

BEAFORD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the
Wednesday 13th April 2022

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Present Cllr G Underhill (took the chair), Cllr R Huxtable Cllr S Berry Cllr J Palmer Cllr B Millward and Mrs A Snell clerk

In attendance Cllr Saywell County Councillor Cllr R Lock - District Councillors and two members of the public.

Apologies, Cllr C Steer Cllr R Pearce Cllr Clarke, 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.

The meeting was postponed twice due to councillors having covid.

Public Participation.

1.i. The Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February were agreed and signed.

Web site, www.beafordvillage.org

2. Clerks Report, i. The Standing Orders have been amended to include co-options and signed.

ii. Queens Jubilee celebrations, on advice it is not the right time of year to plant a tree, a tree will be purchased with a tree guard at the appropriate time. The extra bench is available for use by the committee for the celebrations.

iii. Village Green parking, after discussion it was agreed to bring this up at the APM the suggestion to put to the meeting is to lease the area out to the residents of Tricks Terrace and Green Cottage, as other properties seem to be taking advantage of spaces with more than one car, but as a whole parking is a problem in Beaford.

3. Chairman's Report, Youth Shelter it was proposed by Cllr Huxtable seconded by Cllr Millward that the S103 money will be used to purchase the Youth shelter, all in favour. A quote for the plinth and maintenance needs to be obtained before the application for the S106 money, £12873 can be submitted. Grants will be applied for, for further play equipment for the Village Green. Cllr Lock kindly said she would grant £500 towards the Youth shelter for which she was thanked. Bench's, the siting of the Biddimoor Lane bench is causing some difficulty due to water pipes in the vicinity, the actual siting is to be looked at again.

4. Highway Issues. i. Public footpaths, Cllr Huxtable reported that the footpath at Middle Barlington is not assessable in the correct site, so photos are to be sent to Martin Caddy.

iii. Road Warden no reply has been received as yet.

The DCC website is devon.cc/report-it

5. County and District Councillors items. Cllr Saywell reported on Ukraine DCC have updated their website to include all the latest information and support needed for those looking to sponsor/accommodate Ukrainian refugees. Please visit - <https://www.devon.gov.uk/supporting-ukraine/>

The Council, alongside Team Devon colleagues and partners, have made considerable progress this last week contacting several hundred potential sponsors to conduct and complete required DBS checks. In addition, working with councils across Devon, we have developed and implemented a

property and people appraisal process. District councils have started to check a range of sponsor properties using this, and this will accelerate the work this week. The County Council is working with partners to ensure we can make early payments to sponsors and guests and alongside this, we are developing clear processes regarding school admissions, health registration and access to Universal Credit and other benefit entitlements. DCC are also considering launching a joint, Team Devon, single telephone number for enquires with organisations from the voluntary and community sector. Further, the Council is currently in negotiations with several organisations to provide a consistent and comprehensive offer of wrap-around support, across each locality in Devon. In the meantime, if you have key questions that you or constituents would like an answer to, DCC have a dedicated e-mail address health.ukraineresettlement-mailbox@devon.gov.uk.

We will be building on and further developing ESOL (English for speakers of other languages) provision in Devon for this community and how best we can link key organisations providing support to local speakers for translation, alongside large providers of telephone and internet-based translation options.

Covid The free universal testing service has now ended. We will likely see a gradual decline of local testing numbers as people use up the tests kits they have at home. While the local testing figures will play a less important role in understanding the current community infection level, we will still have the ONS national data which currently shows about 1 in 13 people have covid and in addition will have local hospitalisation rates. Testing will continue in health and care settings which will give an indication of local rates.

The key message is that if you feel unwell please stay at home and reducing your mixing with other people until you feel better. Without testing there is no certainty if it is covid or another respiratory virus, but in some respect it doesn't matter as you still have a virus and are infectious! Despite the end of free testing, there will be some surge testing capability should it need to be deployed to support an outbreak. **The other key message is get your vaccine if you are eligible!** Overall uptake for the 3rd dose/booster is lower in the 18-30 year age groups, ranging from 50-59%. I have asked that more is done to promote the uptake from younger people. The vaccination team are pushing out lots of social media messaging targeted at this younger age group and while we would clearly want uptake to be higher than it currently is, on the other hand we are performing well comparatively with national statistics and we are still seeing people from this age group coming forward for vaccinations.

