

Bridestowe Parish Council

Mr P. J. DANIELS Clerk to the Council.
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Parish Council Meeting

Online Zoom: Wednesday 24th March 2021 at 7.30 pm

Public questions/comments prior to the meeting:

Parishioner thanked PC for replacement of the dog bin in Launceston Road and the new concrete step up to the bridge over the river in the sporting green. Parishioner also commented on the planning application for an extension at Belle Vue (see agenda item 5): The detail on the upstairs of the coach house was insufficient. The extension on the front is huge and there is a lack of detail in the plans. The choice of building materials is inappropriate. Two parishioners reported that they had walked the footpaths allocated and will report back by marking on map, to be provided by DCC, via clerk. Clerk to remind DCC to provide maps. (Action: Clerk) AY thanked the parishioners for participation in the footpath inspection.

Present: (Councillors); A. Young (chair); B. Thirtle (vice-chair); R. Bickle; J. Leonard; J. Pritchard; G. Leando; T. Pritchard; P. J. Daniels (clerk); Four members of public present including Cllr C. Mott and Cllr. Southcott. (both WD borough councillors).

- Apologies:** None. There was one declaration of interest. From AY. A member of her family uses a contractor who is the applicant of a planning application. (See item 5 regarding Belle Vue in these minutes).
- Approval of minutes from the last meeting (27/01/21): JP. Seconded: BT. Unanimous.
 - Footpath Inspection:** Five members of public have very kindly offered to commence the footpath inspection of the parish. Clerk has liaised with the footpath inspector who is to provide maps for each volunteer to mark where there are defects or way markers are required.
 - Main church footpath:** Martin Ashley will treat this because it is slippery with moss and weeds particularly on edges. This will be carried out at the same time as the first spraying of the roadside gutters.
 - Interim Devon Carbon plan:** Submitted response to consultation but then informed too late.
 - SHDC Public protection order:** Consultation submitted from PC.
 - Tree work in Sporting Green:** Martin Ashley has provided and delivered to school, cut to size timber for outdoor seats and tables for children. Thanks to Martin JP/school who have liaised to arrange this. The diseased ash trees have been felled and logs provided for the community was well received. Martin has repaired accidental shed damage caused by falling timber, to the satisfaction of the owner. AY felt that this was overall a great job from Martin Ashley and everyone involved.
 - Bridestowe web site:** See agenda item 6.
 - New wastebin for Launceston Road:** Broxap bin has been installed by clerk and BT to replace damaged bin.
- Accounts for Payment:**

	£
(954) Broxap (Litter/dog bin)	100.80 (Includes £35 carriage and VAT)
(955) M. Ashley (Tree felling)	1800.00 (Includes £300 reclaimable VAT)

Proposed these be paid. Proposed: JL. Seconded: RB. Unanimous.

Current account statement balance as of 19/03/21: £14,191,284.

4. Correspondence: Most items have been circulated to parish councillors:

- DCC/WDBC/NALC/DALC/Devon Communities Together/Healthwatch Devon:** Regular updates on coronavirus matters/safety precautions etc.
- WDBC: Lisa Bates:** Confirmation of precept details.
- Internal auditor, Interim audit:** Ledger/invoices check satisfactory. External audit papers for 2020/21 have been received.
- DCC: Children's Mental health week.**
- WDCYS:** Information and funding bulletin.
- Census 2021:** Households asked to take part in Census 2021. Support information.
- Cllr. Caroline Mott:** Update: Covid grants available between £300 and £700 for community groups including parish councils. DCC/DCFF funding available for groups supplying emergency food supplies. Rural transport consultation. Local car park charges consultation. Water-Saving Community Fund launched.
- Play Safety:** Notification of play area inspection, due in March.
- John Baker:** Temporary closure of footpath because of tree down about 100 metres along footpath from Station Road to Shortacombe Wood.
- WDBC:** Notice of increase to parking charges locally.
- DCC:** Blocked drains in Station Road being dealt with by DCC Highways.
- Ring & Ride:** New mini-bus has been purchased.
- WDBC:** Notification of council tax rises for 2021/22.
- Devon Communities Together:** Hospitality, Business and Tourism support.
- NALC:** Cyber security guide.
- Cllr. Caroline Mott:** Update: Consideration of carbon neutral plan. Census update. The future of the New Homes Bonus Consultation. Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive. Government evidence requested on "Local factors in managing flood and coastal erosion risk." WDBC are supporting pubs, taxis and the like with licencing fees.
- Steve Brockman:** Pothole near entrance of sporting green to be repaired.

