

## BEAFORD PARISH COUNCIL

390

### Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on the Wednesday 29<sup>TH</sup> May 2024

Present Cllr G Underhill, Cllr B Millward Cllr S Berry Cllr R Pearce Cllr C Steer and Mrs A Snell clerk  
In attendance - Cllr R Lock District Councillor  
Apologies Cllr R Huxtable Cllr J Palmer Cllr Saywell County Councillor Cllr Elliott and PCSO Brown

Declaration of Interests – Councillors are invited to declare any disclosable 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.

After a paper ballot Cllr Underhill was nominated to be elected as Chairman; Cllr Underhill accepted the post.

After a paper ballot Cllr Steer was nominated to was elected as Vice Chairman, Cllr Steer accepted the post.

Parish Hall Representative, Cllr Berry was proposed by Cllr Pearce and seconded by Cllr Underhill, Cllr Berry accepted the post.

Advisory Committee, any Councillor able to attend agreed to represent the Parish Council.

Road Warden this is to be advertised.

Footpath representative Cllr Huxtable was proposed to continue.

Tennis Club representative Cllr Huxtable was proposed to continue.

Village Warden Cllr Pearce accepted the post.

Website manager Cllr Millward was proposed and accepted the post.

Cllr Millward was thanked very much for all his hard work and dedication he has put to the office of Chairman, thank you Cllr Millward.

#### Public Participation

A representative was in attendance representing the First Beaford Guides, Ms Shirley Lee, the group has limited numbers but is hoping this will improve, at present they are doing car washes at the monthly market at the hall to boost the funds. The group has containers containing equipment for camping and other activities, the containers have had to be moved with an annual ground rental cost now of £100, the dehumidifier's ongoing cost is just over £100 pa and the insurance has risen to over £300. Funds were coming in through donations from supermarkets but that has dried up, so Shirley Lee was asking for help from the Parish Council with ongoing costs.

After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Steer seconded by Cllr Millward to grant the group £500 as a one-off grant, with the request that a report is given at the APM next with a progress update.

1.i. The Minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> April were agreed and signed.

#### 2. Clerks Report,

i. Wicksteed Report, TK Play have been contacted to do the net connector, but it was not confirmed if the repairs had been undertaken, they will be contacted again. An email has been received after the meeting that the work has been undertaken. There has been reports that holes have appeared around the base of the bird's nest and the round piece of equipment a parishioner has gone over on

her ankle for stepping in one of the pits, this urgently needs to be repaired with the holes filled. This will be undertaken.

4. Chairman's Report i. The Village Green, as reported above. The litter bin at the bottom of the Green is in need of repair, also the suppliers of the Community Hut are to be asked to visit to assess the present state as it is still in warranty.

ii. Flashing speed sign, the sign has still not been erected it was proposed by Cllr Underhill and seconded by Cllr Steer to ask Mr R Heard to undertake the job, all in agreement.

iii. Defibrillators, the spare defibrillator has not found a site as yet, the pub is to be asked.

**The DCC website is [devon.cc/report-it](http://devon.cc/report-it) PLEASE REPORT or ring 0345 1004 115**

5. Highway Issues. i. The voluntary post of Road Warden, it was suggested to advertise to pay a person to do the jobs around the village, the job title will be Village Maintenance Person, proposed by Cllr Berry seconded by Cllr Pearce, all in favour, the applicant will be self employed have to hold public liability insurance, a rate of £15 per hour will be offered, with Chapter 8 training able to be arranged if desired.

ii. Footpaths, an email has been received from a parishioner regarding the closed Harepath footpath, no action will be taken by the Parish Council, as the owners have restricted the access.

There is a Public Sector Highways Transport Networks Conference on the 27<sup>th</sup> June starting at 9.30am on zoom.

The latest Road Map highways update, highlighted "Landowners and occupiers are required by law to properly maintain their trees and vegetation bordering the highway.

Landowners are advised to regularly check the health of their trees and take action where appropriate."

**6. County and District Councillors items.**

Cllr Saywell reported **Devolution** – Currently waiting for clarification as to where we stand on this following the announcement of a General Election and the dissolution of Parliament. As both main parties are committed to the devolution agenda, I would still expect a deal to be formally passed by Parliament though whether there are any further changes remains to be confirmed...

**Local Highways Matters** – The flooding/drainage issue on the 'Road from Furzeparck to Greenwarren House' (which is the back road from the village hall that loops around back to the A3124) is due to be looked at imminently, hopefully this week as the contractor had been waiting for the arrival of specialist equipment to help clear the pipe blockages which the jetter was unable to do. The road to Upcott Barton has been put forward for more serviceability patching.

The NHO has also asked that it is assessed for a 'recycling retread' scheme, this is when the top surface is plained off, remixed with new bitumen and then re-laid. This treatment was recently done in St Giles in the Wood on the road from Woolleigh Bridge to Woolleigh Mill Bridge off the A3124.

However: confirmation that we can do this either this year or next remains TBC. What would however be helpful if I had more pothole reports on this road... it is a numbers game so the more defect repairs done here the better, or else it will lose out to another road earmarked for this treatment.

Cllr Lock has been in contact with Grant McGill TDC Enforcement Officer regarding enforcement in the Parish, Mr McGill is visiting the parish the day after the meeting.

7. Tennis Court, the solicitors are moving on this but slowly, concerns were raised at the cost, (the day after the meeting it was ascertained that the cost will be between £1650- £1950 plus VAT and disbursements). The clerk is to pursue this as Mr Hartford has been asking why it is taking so long to complete.

601	Beafrod Village Hall	£15.00
602	Mr. Lovell, reissue cheque 564 plus £75 for this year	£150.00
603	Community First 2/3-year agreement	£328.28
604	Plants for village tubs Mrs. J Church	£54.94

- i. Agree and sign the Annual Governance Statement;
- ii. Agree and sign the Accounting Statement.
- iii. Agree and sign the Exemption for all it was proposed by Cllr Steer seconded by Cllr Pearce all in favour.
- iv. Fixed Asset Register this was circulated to councillors

9.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	
1/0276/2024/FUL	Change of use of office & warehouse into a dwelling with office alongside, with proposed coach house with granny annexe above (Variation of conditions 2 and 4 of planning approval 1/0647/2020/FUL) Canns Down Press, Beaford,	Permitted
1/0130/2024/LBC	Replacement windows, Yatton Park	Permitted
1/0459/2024/AGM B	Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 1 no. dwellinghouse and associated building operations under Class Q (affecting a public right of way) Agricultural Building At Grid Reference 254558 114982, Beaford, Devon	
1/0650/2023/FUL Appeal Reference: APP/W1145/W/24/3341178	Part retrospective application for siting of a lodge as a local needs dwelling (resubmission of application 1/1215/2022/FUL) Towell Farm, Towell Lane,	

10. Police Report, no report was received.

11. Ways to improve the Village and Parish Environment.

12. Caretakers Report & Hall report, the next big event for the Hall is the D Day Commemorative event on the 8<sup>th</sup> June with a band and hog roast, the beacon will be lit on the 6<sup>th</sup> June at 9.51pm.

13. Correspondence

- i. The DALC newsletters have been circulated.
- ii. An invitation has been received from the North Devon records office to view some unique items from the extensive collections. With a short introductory talk by Scott Pettitt, Head of Devon Archives & Local Studies, plus an optional strongroom tour, on the 18<sup>th</sup> June between 2pm and 4pm.
- iii. An invitation has also been received to join Rural Villages Service Group.

Date of next meeting: **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024** in the Parish Hall 7.30pm

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

Forthcoming meeting: Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024 Parish Council meeting.