

BEAFORD PARISH COUNCIL

399

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the Wednesday 18th September 2024

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

Public Participation

1.i. The Minutes of the meeting held on 31st July were agreed and signed.

2. Clerks Report,

i. The Flashing Speed sign has been erected, to very good reviews, insurance has been checked and all is in order.

ii. Sale of the top half of the hall car park, Cllr Underhill has endeavoured to visit the Beaford Arts offices in Barnstaple but to no avail.

4. Chairman's Report i. The Village Green, the Chestnut tree on the Green is being played on by the children ideally it is not the correct tree for the situation, as the branches are low etc, this will be monitored. ii. The litter bin at the bottom of the Green is broken, it was proposed after discussion to purchase an Elipsa from Gladson at a cost of £189.19 including VAT plus delivery, by Cllr Milward seconded by Cllr Steer all in favour, ideally the bin should be on a concrete base, so this will be sorted by using a paving slab concreted in.

ii. Defibrillators, as there has been no response to organise a defibrillator training evening, none will be organised at present.

The DCC website is devon.cc/report-it PLEASE REPORT or ring 0345 1004 115

5. Highway Issues. i. Early in the summer it was noted that vegetation from gardens along the main road were over hanging the footpath, a note was placed in the Bugle asking residents to cut there hedges back. It was reported highways have been twice to try and fix the manhole covers on the main road with traffic lights but when the lights were erected there was not enough room for traffic to pass so they went away again subsequently the manhole covers are not fixed.

6. County and District Councillors items. Cllr Saywell reported **Family Hubs** – The Council has formally agreed to proceed with the Family Hub provision and change the way Children's Centres operate. This will move the service away from a limited and targeted approach to a universal offer. Discussions over the future use of the Children's Centre building in Torrington continue and from the discussions I have had with Officials I know they are keen to build links with the wider community as the new Family Hub model should provide more support for parents and families in Torrington Rural. One of the areas highlighted during the consultation has been childcare provision and the thinking has been that the existing building could be remodelled to provide a child care facility in the town, but

those discussions are continuing. The other positive of this model is also to provide more support for families in rural communities like Petrockstowe, so that we're not having to make young parents in the Parish travel to a building in Bideford or Barnstaple etc. and even make use of the facilities we have locally such as the Community Centre. **Local Highways Matters** – Drainage works are being carried out on the Road from Furzepark to Greenwarren House. The 'flashing speed sign' or VAS has now been erected, and I have raised with the Neighbourhood Highways Officer if we can get some preventative treatment on the A3124 both north and south of the village ahead of the winter, if possible. **Devolution** – We are still awaiting news from the new Government as to how they wish the proceed with the Devolution Deal. My understanding is that the new Government have made it very clear to Plymouth that they have to choose a partner – either Cornwall or Devon – to work with and that they cannot have a separate devolution deal on their own... We will wait to see how these machinations play out. Again, my understanding is that they want a decision this month and an announcement is expected imminently. As all the legal documentation etc. is ready to go before Parliament, I would hope that even if Plymouth do not wish to rejoin with Devon, we can get the statutory instruments approved in Parliament and then work with the Government on any potential changes they want to make to the Combined Authority. **Summer Holiday Activities and Food** – Holiday activities and food for children who receive free school meals were provided again over the summer holidays. Funded by the Department for Education, DCC teamed up with over 100 different activity providers across Devon to offer more than 30,000 places to children aged five to 16 years old, who receive benefit-related free school meals.

The traffic situation through the village was highlighted and discussed regarding extending the yellow lines etc, but when the new development off of the main road is built the situation will change again so it will be reassessed at that point.

Cllr Lock reported on the Towell housing development the final draft of the S106 is with the applicants' solicitors but as yet still not signed. Cllr Lock is frustrated with TDC enforcement as an enforcement notice should be severed on the Towel Lane lodge and Mr Mc Gill has not visited the Down Lane silage pit.

7. Tennis Court, an email has been sent to Mr Hartford in an effort to get the transfer sorted.

8. Finance, Approve and sign the following cheques: - ,

608	Beaford Village Hall	£15.00
610	Glasdon	£

9.i. Planning

P C recommendations

TDC

	P C recommendations	TDC
1/0279/2020/OU T	Outline application with all matters reserved for the erection of up to 18 dwellings (affecting a public right of way) Land at Towell Lane	
1/0650/2023/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,	Refused
1/0581/2024/FUL	Ground mounted solar panels, Canns Down	Approved

10. Police Report, no report. But it was raised at the weekend there has been youth vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the village after 12 o'clock on the Saturday night, PCSO Brown is to be informed and contact details to report such problems put in the Bugle. A request is to be made to PCSO Brown for more regular visits to the village and meetings would be appreciated.

11. Caretakers Report & Hall report, Nigel Castle attended the meeting to report he has teak oiled one bench, but the other benches need a lot more than just sanding as preparation for oiling, the area from the bench on Green Lane has been hoed also the archway leading into the play area. A green wheelie bin is to be requested from TDC, Cllr Lock is to ask as it is for Parish waste if an exemption would apply to the charge. It was agreed to paint the bus shelter white in due course, the question of signs around the village was raised. Mr Castle will present an invoice at the next meeting, the invoice will be presented as a recording of hours and dates, there is still a trial period and the overall cost to the Parish Council will be assessed.

The South West Fixings credit limit has been set at £50 per month.

The hall committee have had great success with events put on over the summer months, the new window has been put in, the money granted by the Parish Council.

12. Correspondence

i. The DALC newsletters have been circulated, including the DALC Conference to be held on the 2nd October and an extensive range of training courses available.

ii. The Torridge Collaborative group has been in contact regarding parishes getting together to share information and ideas, the meeting was tonight with Mr Richard Haste from TDC Waste and Recycling, councillors will be informed of the next meeting.

Date of next meeting: **Wednesday 30th October 2024** in the Parish Hall 7.30pm

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

Forthcoming meeting: Wednesday 27th November 2024 Parish Council meeting.