5. Planning:

App. No: 0631/21/HHO. Burley View Vale Down. EX20 4BB. Proposed extension. Comment requested by WDBC as property is in a neighbouring parish. No comment (via emails) from BPC councillors.

App. No: 0500/21/FUL. Extension etc. at Belle Vue. Station Road. EX20 4EH. There were a number of comments from councillors expressing concern about this proposal. Clerk to arrange site meeting and date for PC planning meeting consistent with closing date for comments to WDBC by 22/04/21. (Action: Clerk)

6. Bridestowe website: Both the village hall and the PC are the major users of the website. BHMC are looking at how expertise could be employed to upgrade the website, make it more attractive and turn it into a community hub for the whole parish. Once the website is refurbished, BVHMC may revisit the proposal of sharing the annual web host fee. Further exploration of this matter required by both parties.

7. Wildlife friendly project for Bridestowe: The chair emphasised this is a long term project that will evolve gradually and be community led, taking small steps to improve the natural environment and perhaps in the future embracing more ambitious goals such as a community orchard. One response has been received from first appeal in BaSE. It is hoped when restrictions are lifted coordinating activity will be easier. The project fits within the aims and objectives of the Devon Carbon Plan. Lisa But is happy to lead with the project. A new tree has been planted in the village hall and brush piles in the perimeter hedges of the sporting green. CM added that the volunteer group had discussed using the roadside verges to sow wild flower seeds after rotavating stretches.

8. Delegate and other reports:

- Northern links:** No meeting.
- Village Hall:** Bookings for weddings etc. post lock down are being taken and it is hoped internal community groups will return in September. The financial grants received have been a crucial lifeline.
- Neighbourhood Plan:** Referendum to be carried out later in the year and not on May 6th as was hoped due to various logistic problems. Clare Chapman, the WDBC Elections officer will organise the referendum. CM to confirm who is responsible for the cost of the referendum AY to report.
- West Devon Councillor news:** Laptops have donated 4 laptops to the schools in the ward. The mileage allowance for WDBC councillors has been reduced during the pandemic, saving £50,000. ICT systems are undergoing an upgrade to keep pace of the technology. TS to investigate fly tipping incident in Bridestowe and the outcome from WDBC.

9. Parishioner comments on matters arising from meeting: Parishioner found the meeting interesting and was pleased there was a site meeting to be held for the Belle Vue planning application.

Date of next virtual PC Meetings are Wednesday 14th April 2021 (Planning meeting) and Wednesday 5th May 2021 (Full meeting) both at 7.30 pm.

There will be a site meeting on Wednesday April 7th 2021 (Provisional).

Meeting closed at 8.20 pm.

Following the closure of the meeting the following non-agenda topics were discussed: (Please let the clerk know if councillors wish any of these topics to be put on agenda of next full meeting).

Caravans sited adjacent to homes: CM explained that if used in conjunction with a dwelling then occupancy of caravan is allowed. Enforcement only occurs if used by a separate individual/family etc.

Cemetery: Some graves are sinking and require levelling at the appropriate time.

Cemetery: All old wreaths have been removed. AY to keep an eye on the cemetery tidiness. Thanks were given to AY who has removed 2/3 black waste bags for disposal.

A councillor and CM discussed the council tax increases, whether they were excessive and how council tax is apportioned to the various authorities.