remote Meeting
at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 21st December 2020**

Attendance: Cllrs Mr M. Wright (Chair), Mr R. Crossman, Mr M. King, Mr R. Tarr, District Cllr Mr J. Tucker and Mrs M. Done (Clerk).

Cllr M. Wright, Chair, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs Mrs E. Kempf, Mr K. Phillips (computer problem) and County Cllr Ms A. Davis.
2. **Declarations of Interest/Dispensations:** Cllr Mrs E. Kempf has an authorised dispensation for leave of absence from meetings during the coronavirus. Cllr Mr K, Phillips dispensation request for absence from meetings during the covid-19 situation owing to computer problems was approved.
3. **Public Participation:** none.

Part 'A'

4. **Minutes of meeting Monday 16th November 2020.** Resolved to accept.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda:**
Precept application 2021-2022 acknowledged.
6. **Public Enquiry – East Down & Marwood Bridleway Nos. 48 & 48 DMMO.** Postponed due to pandemic from February 2021 to 15th and 16th June 2021 at East Down Village Hall starting at 10 a.m. and Cllr Tarr has added it to our website.
7. **Planning Applications.** The following applications were studied and discussed.
Application 72381 Replacement of garage/workshop with Games/ Family Meeting Room and deck area at Northcote Manor Farm, Kentisbury, Barnstaple Devon EX31 4NB. Grid Ref: 260531; 142869.
East Down Parish Council studied the application and has no comment to make.
Application 72382 Listed building consent for replacement of garage/workshop to Games / Family Meeting Room and deck area at Northcote Manor Farm, Kentisbury Barnstaple Devon EX31 4NB. Grid Ref: 260531; 142869
East Down Parish Council studied the application and has no comment to make.
Application 72551 Conversion of redundant rural building to a residential dwelling along with garaging, storage and other use incidental to the enjoyment of the dwelling at Oakford Farm Shirwell Barnstaple Devon EX31 4LB Grid Ref: 258595; 140161
East Down Parish Council studied the application and recommends refusal. The parish council is concerned by the following:
 1. Although the original planning application for the barn (48966) was submitted as a prior approval in 2009, further information was required and full planning finally was granted in April 2010. The barn in planning terms at least is therefore less than 10 years old. It is likely that a planning restriction ensuring it is in use for agriculture for at least 10 years was imposed on it. The Planning Officer should consider this.
 2. While the current application states that the holding is equestrian, the prior planning application that made this change, 64517, in fact only changed part of the holding (edged in red on the plan). The bulk of the holding (edged in blue), remains agricultural. The Planning Officer should consider whether the barn would be needed to service the agricultural part of this holding in future and is not in fact redundant.
 3. The possibility that should this application be granted, in the future a return to full agricultural use could create a need for the barn to service agricultural needs on the holding. If converted to a dwelling it would be unavailable and, this could create the conditions for a planning application for a further barn on the holding.
 4. The concept that switching the use of land between equestrian and agricultural use creates the opportunity for landowners to build barns, convert land to equestrian, declare a barn redundant and then convert it to a dwelling.
 5. No local needs in East Down have been identified or met by the application, and this would therefore be an open market dwelling considered as sporadic and inappropriate development in the countryside

Application 72453 Prior notification for an extension to a steel framed general purpose agricultural building, Higher Clifton Farm East Down Barnstaple EX31 4LX

District Council Planning Department notified that prior approval not required

Application 72181 Listed building application for renovations & improvements at Lower Churchill East Down Barnstaple Devon EX31 4LT Grid Ref: 259517; 140820

East Down Parish Council studied the application and has no comment to make

Decisions by Planning Inspectorate: (for information only)

Application 72341. Change of use from agricultural storage building to business holiday let accommodation, Ashelford Farm, East Down Barnstaple EX31 4LU approved.

Appeal Lodged Ref: APP/X1118/C/20/3259502 Unauthorised development and unauthorised material change of use Land at Broadpark, East Down, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 4NA.

8. Financial statement of accounts for the year and to agree payments.

Bank balances on 18th November 2020

P3 Account £1156.83

Parish Council Account £8605.06

Cheques cleared:

000380 Data Protection reimbursement £40

000382 Village Hall donation towards maintenance £844

000383 M. Done 2nd quarter salary £300

Cheque not yet presented 000381 (£300) East Down & Arlington PCC.

