

East Down Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the East Down Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 19th February 2024 at 7:30 pm

Attendance: Cllrs M. Wright (Chairman), Mrs J Kift, Mrs D Fry, Mr R Crossman,

- 1. Apologies for absence – County Cllr A Davis, Cllr R. Crocker,**
- 2. Declarations of interest/Dispensations: There were none**
- 3. Public participation: There was one member of the public present**

Part ‘A’

4. County Councillor’s Report (highlights)

Public Consultation on Devon and Torbay devolution

A six-week public consultation has been launched on Monday 12 February on the draft proposal to create a Combined County Authority (CCA) for Devon and Torbay to oversee new powers and funding transferred from Government.

The ground-breaking devolution deal proposes to create the CCA, which would be a formal partnership of elected members drawn from the councils of Devon and Torbay, including district councils, together with representatives from business and education.

People are being invited to have their say on how the CCA would work, the powers that it would have and the functions it would be responsible for. These include investment in local economic growth, delivering affordable housing, improving public transport, and meeting net zero ambitions.

Further information about the joint consultation with Torbay Council and details of how to respond are available at www.devontorbaydeal.org.uk

Establishing the CCA would not mean removing or merging local councils and does not require a Mayor for Devon and Torbay. All councils would continue to exist and would still be responsible for public services in their area.

Highway defects

I have asked the local highway officer to come and inspect the roads in the Parish, I have some concerns in some places that reports are not being attended to by the contractor. Changes have been made to the front end of the ‘report a problem’ website. The additional information will help provide data to inform future enhancements and hopes to highlight that members of the public can add themselves to existing reports rather than enter duplicate reports.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting.

RESOLVED to ACCEPT and sign the minutes.

6. Matters arising from the minutes

None.

7. Planning Applications

8. Application 7819 - Erection of a garage at Clifton Cottage East Down Barnstaple Devon EX31 4LX. It was PROPOSED and SECONDED to raise no issues.

9. Application 78242 - Demolition of the workshop building and erection of a detached 1.5 storey holiday let unit at Bugford Workshop Bugford East Down Barnstaple Devon EX31 4LZ. It was PROPOSED and SECONDED to raise no issues.

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

Bank balances January 2024 were:

Parish Council A/C: £6,094.89

Parish Paths A/C: £1,060.83

Cheques signed for Clerk's salary (£125)

11. Chairman's Items

- **Foul water issue (update)** – Cllr Crossman advised that no progress has been made since the last meeting.
- **Fitting of Council notice board** – Cllr Crossman advised that this is the next job on the contractor's list.
- **Potential unauthorised access at Ashelford Farm (update)** – the Clerk reported that case reference 13817 is still pending. The District Councillor's assistance has been requested by EDPC and a response is awaited.
- **Administration of bank accounts and payment authorisation** - the Chairman reported this still being progress with Lloyds but the bank are slow to execute the required actions
- **Co-Option of Councillors** – there are two expressions of interest for the vacant councillor positions and it is intended that both be invited to the next meeting, by which time the NDDC notification process should have completed and we can then complete the process, as appropriate.

12. Correspondence

- Email from Devon Landscaping, offering their services to EDPC
- Email from Devon Resilience Innovation Project
- Email from NDDC confirming impact of recent changes to election procedures

- DALC Bulletin

13. Date for next meeting – 18th March 2024 at 7:30pm

Part ‘B’ (Confidential Restricted information)

There were no items under Part “B”

The meeting closed at 20:21