Overall 3rd Dose/Booster uptake in Devon is very good 86.3% compared to the national figure of 67.5%. Hospital rates have increased compared with previous waves, **BUT numbers in ICU remain very low and it is important to point out that approximately 55% of covid patients in hospital were admitted for other reasons, so are in hospital with covid rather than because of covid.**

A386 Landslide Works have been progressing well. However, during the course of the works the area of netting needed has increased, and an additional area of loose rock was identified which required DCC's geotechnical engineers to come to inspect the site. Unfortunately: this has meant the hoped for 'full' reopening of the road without a lane closure/traffic lights has been delayed slightly, but the current aim now **is to have the road fully reopened immediately after the Easter weekend.**

Since the road has been reopened under traffic lights, disruption for motorists has on the whole been minimal and while it would be good to see the road fully reopened as soon as possible, it is better that these extra works are done now than risk having another landslide next winter. Thank you again for your ongoing patience and understanding during these works. And thank you also to the engineers and contractors who have been working hard to restabilise the rock face since the original landslide.

New Neighbourhood Highways Officer Russell Hookway has moved onto a new position within the County Council and the new Neighbourhood Highways Officer is Mark James who has just started working for DCC. I will be meeting him soon to discuss local highways issues in the area but I will also ask that he makes contact with all Parish Clerks in the near future so that you can raise any immediate issues with him directly.

Other Local Highways Matters I remain dissatisfied with the condition of the ‘ Clements Hill’ road. Funding for unclassified rural roads is very, very tight... but I am pushing Highways to look at working in different ways (e.g. using ‘dragon patching’) to treat more minor roads as a country lane may not necessarily need being brought up to the standard of an A road. I will be having further meetings with senior Highways Management this month to discuss these issues further. It was asked when are the double yellow lines as discussed for the main road to be painted, Cllr Saywell is to pursue.

Cllr Lock has forwarded on the email regarding the concrete plinth and proposed mobile home to be situated at Towell Farm, if no response has been heard from Enforcement after Easter, Cllr Lock will pursue.

6. Tennis Court, the meeting has had to be put back but will convene in due course. Mr Hartford is to be contacted regarding the shed as some maintenance work needs to be done to it.

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

523	Beaford Village Hall	£12.00
524	TDC paye	£1144.20
525	Office expenses	£44.13
526	DALC affiliation fee	£108.53

i. An Internal auditor needs to be found sadly due to the loss of Graham Coombs

8.i. Planning

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1/0279/2020/ OUT	Outline application with all matters reserved for the erection of up to 18 dwellings (affecting a public right of way) Land at Towell Lane	
1/1174/2021/ FUL	Erection of single storey rear extension, Laburnum Cottage Beaford	Passed
1/0049/2022/ FUL	Proposed new access track off existing access and associated works barn at Mount Pleasant	
1/0152/2022/ AGMB	Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 1 no. dwelling house and associated building operations under Class Q building at grid reference 258210 115450 Roborough.	Withdrawn
1/0210/2022/ FUL	Proposal for no.2 detached dwellings (plot 5A as a detached dwelling and plot 5B as a detached bungalow with turning, parking and garage) Land at Marshalls Mead	No objections

9. Police Report, no crimes have been recorded in the last 30 days, in the same period there have been 3 calls logged, all public safety. Mrs Millward has resigned as the co-ordinator of Speedwatch , so a new co-ordinator has to be appointed, this will be discussed at the next meeting.

10. Ways to improve the Village and Parish Environment. Cllr Millward is organising an Environmental Public Open Workshop here in Beaford Hall, to look at green options this has been deferred to June. Cllr Berry has booked a meeting with “Treescape” to offer free trees to parish’s, date to be confirmed.

11. Caretakers Report & Hall report. A Hall meeting has been held more committee members are ideally required, the play being held on the 29th April was discussed, a lot has been spent on the hall recently with the refurbishment. The suggestion is for a meet and greet at a coffee morning in the hall with representatives from all organisations in attendance. It was raised regarding fund raising opportunity for farmers is to donate scrape metal.

12. Correspondence

i. The DALC newsletters have been circulated.

ii. The weekly crime reports have been circulated.

iii. ND & T Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment has been circulated.

iv. Launch of northern Devon People and Place Project

v. Youth Group, this is a group set up in the hall, now that Caterpillars has closed, some residents thought it would be good for parents, carers or anyone needing some company to meet on a Friday from 9am to 12 noon in the hall at a Community Hub for a coffee with play equipment for young children available.

Date of next meeting: **Wednesday 27th April 2022** The Annual Parish Meeting in the Parish Hall **7.30pm**

Followed by a Parish Council meeting.

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

Forthcoming meeting: Wednesday 25th May 2022 Annual Parish Council meeting.