

East Down Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the East Down Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 15th July 2024 at 7:30 pm

Attendance: Cllrs M. Wright (Chairman), Mr R Crossman, Mrs Juile Kift and Mr K Phillips

- 1. Apologies for absence – County Cllr A Davis, Cllrs Mr R Crocker, Mrs D Fry and Mrs E McClenaghan**
- 2. Declarations of interest/Dispensations: There were none**
- 3. Public participation: There were no members of the public present**

Part ‘A’

- 4. County Councillor’s Report in full at end of minutes**

- 5. Minutes of the previous meeting.**

It was proposed and seconded and RESOLVED to ACCEPT and sign the minutes.

- 6. Matters arising from the minutes**

None.

- 7. Planning Applications**

- There were no planning applications received.
- A potential planning issue reported to EDPC at Cleave Farm has been looked into and nothing of concern was found.
- A response was received from the Enforcement Team in response to the letter sent by EDPC on Ashelford Farm. The response fell short of what was expected and it was RESOLVED to request an intervention from the NDDC Chief Executive to move the matter along.

- 8. Potholes in the Parish**

- Since the last meeting the road between Ford Hill and Long Lane has been substantially resurfaced. Cllr Crossman is documenting the remaining potholes of concern in the parish and checking whether they have references on the County Council website.

- 9. Report of Dumping of Contaminated Soil**

- A response was received from DCC Highways to the issue raised on the contaminated soil but as this was very limited on detail and did not address the issues of concern that the Council has. The Clerk was requested to email the Head of Highways for more detail and report back.

10. Financial statement of accounts and to agree payments

- **Update on AGAR submission and Exercise of Public Rights** – The Clerk reported that the AGAR form had been submitted before the deadline and an acknowledgement of receipt had been received. The required accounts and AGAR forms were posted on the notice board and on the website. No requests were received to view and documents under the Notice of Public Rights.
- Bank balances were:

Parish Council A/C: £6,601.27

Parish Paths A/C: £1,060.83

AUTHORITY was given for online bank transfers to be raised for Clerk's salary (£250, June & July)) and Gully Cleaning (£122.00) and DALC Renewal (£115.48, late receipt of invoice)

11. Chairman's Items

- **Register of Interests 2024-2025** – One form remains to be completed.
- **Foul water issue (update)** – A frustratingly slow matter to resolve with on-going investigation continuing by the Environment Agency.
- **Administration of Bank accounts and payment authorisation** – on-line authorisation in place and active.

12. Correspondence

- Bev Triggs, NDDC – Parish Forum meeting
- Andrea Davis – Update on Roadworks nearing completion
- DALC – Summer Socials
- Kristian Williams – Skills for Life Campaign
- Follow up email about soil dumping from parishioner
- DCC Highways, notification of assessment to be undertaking on soil dumping and second email giving results
- Aurienna Dunbrook NDDC – Climate and Environment Grants
- NDDC Enforcement Team – response to letter on Ashelford Farm
- Noah Ferris – Closure Notice for 6 months for Footpath No.1, East Down

13. Date for next meeting – 19th August 2024 at 7:30pm

Part 'B' (Confidential Restricted information)

There were no items under Part "B"

The meeting closed at 20:45

East Down Parish Council

County Councillors report

July 2024

Link Road Update

An update on the expected completion dates for the North Devon Link Road scheme;

- Landkey Footbridge, mostly complete now.
- A large section of the road will be substantially completed prior to the summer holidays from Portmore roundabout down to Landkey Viaduct at Swimbridge, any remaining works focused around the footbridge.
- Borners Bridge roundabout will also be completed mid-July.
- The central section from Landkey Viaduct through to the Filleigh cutting will be the last area to be completed over the summer with the West Buckland Junction being the last section in late September.
- Landscaping works will have to be done over the winter period due to the planting season.

40mph speed limits (30mph at Borners) will be taken off at the same time as the programmed completion dates.

Annual Public Health Report.

The report, [which you can view here](#), highlights the challenges that an ageing population in Devon presents, the underlying factors that can contribute to poor health and what we can all do to help ensure that we live healthier for longer.

Devon has an older population and faster older population growth than the UK average. Over the next 20 years the predicted proportion of those aged 75 and over living in Devon will increase from 13.7 per cent this year to 18.4 per cent by 2043.

This population change, says the report, and that people are spending more years in ill-health, poses challenges in relation to the health, wellbeing and quality of life for all of us. Coupled with a reduction in the birth rate in the future, this means that the ratio of younger people to older people will also reduce.

This will inevitably affect our frontline workforce and carers, both paid and unpaid.

Currently across Devon there are just over two working-age people to one older person. By 2043, we expect this to reduce to 1.7 working aged people to one older person.

The report also illustrates how, over the past decade, life expectancy has stalled and remained similar both locally and nationally. The average life expectancy across Devon is 85 and 87 years (male and female respectively) with average healthy life expectancy being approximately 77 and 79 years.

This shows that people in Devon are on average living around a decade in poorer health and, as with life expectancy, no significant improvement in healthy life expectancy has been seen over the last decade.

It also looks at other areas including risk factors for older people, the predicted growth in long-term conditions and disabilities such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease and obesity and the importance of physical activity, vaccinations, screening and oral health.

Highway emergency number is :0345 155 1004 (If you are reporting an emergency that is very likely to present an imminent threat to life or serious injury or serious damage to property).

Reporting defects on the highway the Devon County Website [Report a problem - Roads and transport \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)

Andrea Davis

County Councillor Combe Martin Rural division

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