

DRAFT

East Down Parish Council

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

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

- 1. Apologies for absence – Cllrs Mrs D Fry, Mrs E McClenaghan and Mr Rod Crossman**
- 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 letter was sent to Ken Miles at DCC on 24th July 2024. No response has so far been received.

- 8. Update on Potholes in the Parish**

- No update available at the meeting due to illness.

- 9. Update on dumping of contaminated soil from Bowden Corner to Indicott Cross**

- An email was sent on 14th August 2024 was sent to Alex at highways-neighbourhood-north at DCC requesting a more detailed response and requesting notification in advance of any future dumping and an assurance that the spoil would have been cleared of rubbish and weeds beforehand. A response is awaited.

- 10. EDPC website options and Cabinet Office initiative for parish councils to use a .gov.uk domain names**

- Following discussion it was proposed and seconded to RESOLVE to accept the principle of adopting the Cabinet Office recommendation and move to a .gov.uk domain which met the minimum requirements of the parish council at an acceptable cost. Further work is required over the next few months to produce a

more detailed proposal. In the meantime, the use of the current website will continue.

11. High Court Appeal Decision (Dated 1st August 2024) on Restricted Byway No. 48 East Down (December 2017)

- The decision paperwork was circulated and discussed. The byway is overgrown and DCC will put the clearance work required into their forward work programme after 1st September 2024. It was thought that the information would reach a wider audience through the East Down newsletter. Clerk was requested to forward the information.

12. Financial statement of accounts and to agree payments

- Bank balances were:

Parish Council A/C: £6,113.74

Parish Paths A/C: £1,060.83

AUTHORITY was given for online bank transfers to be raised for Clerk's salary (£125 for August).

The ring-fenced amounts from historical grants was discussed. It was proposed and seconded to move these to a separate account for ease of reporting. The account to be used currently has a zero balance.

13. Chairman's Items

- **Register of Interests 2024-2025** – final form is being prepared.
- **Foul water issue (update)** – No further update was available at the meeting.
- **Administration of Bank accounts and payment authorisation** – on-line authorisation in place and active.

14. Correspondence

- **History of Political Thought Journal** - rooster noise and request for a ban
- **BAILEY, Ron <ron.bailey@parliament.uk** - Safety of Lithium ion Batteries on e-bikes and scooters
- **Kate Tregellas, Arlington National Trust** - Home Fam Community Hub

15. Date for next meeting – 16th September 2024 at 7:30pm

Part 'B' (Confidential Restricted information)

There were no items under Part "B"

The meeting closed at 20:10

East Down Parish Council
County Councillors report
August 2024

Winter Woes

At the time of writing it is a warm August day but all too soon we will be back in the colder months. With the announcement that pensioners will not be receiving a winter fuel allowance this year I am concerned that there will be more people worried about turning on the heating in the area, especially as a lot of us have no access to gas. In addition the energy price cap is as is reported likely to rise, adding to the concern.

To check if you are eligible for pension credit, below is the link to the Pension credit claim form; gov.uk/pension-credit/how-to-claim

Alternatively, it is also worth looking at the Rural Devon Citizens advice webpages or calling them on the number below.

North Devon Citizens advice; www.ruraldevoncab.org.uk

Telephone; 08082 787999

Mobile Boost Scheme

The Mobile Boost scheme has been hugely popular and it's extremely rewarding to hear from people that it's made such a difference to their business or their daily lives. People in some rural areas continue to struggle with their mobile signal and I know there are many in Combe Martin rural area. There is new funding support will enable more people to benefit from improved connectivity,

<https://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/better-connection/mobile-boost-voucher-scheme/mobile-boost-voucher-scheme-guide/>

The latest round of the scheme will continue to enable businesses and residents in Somerset, Devon, Torbay and Plymouth to apply for a voucher of up to £1,300 towards the cost of a mobile signal booster from a number of registered suppliers. Applicants have to pay towards the cost of installation themselves.

Andrea Davis

County Councillor

Combe Martin Rural Division

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