

## East Down Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of East Down Parish Council held in the Village Hall on  
Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 at 7.30 pm

Attendance: Cllrs M. Wright (Chairman), Mrs S Black, R Crocker, R Crossman, Mrs D Fry, Mrs J Kift. R Tarr.

1. **Apologies for absence.** There were no apologies but County Councillor Mrs A Davis would be late arriving as she was at another meeting
2. **Also in attendance** None
2. **Declaration of interest/Dispensations** – There were none
3. **Public participation** There were no members of the public present

Part 'A'

#### 4. *County/District Councillors' Reports*

- County Councillor A Davis had apologised in advance for her late arrival but had forwarded her report a copy of which is attached to the Councillors minutes.

5. Minutes of the Meetings the open and confidential minutes held on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

**RESOLVED** to accept and sign

#### 6. **Matters arising from the minutes**

There were none that were not on the agenda

#### 7 Planning Applications

- Planning Application: 77278 Ford Farm Berry Down Devon. Erection of steel framed roofing structure to cover a dung storage area at Cattle Shelter Grid Ref: 259099; 142140 **RESOLVED** to recommend **APPROVAL**

#### 8. Financial statements of accounts for the year and to agree payments

Bank balances Jun 2023 Parish Council Account: £7271.86 and the Parish Paths Account: £1060.83

A Cheque was signed at the meeting for Clerks salary (£125.00)

#### 9. **Chairman's items**

- **Foul water issue** (update) Cllr Crossman updated the Council on the present position with this issue, the matter was still with the Environment Agency, there had been no progress since last month. **RESOLVED** to report again in September
- **Appointment to sub committees** A schedule of individual Councillors responsibilities for road monitoring was distributed. Blocked Gulleys to be reported to Cllr Crossman

**Council Notice Board** Members approved the tabled design and cost schedule and it was **RESOLVED** that an order be placed at a maximum cost of £500.00 (excl VAT and erection).

## 10 Correspondence

- County Councillors report
- Dalc bulletin
- Grant and community news
- N D Council news
- North Devon District Hospital updates
- Rural Bulletin
- County Councillors report

**Date for next meeting** September 18th 2023 at 7.30 pm

**Part 'B'** (Confidential Restricted information)

*The Chairman moved that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public are temporarily excluded and they be instructed to withdraw*

The meeting closed at 7.30

## **East Down Parish Council County Councillors Report August 2023**

### **Free Tree Scheme 2023/2024**

This year, Devon County Council are offering free tree packs to landowners and communities within Devon, for the fifth consecutive year. Each free tree pack will contain 45 trees comprising three types of native broadleaved tree commonly found throughout Devon.

There are currently plenty of schemes and initiatives encouraging landowners and communities within Devon to plant native broadleaved trees. Doing so will help replace the vast number of ash trees that are now dying through ash dieback, as well as supporting wildlife, enhancing our landscapes for people to enjoy, and helping to reduce greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change.

Last year, Devon County Council gave away 150 packs of free trees to landowners across Devon, thanks to the Emergency Tree Fund.

Are you eligible?

If you have a field corner or another area where you would like to establish a small copse, linear woodland or extend an existing woodland, you can apply for a free tree pack. In previous years free packs of 45 saplings containing oak, birch and rowan trees have been supplied to eligible landowners. To give trees enough space to develop a good crown and grow to maturity, we advise planting at 3m random spacings, which requires an area of approximately 400m sq. (e.g. 20m x 20m) for 45 trees.

How to make an application:

To apply, please complete our online [form](#) by 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2023. This is the deadline that would enable tree packs to be delivered in time for you to plant in National Tree Week (25<sup>th</sup> of November – 3<sup>rd</sup> of December). Applications after this date would be subject to availability. You will be notified if you have been successful before the end of October 2023 and your tree pack will be dispatched to you on a date confirmed by the tree nursery we appoint.

If you are interested in the scheme, please do not delay applying. In previous years, the scheme has been extremely popular and highly oversubscribed.

## Growing Communities fund

This DCC grant aims to help local groups and organisations become more resilient and help those in the communities cope with financial pressures. Groups that are encouraged to apply include those who bring communities together for meaningful activities and social interaction, offer people a warm, safe haven or alleviate food poverty. The aim is to build self reliance and resilience within a community.

You can [complete and submit the grants application form online](#). For more information, please contact [communitygrants@devon.gov.uk](mailto:communitygrants@devon.gov.uk) or telephoning [01392 383379](tel:01392383379).

## Rural Give Way marking project

This project is aiming to remark all the rural Give-Way and Stop markings across the whole of the County. In addition to simply remarking them DCC are using a more robust product that will improve the life-expectancy and lead to a lower whole life cost and reduced carbon cost.

There are approximately 6,000 rural Give-Way markings that will be treated. For your information there is another 1,500 in our market and coastal towns. The project is estimated to take 4-5 years to complete.

Lining works to include:

To remove existing markings and refresh

- single dashed white lines
- double dashed white lines
- stop lines
- give way triangles
- up to 5 centre lines from the junction

### **Reminder of how to report a Highway issue;**

[Report a problem - Roads and transport \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)  
[0345 155 1004](tel:03451551004)

Live chat is available on the Highways website Monday to Friday 9.30 am to 12 pm and 2 pm to 4.30 pm (4 pm on Fridays). To report a problem with road maintenance, traffic management and parking, streetlights and signs and public rights of way

*Andrea Davis*

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