

## **Minutes of the Broadwoodwidge Parish Council meeting.**

**Thursday 25th October 2022, 7.00pm at Broadwoodwidge Community Hub**

**Those in attendance: Cllr James (Chairman), Cllrs Perkin, Worden, Crocombe, Nobbs, Stratton, Wonnacott, Clerk.**

**Members of the public present: 0**

**5610. Apologies for absence:**

Cllr Hawken, District Cllr Watson. County Cllr Morrish

**5611. Declaration of Interests**

The Chairman declared that interests be raised as they arise.

**5612. Public Open Question Time**

None.

**5613. Police Report**

No report received. The Clerk reported that the Devon and Cornwall Police website was up to date as of August 2022 and noted 2 incidents within the Parish. The Clerk has received an invitation to a TEAMS meeting which will be the first multi council meeting. The Clerk will seek clarification of whether this is open to all councillors or just the Clerk. PC Frank Morgan advised that they do still hope to attend parish council meetings in person when possible. Cllr Perkin suggested we obtain the neighbourhood watch newsletters; the Clerk will investigate this.

**5614. County Councillor Report**

Received by email.

'Dear all, Firstly, may i say thank you to members of council and members of public who have sent me good wishes over the last 6 months following sadly another period of ill health. Health wise i am improving but still have a way to go. My main issue is that i am on 14 tablets per day which makes me extremely tired from about 4 pm. Hopefully, this will soon improve and i can return to some parish meetings. On council issues i have attended 7 meetings in the last 2 months mainly at county hall. It is clear to me that the costs over the past 2 years have hit a very big hole in DCC reserves and some projects have been put on hold. Roads continue to be a major issue in our ward and although some have been repaired many are still on a very long list . I have and will continue to do all i can even this morning a resident called me regarding the Upcott road which i have reported once again. As chairman of Devon Pension fund i am very aware of the challenges facing investments. On the one hand we have requests to de invest in fuel companies etc and on the other many members telling me to get the best returns for their money no matter what. The Devon fund stands at about £5billion so it is a huge responceability. Rural Transport continues to be a challenge for residents and the latest news that Stage coach will soon be reducing it service from okehampton and Holsworthy to Bude does nothing to help. Finally, i am very aware of my absence from Broadwood PC meetings of late but i have been advised very clearly my health has to come first. Please do call me if there is something you wish me to deal with as my DCC laptop has gone wrong and as such cant be used at the moment. Once again thank you for your support Kind regards, James'

## **5615. District Councillor Report**

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'Question: - Why has Torridge stopped funding small organisations:

Torridge reluctantly has had to stop funding various organisations and H.R.C.T. is one of them, this organisation had quite a substantial bank balance when it applied for funding. T.D.C. in general have had to find ways to save money to balance the budget. It was agreed at a meeting of its Overview & Scrutiny Committee that funding would be withdrawn from certain organisations over a two-year period allowing them to secure other forms of revenue. Over the coming year there will be many more disappointed organisations who will regretfully lose their funding from TDC. The Council predict a large shortfall in funds and are working hard to keep much needed frontline services in place. Enforcement - I had a meeting with one of TDC's Enforcement Officers who very shortly afterwards was taken seriously ill and ended up in hospital, unfortunately he didn't get chance to type up his reports and he is now waiting for an operation. TDC's other Enforcement Officer who already had a large workload agreed to help wherever possible. Due to personal circumstances our remaining Enforcement Officer decided to transfer over to the Planning Department. This has caused TDC a bit of a problem as our only remaining Officer is not firing on all cylinders and is unfortunately office bound at the moment. TDC have recently advertised for a replacement Enforcement Officer and are currently in the process of interviewing five applicants for the role. I must stress that it is not obligatory for TDC to have an Enforcement Team as such and should this become a reality the task of Enforcement would then fall at the Planning Department's door as and when a Planning Officer was available.'

