

**Minutes of East Down Parish Council Meeting
at 7.25 p.m. on Monday 21st May 2018 at East Down Village Hall**

Attendance: Cllrs Mr M. Wright (Chair), Mr R. Crossman, Mr M. King, Mr K. Phillips, 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:** Cllr Mrs E. Kempf and County Cllr Ms A. Davis
2. **Declarations of Interest/Dispensations:** none.
3. **Public Participation:** none

Part 'A'

4. County/District Councillors' Reports

District Cllr J. Tucker's report covered:

Local Government Boundary Commission has recommended reducing the number of councillors from 43 to 42 and the number of wards from 27 to 25.

Enforcement Department have filled one officer vacancy.

Overhaul of Planning rules threatens to reduce supply of affordable housing.

Flytippers a further two successful prosecutions.

Dog fouling - North Devon Council is using biodegradable spray paint to highlight dog mess in a new approach to cut down dog fouling.

A new all-weather football facility is on the cards for Barnstaple. Part of the funding has been agreed for a 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) at the Tarka Tennis Centre, as part of the new leisure centre project.

North Devon Link Road major cleanup has now been completed, with over 17 tonnes of rubbish collected.

County Councillor A. Davis report had been emailed out and covered:

How to report a highway problem <https://new.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/> Phone 0345 155 1004 or 0845 155 1004

North Devon Link Road Devon County Council's bid for Local Majors Funding to improve the A361 has successfully won the backing of Transport Secretary Chris Grayling. The funding will go towards a £93 million scheme which would widen the North Devon Link Road from South Molton to Barnstaple. To improve road safety, all uncontrolled right turns would be removed and pedestrian facilities improved for over 35km between Bish Mill junction, east of South Molton, and Buckleigh Road Junction near Bideford. A planning application is now due to be submitted later this year, with a Full Business Case being submitted in 2020, which would potentially allow construction to start in late 2020.

Devon County Council's budget is in the black for the 27th consecutive year. Devon underspent by £15,000 in the 2017/18 financial year on a net revenue budget of £489 million after transfers to reserves.

However, children's services continue to be subject to significant financial pressures. The outturn position for children's services is a £2.6 million overspend. After the council's budget for 2017/18 was set with a substantial increase for adult social care, the Government also announced extra money for adult social care of which Devon's share was £15 million. Some of that has not been spent and is being carried forward into the current financial year.

Highway Structural Investment - Combe Martin Rural: A39 Shirwell Zig Zag resurfacing £143k. Combe Martin retaining wall £109k. A39 Zig Zag retaining wall etc £255k. Muddiford Plaistow Mills £135k.

For this financial year (2018-19): A399 Slade Lane Cross £82k. A399 Wistlandpound £15k.

Retaining Walls etc: Station Hill Lynton £100k. Blakewell Fisheries £85k.

5. **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 16th April 2018.** Resolved to accept and minutes signed.

6. **Matters arising.**

The Clerk had sent a condolence card to Cllr Mrs Kempf on behalf of the Parish Council.

7. **Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/8.** This had been studied at the meeting on 16th April. The Annual Internal Audit Report 2017/2018 was signed off on 28th April 2018 by the Internal Auditor. A resolution to approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return was proposed, seconded and approved unanimously. This was then signed and dated by the Chair and the Clerk.

8. **Planning Applications.** None

Decisions by Planning Inspectorate: (for information only).

Reference 64461 Retrospective application for change of use from ancillary accommodation and conference centre to ancillary yoga training, massage and counselling rooms at Annexe Holwell Farm, East Down. Approved with conditions by ND Planning Department 19th April 2018 with the following condition. The retrospective change of use hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the plans submitted as part of the application, numbers NDC003, NDC004, NDC007, NDC008 and received on 22nd February 2018 ('the approved plans'). The converted ancillary accommodation hereby approved shall be used as ancillary to Holwell Farm for yoga training, massage and counselling rooms. The owner or operator shall maintain a register of occupants for each calendar year. This shall be made available for inspection by any duly authorised officer of the Local Planning Authority. For avoidance of doubt the unit shall not be occupied as a permanent dwelling.

Reference 64610: Variation of condition 2 (time limit) attached to planning permission 56450 (erection of one 500Kw wind turbine (height 79.0 m, height to hub 55.0m, blade diameter 24m) (additional information)) to allow a change of time limit from 25 years to 30 years. Mullacott Industrial Estate, Ilfracombe, Devon. Approved by ND Planning Department 1st May 2018

Reference 64615: Erection of agricultural building for housing livestock at Higher Viveham Farm, Muddiford. Approved by ND Planning Department 30th April 2018

Reference 64517: Retrospective application for erection of stables together with retrospective change of use of land to equestrian at Oakford Farm, Shirwell, Barnstaple. Approved by NDC Planning Department with the following conditions: to confirm the drawings to which the consent relates and to ensure the development accords with the approved plans. The stables shall only be used for private recreational equine purposes ancillary to Oakford Farm and shall not be used for business or commercial uses.

9. Financial Statement of accounts for the year to date and payments.

Bank balances 14th May 2018:

Parish Council Account: £7020.98 (includes 50% of each precept £1108.00, parish grant £192, grant assist £10.20, £215.60 TAP Fund and £20 donation from Fullabrook for loan of projector).

Cheque presented: 000337 DALC Annual Subscription £59.08. Cheques authorised and signed: 000338 Community First Insurance £165.48 (includes additional amount of £4.31 for projector), 000339 to M. Done £36 reimbursement of Stevens & Willey Audit invoice, 000340 to R. Tarr £86.59 reimbursement of yearly domain, hosting and installs and 000341 to C Wallis £215.60 for work undertaken on the drains and ditches (TAP Fund).

Ring-fenced money: £600 computer equipment; £323.32 for High visibility clothing; £180.35 for defibrillator.

Parish Paths Account: £1156.83

10. Audit Form (Accounting Statements) 1st April 2017 – 31st March 2018

A resolution was then proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously to approve the Accounting Statements. This was then signed and dated by the Chair and Clerk.

The Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance & Accountability Return for accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018 was approved and would be displayed on the noticeboard and website. Cllr Crossman agreed to hold the accounts and supporting papers during the period stated.

11. Chairman's items

Tap Fund – drains/gullies needing work: none reported.

12. Correspondence. (All emails)

Police monthly newsletter

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

Grants information

DALC Devon Communities together

Rural Services Network

Public Sector Executive

Rural Opportunities bulletin

Rural Vulnerability Service

Rural Services Network weekly

Magazines: Clerks & Councils Direct

13. Date of next meeting: Monday 16th July 7.30 p.m. unless it is necessary to call an extraordinary meeting to deal with any planning matters.

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

The meeting closed at 8.05 p.m.