

DRAFT

East Down Parish Council

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

Attendance: Cllrs M. Wright (Chairman), Mrs J Kift, Mr R Crossman, Mr R Crocker, Mrs D Fry and Mr K Phillips and Mrs E McClenaghan (after signing of Declaration of Acceptance forms).

- 1. Apologies for absence – County Cllr A Davis,**
- 2. Declarations of interest/Dispensations: There were none**
- 3. Public participation: There no members of the public present**

Part ‘A’

4. County Councillor’s Report (highlights)

Highways Update

Andrea Davis has visited the parish with the local highway officer who will be chasing why the safety defects and drainage issues have not been completed. The parish is encouraged to keep reporting safety defects and for the council to report back on those that have not been completed so they can be chased.

Report a pothole - <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/>

Tarka Trail – Combe Martin Division

Phase 2 works have started on a 700m long tarmac track, built on former railway track.

Zero Emission Buses

Devon has been awarded £5.3m for a fleet of 41 electric buses for North Devon, Exeter and Torridge.

DCC has also been awarded more than £7m to install new, publicly accessed EV charging points.

5. Minutes of the previous meeting.

RESOLVED to ACCEPT and sign the minutes.

6. Matters arising from the minutes

None.

7. Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to discuss

8. 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) and Insurance Premium (£126.44)

9. Chairman's Items

- **Foul water issue (update)** – EA have spent 6 hours in 2 visits to carry out a number of test and results are awaited.
- **Fitting of Council notice board** – still not fitted and being chased with contractor.
- **Potential unauthorised access at Ashelford Farm (update)** – Councillor McClenaghan recused herself before the Clerk reported that case reference 13817 is still pending. Clerk requested to write to NDDC, referring to the relevant planning applications to ascertain whether there will be an enforcement investigation or not.
- **Administration of bank accounts and payment authorisation** - progress has been made with signatories access with one person's application to be granted online access still to be processed by Lloyds.
- **Co-Option of Councillors** –Declaration of Acceptance forms for two co-opted councillors were signed and witnessed and they were invited to join the meeting. They were both given copies of the Code of Conduct and Roles and Responsibilities of councillors.
- **Potholes** – visit to parish has taken place (see County Councillors report in 4 above) and further work is planned by EDPC to identify and detail all of the significant defects in the parish, so progress can be tracked.
- **Update of Registerable Interests of Councillors** – Clerk will circulate form for 2024/2025 for completion by councillors.

10. Correspondence

- Email about DALC renewal. Now awaiting invoice.
- Email from NDDC on Grants for projects with a strong emphasis on sustainability and countering climate change that can be applied for.
- Email from Bev Triggs on Funding for Rural Community Green Spaces
- Email from Ground Maintenance Contractor offering their services

- Two emails purportedly from group critical of Devon County Council
- Email from parishioner objecting to the location of National Trust Arlington House deer culling.
- Notice of Police and Crime Commissioner Election on 2nd May 2024.

11. Date for next meeting – 20th May 2024 at 7:30pm

Part ‘B’ (Confidential Restricted information)

There were no items under Part “B”

The meeting closed at 20:27