Council members instructed the Clerk to respond to express that there are still major concerns regarding enforcement and funding of organisations. The Clerk will state that council hope that the District Councillors will keep the pressure up for these roles to continue and will comment that West Devon Borough Council seem to be taking enforcement very seriously. Cllr Perkin thought it would have been courteous for Cllr Watson to have formerly addressed council regarding his move away from the district. The Clerk will ask that Cllr Hackett attends a meeting in his absence.

## **5616. Council Meeting Minutes**

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Referring to section **5594** of the previous minutes Councillor Ken James responded on October 7<sup>th</sup> to advise that he would raise council's concerns over planning application 1/0717/2022/AGMB and that they hoped to replace the enforcement offer that had moved over to planning. Council instructed the Clerk to follow up on this requesting an update and expressing that council do not feel their concerns are being taken seriously.

## **5618. Planning**

1/0949/2022/FUL - Part retrospective amendment to part of the access track - Land At Grid Reference 240126 090220 - The Clerk will respond to advise that Council have no comments on this application.

#### **5619. Accounts due for payment**

Clerks Wages £335.40  
Clerks Expenses £79.96 (4 x poppy wreaths)

Accounts proposed by Cllr Perkin and seconded by Cllr Worden, all agreed.

#### **5620. Restoration of Cross Green phone box**

Cllr Nobbs advised that the phone box had been straightened up and that the ground around the phone box had been cleared up, some further work will take place with a mini digger. The Clerk confirmed that the contractor planned to start the restoration work later this week. The Clerk advised that BT would not charge for the electricity used to run a defibrillator. The Chairman proposed that council arrange a first aid course for residents to attend which would include how to use a defibrillator. The Chairman has received a quote and proposed council subsidise the course by 50%. Cllr Wonnacott proposed council cover the full cost of the course if the funds are available. Cllr Nobbs will obtain a second quote for comparison purposes

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The Clerk reported that despite regular attempts she has been unable to contact the Footpath Liaison Officer directly or via the general contact number/email. Cllr Perkin proposed the Clerk write to County Cllr Morrish to ask for assistance, Cllr James seconded this, and all council members agreed.

#### **5622. Devon Highways Response**

A further response was received from NHO Steve Brockman advising the matters would not be taken further. Councillors are not satisfied with the response received and instructed the Clerk to forward the correspondence to the County Councillor for assistance. Council will also respond to the NHO to advise that the response is not acceptable.

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The Chairman proposed that a parish celebration is held to mark the occasion. Perhaps a cream tea on the Sunday afternoon. The Clerk will speak to the members of the Parish who proposed an annual fete to discuss whether they would like to be involved in the arrangements. Cllr Stratton advised the slideshow he made for the Queen's Jubilee event could be used again. Cllr Stratton has been asked to provide/sell copies of the slideshow and he asked council for their thoughts on this particularly in relation to difficulties associated with copyright and data protection. Cllr Perkin proposed it remain solely within the Parish Council, Cllr Nobbs seconded, and all council members agreed.

#### **5624. To Receive Correspondence**

A catalogue of merchandise for Remembrance Sunday was viewed and councillors agreed to purchase a flag and some replacement wooden crosses. Proposed by Cllr James, seconded by Cllr Perkin, all council members agreed.

A member of the public has requested permission to park a vehicle by the village green. Council agreed that it could not grant this permission as it would set precedent for other residents and there is not enough space to accommodate everyone.

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A member of the public emailed to expressed concerns and frustrations over the condition of the roads. Council will respond to acknowledge the comments and to confirm that we continue to fight for this work to be done.

**5625. Parish Clerk's Report**

None.

**5626. Any other Business**

Cllr Wonacott advised he had experienced some difficulty logging in to the online banking but would look to resolve this asap.

The Chairman shared details of the upcoming coffee morning and craft fair that will be held in the hub on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October from 10-12.

Cllr Perkin shared the date for carols at Upcott Barton which will held on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

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Council members instructed the Clerk to respond to express that there are still major concerns regarding enforcement and funding of organisations. The Clerk will state that council hope that the District Councillors will keep the pressure up for these roles to continue and will comment that West Devon Borough Council seem to be taking enforcement very seriously. Cllr Perkin thought it would have been courteous for Cllr Watson to have formerly addressed council regarding his move away from the district. The Clerk will ask that Cllr Hackett attends a meeting in his absence.

