

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the Wednesday 30th October 2019

Present Cllr G Underhill (took the chair), Cllr S Berry Cllr R Pearce and Mrs A Snell clerk
In attendance Cllr R Lock - Cllr M Clarke District Councillors Cllr A Saywell – County Councillor and three members of the public

Apologies Cllr R Huxtable Cllr D Rogers Cllr C Steer and PCSO Brown.

Declaration of Interests – Councillors are invited to declare any discloseable pecuniary interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting, including protocol for audio/visual recordings a meeting. They are also reminded to consider whether in the light of recent activities any items within their Register of Interests should be updated.

Public Participation.

It was brought forward from the floor that the next consultation letter regarding the 41 houses has not yet been sent, it was agreed at the last meeting to bring the draft to this meeting to agree, clarify and send.

The gentleman also wanted all his comments recorded verbatim, this is not the remit of the clerk, but the notes will be kept on file and if anyone wants to read them, they will be available.

Further points of objection were raised from the floor.

1.i. The Minutes of the meeting held on 18th September were agreed and signed.

ii. The notes of the public meeting held on 25th September were agreed and signed.

iii. The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th October were agreed and signed.

2. Clerks Report, the notice has been put up regarding the vacancy for a parish councillor, if ten or more people do not request an election a co-option will take place.

3. Chairman's Report.

i. Play equipment, it was noted that the entrance opposite Rye Park needs to be completed.

Cllr Underhill attended a meeting of the Great Torrington Community Development Trust which can give help to villages in many ways, there was a good turn out and it was felt to be an ideal vehicle to bring communities together, the information will also be passed onto the Village Hall.

ii. The dog bin has been received and will be erected in due course. It was also raised regarding the rubbish bins on the Village Green, that they are in a very poor state, quotes are to be obtained and also to get a quote for a rubbish and recycling bin. It was also commented that the recycling collection has been interrupted due to the road closure.

4. Highway Issues, it is anticipated that the road closure and therefore drainage work by the bus shelter will be completed on Friday. Cllr Saywell was thanked for all his help in getting this work done. Cllr Underhill met with Mr Darryl Jagger and two other highways representatives to discuss the highway issues in Beaford Parish, under the Highways Trial that is being undertaken. They highlighted the flooding on the corner past the Village Hall, the drains in Rye Park., St Clements road bridge and also Beaford Bridge. The drains on the main road were discussed likewise any traffic calming measures, it was noted that this does not seem effective at the garage.

It was raised regarding purchasing a flashing speed sign and the options of locations as to where to place it. A zebra crossing is an absolute no on safety grounds and the number of cars parked on the road the number of accesses and the insufficient numbers that would use it, a further suggestion was a lollipop person.

The question was asked regarding having a traffic assessment at school times especially if there is to be to accesses to the school. Cllr Underhill reported the meeting to be very successful.

5. County and District Councillors items, Cllr Saywell reported on the night closures for resurfacing on the A3124 weather permitting. Torrington town centre is open for business even though the road is closed for repaving work the work is taking longer than anticipated but should be completed next week. If the work is not completed further work could be carried out in February but Cllr Saywell is trying to get the road to remain open. Cllr Saywell also reported that DCC are to receive an extra £15m for adult social care and if the Council Tax is raised another £7m this is to protect the venerable, education in Devon is to receive a further £20m over 2 years, and £8.5m for special needs.

The Fire Services decision was due on the 18th December but due to the large volume of representations this may be delayed

The idea behind these proposals are to reform the service, to use the savings from closing low activity stations and crew changes to re-invest into the 'on call' model so we can increase availability in other stations as well as carrying out more prevention work – fire safety visits etc.

Cllr Lock reported that the current Section 106 agreement stipulates that the properties have to be marketed for 8 weeks once ready for occupation to those with a Local Connection to Beaford before cascading out to neighbouring parishes and then to District and neighbouring Districts. However, the developer/estate agents did not realise that the marketing should commence once ready for occupation and began the marketing for the properties in April but have cascaded out as per the timings in the Section 106 agreement and now accepted offers from people from outside the parish. Therefore, this DOV changes the point that the properties can be marketed from although the Local Connection criteria remains and all future sales will have to be marketed for the times stated in the original Section 106 agreement. The amendment here was felt acceptable as Section 106 agreements for alternative schemes do allow the marketing to commence several weeks prior to completion.

You are probably aware that there is a further application submitted on the adjacent land here and I am not sure whether this application is also being discussed. However just so you are aware, the AH policy requirement is 30% AH with 75% social rent and 25% intermediate. We have not yet had confirmation from the applicant that this position is acceptable to them but of course if it is not on the grounds of viability then a full viability appraisal will need to be submitted – TDC have not received any such documentation to date.

Cllr Clarke reported that part of his District Councillor role is to inform residents regarding the availability of the disabled grant. When on TDC website click housing and this disabled grant option will be available.

The grant is not tied to anyone's financial situation or means tested. If a person is living in their own home either alone or with family, they can apply for stair lifts, showers, and far more, to aid the living at home. There is a large pot of money waiting to be claimed.

Cllr Clarke is also on the Armed Services team at TDC if anyone has any problem please contact Cllr Clarke.

6. Finance, i Approve and sign the following cheque: -

451	Beaford Parish Hall	£12.00
452	TDC payroll	£1084.20

7.i. Planning

P C recommendations TDC

1/0407/2019/F ULM	Residential Development for 41 Dwellings including demolition of one dwelling for creation of new access (affecting public right of way) Location: Land Adjacent to Marshalls Mead, Beaford,	A further response was agreed, this will be sent covering all the most important issues, a full copy of the response is on TDC website. The conclusion being the PC object to this application in its current form
----------------------	--	--

1/0529/2019/C PE	Certificate of existing lawful use of holiday units 2 and 4, known as 'Beech' and 'Oak', at Beaford House, as two independent dwelling houses (including amenity and parking areas) - Holiday Units 2 And 4 'Beech And Oak' Beaford	265
1/0737/2019/FUL	Change of use of redundant barn to dwelling land at Reeds Farm	
1/0636/2019/F UL	Change of use of annexe to full residential. Myrtle Cottage Barn, Beaford	Extension of time.

8. Police Report, in the last 30 days there has been three crimes of theft. In the same period there has been four calls, one of public safety, one ASB and two transport related where logs were created.

9. Caretakers Report & Hall report, Cllr Berry said 600 trees have been allocated by the Woodland Trust, part of the field has been reseeded with wild flowers.

Regarding the draft agreement, the hall committee feel the square for the night landing site is not in the right place once this has been amended it can be signed.

10. Correspondence i. DALC Newsletters. ii. Torrington District Crime Reports and newsletters.

The Area Advisory meeting is on the 26th November 7.00pm in Great Torrington.

The flag for the church is in a poor state quotes are to be obtained to purchase a new one.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed.

Date of next meeting: **Wednesday 27th November 2019** Parish Council meeting **7.30pm**

.....Chairman.....Date

Forthcoming meeting: Wednesday 15th January 2020 Parish Council meeting.