

BUCKLAND TOUT SAINTS PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of meeting held at St Peter's Church at 6pm on Tuesday 21st
March 2023

Present: Councillors Jane Harrison, Andy Brunner-Ellis, Harry Kerswell and Dan Bridger.

County Cllr Rufus Gilbert. Helen Hamilton, Clerk.

There were 7 members of the public in attendance.

***** Cllr Harrison acting as Chair for this meeting *****

1 APOLOGIES – Apologies had been received from Cllr Jones

2 ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – nil

3 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

County Cllr Gilbert

Road repairs in the parish are being identified and works will be carried out between Sigdon to Ledstone. Clerk to distribute email received with this info.

The new CEO has started at DCC.

From the Budget £200m has been allocated toward pothole repairs in England. DCC is to receive £9.5m of these monies to support with repairs.

The Devolution deal for Devon has been approved, however democratic structures across unitary and district councils will remain the same and therefore there will be no need for an elected mayor, as in other devolution deals in other areas of the country. Decisions regarding Housing, Public Transport, Skills and Investment will no longer need to go to central government. DCC will be able to make these decisions in agreement with the leaders of the district councils.

Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) are set to be disbanded. They were set up to distribute central government monies into the local area for economic development. However, there were concerns over the accountability of LEPs as members were not elected. It is expected that local authorities are to take over this function.

Gara Bridge, Loddiswell has been hit and serious damage caused. It is expected that it will be closed for several months whilst repairs are carried out which will require English Heritage approval.

There are two funds available from DCC; Household Support Grant for those requiring support during the cost of living crisis, and Growing Community Funds which is aimed at charities. More information can be found on the DCC website; devon.gov.uk

The cycle route between Salcombe to Marlborough is open again following the closure to allow for hedge cutting.

Cllr Gilbert left at 18:15

4 MINUTES The minutes from the meeting on 24th January 2023 had been circulated and it was agreed that they be approved as a true record of those proceedings. Cllr Harrison signed them accordingly.

5 FINANCIAL REPORT

Clerk read out payments made in February to be minuted:

HMRC	PAYE – Feb	£39.40
H.Hamilton	Clerk Salary – Feb	£157.93
H.Hamilton	Refund of stationary costs	£50.16

a. Expenditure to be approved

It was agreed that the following items of expenditure be approved:

HMRC	PAYE – March	£39.40
H.Hamilton	Salary – March	£157.93
J. Harrison	Refund of tickets	£25.00
BTS PCC	Church Hire	£40.00
ICO	Annual renewal	£35.00

The clerk confirmed that the bank balance as of 17/03/23 was £5290.29. The finance spreadsheet had been emailed to cllrs prior to the meeting and had been seen by all. Cllr Harrison signed a hard copy of the finance spreadsheet for records.

6 PLANNING

0225/23/VAR, Torr Hill Park, Torr Quarry Industrial Estate TQ9 7QQ

The cllrs had no objection overall to this variation of a planning application. Cllr Harrison highlighted that the roof line and ridge position has changed, yet it will still need to conform to the height restriction for buildings on the Torr Quarry estate. Solar PV roof panels are planned and the PC would like to ensure that this meets the Plymouth & SW Devon Climate Emergency plans that all new developments are expected to meet.

7 REVIEW OF STATUTORY DOCUMENTS

a. Code of Conduct

Had been reviewed by all cllrs and all in unanimous agreement to adopt the Code of Conduct by the Parish Council immediately.

b. General Risk Assessment

Had been reviewed by all cllrs and all in unanimous agreement to adopt the General Risk Assessment by the Parish Council immediately.

c. Statement of Internal Controls

Had been reviewed by all cllrs and all in unanimous agreement to adopt the Statement of Internal Controls by the Parish Council immediately.

8 CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr Harrison read out a report from Cllr Jones:

After attending an interesting Sustainable South Hams Rivers Assembly on Saturday I have put the PC forward to regularly take and record water samples from the streams/brooks in our Parish. To help build a larger picture of the quality of water entering the Kingsbridge estuary. The message coming across was that we must all, as a community take responsibility for protecting the delicate balance of our estuary.

Another interesting topic covered was the reintroduction of water vole project in progress on the Gara river which exits into the Slapton Ley - introducing 800 new voles to 5 areas along the river to improve the quality and biodiversity of the water banks.

Superfast broadband: The roll out of the network is complete. However, there has been a couple of late arrivals to the project who we are supporting through the process. On the whole the project is complete. Openreach's press office contacted me to ask for an interview regarding our experience as a community of their handling of the install from which I'm waiting on a draft for approval.

Coronation Celebrations:

Much discussion was held re. the Coronation Celebrations. Madeline Moore and her committee are making headway with plans, with the Parish Picnic to be held at 2pm at Buckland Court. Madeline brought a prototype of the proposed mug to commemorate the Coronation. It is proposed that all children, 16 years and younger, in the Parish will receive a mug. Clerk is to put an application in to Cllr Foss' Locality Fund for support with costs.

Annual Parish Meeting:

Plans put in motion for the APM. Several individuals have volunteered to bring cakes. Ann Williams will provide tea and coffees. Clerk to liaise with Ben, Home Energy Advisor from South Dartmoor Community Energy (SDCE) regarding his requirements. It is anticipated the presentation will cover:

- * understanding energy bills
- * what to consider to make your home warmer
- * how to use less energy and energy saving measures
- * how to tackle damp or mould problems
- * fuel debt
- * grants to improve the energy efficiency of your home.

All parishioners are invited to join us for this informal meeting which will be followed by tea, coffee and cake.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting, Annual Parish Meeting (APM), is on Tuesday 25th April, 6pm at St Peter's Church.

Meeting closed at 19:00

Helen Hamilton, Clerk