## **5616. Council Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 were previously circulated, no adjustments needed, proposed by Cllr Worden, seconded by Cllr Perkin, all agreed.

## **5617. Matters Arising**

Referring to section **5594** of the previous minutes Councillor Ken James responded on October 7<sup>th</sup> to advise that he would raise council's concerns over planning application 1/0717/2022/AGMB and that they hoped to replace the enforcement offer that had moved over to planning. Council instructed the Clerk to follow up on this requesting an update and expressing that council do not feel their concerns are being taken seriously.

## **5618. Planning**

1/0949/2022/FUL - Part retrospective amendment to part of the access track - Land At Grid Reference 240126 090220 - The Clerk will respond to advise that Council have no comments on this application.

#### **5619. Accounts due for payment**

Clerks Wages £335.40  
Clerks Expenses £79.96 (4 x poppy wreaths)

Accounts proposed by Cllr Perkin and seconded by Cllr Worden, all agreed.

#### **5620. Restoration of Cross Green phone box**

Cllr Nobbs advised that the phone box had been straightened up and that the ground around the phone box had been cleared up, some further work will take place with a mini digger. The Clerk confirmed that the contractor planned to start the restoration work later this week. The Clerk advised that BT would not charge for the electricity used to run a defibrillator. The Chairman proposed that council arrange a first aid course for residents to attend which would include how to use a defibrillator. The Chairman has received a quote and proposed council subsidise the course by 50%. Cllr Wonnacott proposed council cover the full cost of the course if the funds are available. Cllr Nobbs will obtain a second quote for comparison purposes

#### **5621. Footpath maintenance**

The Clerk reported that despite regular attempts she has been unable to contact the Footpath Liaison Officer directly or via the general contact number/email. Cllr Perkin proposed the Clerk write to County Cllr Morrish to ask for assistance, Cllr James seconded this, and all council members agreed.

#### **5622. Devon Highways Response**

A further response was received from NHO Steve Brockman advising the matters would not be taken further. Councillors are not satisfied with the response received and instructed the Clerk to forward the correspondence to the County Councillor for assistance. Council will also respond to the NHO to advise that the response is not acceptable.

#### **5623. King Charles Coronation**

The Chairman proposed that a parish celebration is held to mark the occasion. Perhaps a cream tea on the Sunday afternoon. The Clerk will speak to the members of the Parish who proposed an annual fete to discuss whether they would like to be involved in the arrangements. Cllr Stratton advised the slideshow he made for the Queen's Jubilee event could be used again. Cllr Stratton has been asked to provide/sell copies of the slideshow and he asked council for their thoughts on this particularly in relation to difficulties associated with copyright and data protection. Cllr Perkin proposed it remain solely within the Parish Council, Cllr Nobbs seconded, and all council members agreed.

#### **5624. To Receive Correspondence**

A catalogue of merchandise for Remembrance Sunday was viewed and councillors agreed to purchase a flag and some replacement wooden crosses. Proposed by Cllr James, seconded by Cllr Perkin, all council members agreed.

A member of the public has requested permission to park a vehicle by the village green. Council agreed that it could not grant this permission as it would set precedent for other residents and there is not enough space to accommodate everyone.

A member of the public enquired into birth, marriage, and death certificates. The Clerk will pass the email on to the Church Warden.

DH Garden Services provided details and asked to be considered for any tenders. The Clerk will hold their details on record and find out where they are based.

A grant request was received from South West Heritage Trust for funds towards the running of the North Devon Record Office. The Clerk will circulate the details to council members and agenda for the next meeting.

A member of the public emailed to expressed concerns and frustrations over the condition of the roads. Council will respond to acknowledge the comments and to confirm that we continue to fight for this work to be done.

**5625. Parish Clerk's Report**

None.

**5626. Any other Business**

Cllr Wonacott advised he had experienced some difficulty logging in to the online banking but would look to resolve this asap.

The Chairman shared details of the upcoming coffee morning and craft fair that will be held in the hub on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October from 10-12.