Ring fenced monies

- Defibrillator balance £242.72
- Computer grant £600.00
- High Visibility grant £257.59
- Parish Emergency Plan £241.02 (Scheme 1)
- Covid-19 grant £230.62 two cheques cleared
- Emergency Plan grant £783.24 (one cheque cleared) Scheme 2
- DCC Grant for storage box & padlocks £302.95)

9. County/District Councillors' Reports. All emails from Andrea and Joe had been forwarded to councillors.

C. Cllr Davis report:

Coronavirus updates from Devon County Council: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/coronavirus-data>. The link takes you to the Covid-19 pages on the Devon County Council Website; it has daily updated information as to positive cases within the area, information about testing and track and trace.

Mass vaccination programme. The national COVID-19 mass vaccination programme has commenced last week.

The Exeter Nightingale received its first COVID-19

Since the beginning of July, the Nightingale Hospital Exeter has been providing local people with fast and safe access to a range of important diagnostic tests. These additional services will now stop at the Nightingale facility to allow the hospital to care for COVID-19 patients. Diagnostic tests will continue to be available to those who need them through existing diagnostic services across the region.

Safeguarding adult update. **Devon Safeguarding Adults Partnership** (DSAP) has launched an adult abuse public facing **awareness campaign** with the primary aim to increase the level of public awareness of adult abuse and how to recognise the signs. The campaign will run until Christmas.

Team Devon Local Engagement Board (Covid related committee) update. The key messages from the recent meeting are: act now, take extra care and follow all national lockdown guidelines; cases continue to rise in Devon across all age groups and all areas, particularly working age population; concerns about increase in older age groups, cases in Care Homes and the impact on vulnerable and elderly.

Rural Transport - the government published the **Future of mobility: urban strategy**, in March 2019. The Department for Transport are now seeking views and evidence on what could be incorporated into a Future of Transport. Call for evidence seeks views and evidence from all those with an interest in rural transport. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/future-of-transport-rural-strategy-call-for-evidence>

Schools. Schools have been fully open since the autumn term started. Last week we had over 2600 children self-isolating and over 400 teachers.

Reporting a highway problem:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/> / telephone: [0345 155 1004](tel:03451551004)

Cllr Tucker reported:

Parish Forum – notes of the meeting were available (Clerk had already emailed to councillors)

Covid-19 vaccination – eleven members of Council have received provisional appointments

Vaccination Centre - area of Leisure Centre has been offered as vaccination centre.

Recycling – collections may be disrupted owing to reduced staff

10. Chairman's items. Drains/gullies needing work:

10.1 Prioritisation of work on drains and gullies to be completed by 31st March and funded by Scheme 2 grant (Emergency Plan).

10.2 Pine Charity. Chairman suggested that a note is put in the newsletter inviting anyone needing financial assistance owing to the Covid-19 situation could contact the parish council for funding.

11. Parish Emergency Plan – padlocks have now been ordered and collected. Following prior approval cheque no 000384 to M. Done for reimbursement £302.95 (storage box and padlocks) sent to Cllrs M. Wright and R. Crossman for signing.

12. P3. Quote of £85 plus VAT received from KS Fencing for gate post at Wood Park – following approval by chairman work authorised and contractor advised.

13. Correspondence

Covid-19 cases alert

Precept form 2021-2022

Police newsletter

Essential items market to continue at Barnstaple Pannier Market

Re-opening Village and Community Halls post COVID-19 closure

Carbon Savvy Christmas

North Devon Councillor Advocate scheme

Help improve our digital youth services

Business Grants - Lockdown 2

Interim Devon Carbon Plan Consultation Comms Pack

Coronavirus updates from North Devon Council

Business Grants

Polystyrene Bodyboard Campaign

Live Love Local: Shop small to make a big difference this festive season

FREE Dementia Help Point Network

Retail sales, Great Britain: October 2020

Commissioners Newsletter

Antisocial behaviour PSPO to be introduced in Barnstaple and Ilfracombe

CAB request for donation

Online shopping fraud

Parish Forum notes

Use the RingGo app for hassle free parking this Christmas

Prepare for Snow & Ice this Winter

Free school meals holiday voucher scheme – stakeholder

Rural Broadband and Community Fibre Partnerships

Keep data flowing at the end of the UK's transition out of the EU

Avian Influenza Housing Order –

East Down & Marwood Bridleway Nos. 48 & 48 DMMO Public Inquiry amended date

Parish Paths Partnership Winter 2020 Update

NDC updates

Connect-me

NDC weekly information sheets, planning applications lodged, determined and enforcement cases closed

Grants information

Rural Services Network

Public Sector Executive

Rural Opportunities bulletin

Rural Vulnerability Service

Rural Services Network weekly email

14. The Next Meeting. The next remote meeting will be in February 2021 unless a planning application or other urgent matter arises.

Part 'B' (Confidential Restricted Information): none.

The meeting closed at 8.11 p.m.