

BEAFORD PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the
Wednesday 18th January 2023

354

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

In attendance - Cllr Saywell County Councillor

Apologies, Cllr R Huxtable Cllr R Lock Cllr Clarke District Councillors 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.

1.i. The Minutes of the meeting held on 30th November were agreed and signed

2. Clerks Report, i. Councillors are encouraged to apply for grants.

3. Chairman's Report i. The Village Green, there has been a request from a villager to ask for a disabled parking bay for their child on the Village Green, this was discussed but unfortunately it is out of the Parish Councils hands, as the Village Green has Village Green status and has done since 1972, therefore the area has covenants on it and legal requirements, and exceptions have to be submitted to the Secretary of State to make any changes. The Parish Council regret they are unable to carry out the request as their hands are tied. A reply will be sent.

ii. The flashing speed signs, after discussion and deliberation it was proposed by Cllr Palmer seconded by Cllr Pearce to accept the quote from Elan for the Evolis Radar Speed sign at a cost of £2250 plus VAT all in favour, this will be ordered. Cllr Huxtable has carried out the Health and Safety requirements to be able to move the sign.

4. Highway Issues. i. Footpaths a letter has been received from a parishioner regarding the closure of the at Beaford Woods path below Harepath. The Parish Council have forwarded in the past all communications but it is now out of Parish Council hands and has to be dealt with by those with an issue with the closure, the Parish Council are unable to move the issue forward but the email will be forwarded to the representative dealing with this at DCC with a covering letter asking for an update. At the last meeting there was a request forwarded to DCC highways for Street lights and a drop curd the response from Mark James Highway Superintendent was he has spoken to the Street Lighting team and unfortunately, they have no remaining budget for new street lights at this time. They would be happy to help with organising the installation of a new light, but it would have to be funded by the Parish. Similarly, we would be happy to approve the drop kerb on Rye Park but this too would have to be funded by the Parish as we have no funds available for this type of scheme at present. This will be addressed again in the future.

The installation of grit/snow bins a enquiry was made to Mark James with the response, Mr James can help with grit bins. DCC are able to supply grit bins to the PC, at a cost of £350 each, which includes ongoing maintenance and refilling. At the moment though, the Council prefers to redistribute under-utilised, existing bins according to how often they are used. Having said that, from the information on our system it looks like there is only one in the whole parish at the moment! This is at Wooleigh Cross. If there are any more that you are aware of, could you please let me know as they may have dropped off our system and I can get them re-instated.

After discussion it was suggested to purchase 4 to be placed at the T junction at Shephard's Meadow, by the school, Marshalls Mead and the top of George Street, this is a cost of £1400 a grant

is to be applied for this project from Cllr Clarke of £200, proposed by Cllr Palmer seconded by Cllr Berry all in favour, Mr James is to be asked to visit the village to ensure all sites are suitable.

The DCC website is devon.cc/report-it

It was reported the dog bin at Towell Lane needs to be looked as there seems to be an issue.

It was raised regarding the hall car park which is in need of some filling it is to be asked if there are any plainings available from the yard at Merton.

5. County and District Councillors items Cllr Saywell reported with the appointment of Donna Mason the new Chief Executive, DCC are looking towards transforming the way it works to deliver better services. **Potholes** Please remember to report potholes online on devon.cc/report-it or telephone 0345 155 1004 Last week we reached 2700 safety defect potholes awaiting repair. 500 are being reported each day. Some of the pot holes gangs have been on the gritters at present.

Budgets the budget is very tight, day centres may have to be closed. Will report in detail next month but the situation is looking more positive than in the autumn with additional funding coming through from Central Government to help with social care services.

Other News – please see the news stories below regarding good reports for our Public Health Nursing service and our Adult social care services.

[Care watchdogs give Devon's Public Health Nursing service a glowing report following inspection - News](#)

[Devon's social care services for adults is among the highest performing nationally - News](#)

Cost of Living Lastly, there is support available for people, families and businesses struggling with the cost of living. Please see online here - [Cost of living | Help and advice for people in Devon | Devon County Council](#)

6. Tennis Court, this is ongoing.

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

551	Beaford Village Hall	£12.00
552	Beaford PCC	£500.00
553	Coronation celebrations	£200.00

i. The Coronation celebrations were discussed it was proposed by Cllr Berry seconded by Cllr Steer to grant £200, all in favour.

8.i. **Planning**

P C recommendations

TDC

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	
1/0794/2022/FUL	Part retrospective application for the erection of implement shed and agricultural storage building land at grid reference 254814 115022, Beaford	
1/0782/2022/LBC	Replacement window, Yatton Court, Beaford.	
1/1071/2022/FUL	Proposed extension and internal alterations Latchford, Beaford	
1/1215/2022/FUL	Part retrospective application for the siting of a lodge as a permanent dwelling. Land At Towell Farm, Towell Lane, Beaford	This was discussed it was felt the question should be asked regarding the highways impact in relation to the previous planning refusals in this area due to the dangerous exiting onto the junction from Towell Lane onto the A3214. It was highlighted the change of use that has taken place at this site and the erection of sheds without permission and the erection of silage pit, where is the effluent being discharged, likewise the removal of Devon banks will no permission.

- 9. Police Report, no crimes have been reported in the last 30 days but 2 calls have been logged, 1 concern of welfare and one domestic incident.
- 10. Ways to improve the Village and Parish Environment. Cllr Millward is putting together a relaunch of parish environmental projects, there is a forthcoming meeting with Cllr Doug Smith the Mayor of Torrington.
- 11. Caretakers Report & Hall report. The putting up of the Commemorative bench was discussed, £5000 worth of new doors are to be installed. There is a meeting in February to discuss the Coronation celebrations.
- 12. Correspondence
 - i. The DALC newsletters have been circulated.
 - ii. The weekly crime reports have been circulated.
 - iii. A Christmas Card has been received from Geoffrey Cox MP.
 - iv. In the forthcoming District and Parish Elections photo ID will be required to cast a vote. Work is being undertaken on the trees in the Churchyard.

Date of next meeting: **Wednesday 22nd February 2023** in the Parish Hall 7.30pm

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

Forthcoming meeting: Wednesday 29th March 2023 Parish Council meeting.