Cllr Perkin shared the date for carols at Upcott Barton which will held on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**5627 Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 7pm.

**5628. Close**

The meeting was closed at 8.02pm.



## **Minutes of the Broadwoodwidge Parish Council meeting.**

**Thursday 25th October 2022, 7.00pm at Broadwoodwidge Community Hub**

**Those in attendance: Cllr James (Chairman), Cllrs Perkin, Worden, Crocombe, Nobbs, Stratton, Wonnacott, Clerk.**

**Members of the public present: 0**

**5610. Apologies for absence:**

Cllr Hawken, District Cllr Watson. County Cllr Morrish

**5611. Declaration of Interests**

The Chairman declared that interests be raised as they arise.

**5612. Public Open Question Time**

None.

**5613. Police Report**

No report received. The Clerk reported that the Devon and Cornwall Police website was up to date as of August 2022 and noted 2 incidents within the Parish. The Clerk has received an invitation to a TEAMS meeting which will be the first multi council meeting. The Clerk will seek clarification of whether this is open to all councillors or just the Clerk. PC Frank Morgan advised that they do still hope to attend parish council meetings in person when possible. Cllr Perkin suggested we obtain the neighbourhood watch newsletters; the Clerk will investigate this.

**5614. County Councillor Report**

Received by email.

'Dear all, Firstly, may i say thank you to members of council and members of public who have sent me good wishes over the last 6 months following sadly another period of ill health. Health wise i am improving but still have a way to go. My main issue is that i am on 14 tablets per day which makes me extremely tired from about 4 pm. Hopefully, this will soon improve and i can return to some parish meetings. On council issues i have attended 7 meetings in the last 2 months mainly at county hall. It is clear to me that the costs over the past 2 years have hit a very big hole in DCC reserves and some projects have been put on hold. Roads continue to be a major issue in our ward and although some have been repaired many are still on a very long list . I have and will continue to do all i can even this morning a resident called me regarding the Upcott road which i have reported once again. As chairman of Devon Pension fund i am very aware of the challenges facing investments. On the one hand we have requests to de invest in fuel companies etc and on the other many members telling me to get the best returns for their money no matter what. The Devon fund stands at about £5billion so it is a huge responceability. Rural Transport continues to be a challenge for residents and the latest news that Stage coach will soon be reducing it service from okehampton and Holsworthy to Bude does nothing to help. Finally, i am very aware of my absence from Broadwood PC meetings of late but i have been advised very clearly my health has to come first. Please do call me if there is something you wish me to deal with as my DCC laptop has gone wrong and as such cant be used at the moment. Once again thank you for your support Kind regards, James'

## **5615. District Councillor Report**

Received by email.

'Question: - Why has Torridge stopped funding small organisations:

Torridge reluctantly has had to stop funding various organisations and H.R.C.T. is one of them, this organisation had quite a substantial bank balance when it applied for funding. T.D.C. in general have had to find ways to save money to balance the budget. It was agreed at a meeting of its Overview & Scrutiny Committee that funding would be withdrawn from certain organisations over a two-year period allowing them to secure other forms of revenue. Over the coming year there will be many more disappointed organisations who will regretfully lose their funding from TDC. The Council predict a large shortfall in funds and are working hard to keep much needed frontline services in place. Enforcement - I had a meeting with one of TDC's Enforcement Officers who very shortly afterwards was taken seriously ill and ended up in hospital, unfortunately he didn't get chance to type up his reports and he is now waiting for an operation. TDC's other Enforcement Officer who already had a large workload agreed to help wherever possible. Due to personal circumstances our remaining Enforcement Officer decided to transfer over to the Planning Department. This has caused TDC a bit of a problem as our only remaining Officer is not firing on all cylinders and is unfortunately office bound at the moment. TDC have recently advertised for a replacement Enforcement Officer and are currently in the process of interviewing five applicants for the role. I must stress that it is not obligatory for TDC to have an Enforcement Team as such and should this become a reality the task of Enforcement would then fall at the Planning Department's door as and when a Planning Officer was available.'

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