

LANGTREE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

8th JANUARY 2020

Present	Councillors: Terry Attridge Geoff Bond Jenny Coles Mark Glover Chairman Pat Mitchell David Hurley (TDC)
In attendance	Leigh Pollinger – Parish Clerk 1 member of the public.
232	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies received from Colin Edworthy and Andrew Saywell DCC
233	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
233.1	Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There were no matters arising which are not being covered elsewhere.
233.2	Minutes of meeting held on 11 th December 2019 to be agreed and signed. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes were approved. Proposed by Geoff Bond and seconded by Terry Attridge.
234	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Hurley advised that it was house at Watergate Barn that the planning application below applied to.
235	REPORTS
235.1	Police Community Support Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Melissa Baker gave an overview of the reports that are given to the parish council on a monthly basis. Unfortunately they are unable to provide further detail.• The police are encouraging the reporting of crimes through their website rather than dialling 101.• Sergeant Sarah Jupp has taken over the responsibility for the Torrington Police Station.
235.2	County Councillor

	<p>Councillor Saywell provided a report with the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCC Budget Preparations – work is ongoing for DCC’s Budget for 2020-21. The Council has now received its financial settlement from central government which was in line with expectations. It should not be a harsh budget but as Officers have only got back from the Christmas break I won’t have more information until next month. • Health and Care Workers on street parking permit – DCC will be officially announcing the launch of an improved health and care workers parking permit scheme with additional exemptions later this week. Holders will be allowed to park on roads with single and double yellow lines for up to an hour – but only if nearby alternative parking isn’t available, they display the new permit, and they do not present a danger to road users or cause an obstruction. <p>The new scheme will not only help provide the flexibility that care support workers need and therefore make it easier for them to do their jobs where parking is at a premium, it will also help the Council ensure that the permits are correctly used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire Service Changes – Revised proposals for changes to the Fire Service have now been published. Most station closures will now not be going ahead save for Budleigh and Topsham (the latter is being re-located to Clyst St George). A new payment system for on-call firefighters will be introduced, as will new more flexible crewing arrangements and it is hoped that this will help increase availability in stations that are currently struggling to recruit and retain firefighters. <p>A new 24 hour shift system for wholetime firefighters will, subject to negotiation with the unions, be introduced. This will avoid the need to downgrade 24 hour cover at existing wholetime stations to day-crewing, plus will free up resources to introduce roving fire appliances and more community safety prevention work.</p> <p>These new proposals will be discussed and decided upon on Friday. Once we have a decision I’m happy to talk in more detail about them if you wish.</p>
235.3	<p>District Councillor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The parking ticket machine at the bottom of Sydney House car park only works intermittently. If a fault is reported it takes up to 3 days for an engineer to come out. • The team responsible for managing the general election activity worked well through out the district during the recent election. The five yearly polling district review is underway.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dispute between Kivells and TDC has been to court with TDC losing the case. Court costs, compensation etc. are being calculated. 						
236	PARISH MATTERS						
236.1	<p>To receive an update on progress of Langtree Meadows building works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 of the affordable homes are now occupied. A purchaser for the remaining house has now been identified. 						
236.2	<p>To receive an update regarding the recreation field activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funding activities this month. Woodland Trust trees are due in the first two weeks of March, the pack includes protective spirals and canes. Tree types include silver birch, rowan, wild cherry. It was requested that trees are not planted on top of heat source pipework – the planting and excavating teams will need to work together during March to identify go / no go areas. Advertising of the availability of the football pitch needs to be considered. 						
237	PLANNING						
237.1	<p>To consider planning application 1/1136/2019/FUL Watergate Barn Langtree Torrington Devon EX38 8PA. Erection of porch to the front elevation and conservatory to the rear elevation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No objections were raised. 						
237.1	<p>To consider any other planning applications received between issuing of agenda and meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No other plans had been received. 						
238	CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCE						
238.1	<p>To receive update on financial position at end December 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bank balances at end of December <table border="1" data-bbox="528 1659 1385 1883"> <tr> <td>Lloyds Bank balance at 31/12/19</td> <td>£410.27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lloyds Number 2 account at 31/12/19</td> <td>£10001.91</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£10412.18</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note £2500 is reserved for Langtree Park purchases 	Lloyds Bank balance at 31/12/19	£410.27	Lloyds Number 2 account at 31/12/19	£10001.91	Total	£10412.18
Lloyds Bank balance at 31/12/19	£410.27						
Lloyds Number 2 account at 31/12/19	£10001.91						
Total	£10412.18						

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payments were made to Torridge District Council £285.89. There were one receipt of £15 for allotment.
238.2	<p>To request approval for BACS Payments and cheques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval requested for PKF audit fees £240, and South West Ambulance Service £3360. Expenditure approved.
238.3	<p>To review and agree proposed budget for 2020/21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed budget for 2020/2021 as gone through by the Parish Clerk as well as an update on expenditure in the current financial year. The budget of £7980 (increase of 6% on this year) was approved. Note this sum excludes VAT (assumed recoverable) and covers operating costs only, it is assumed that capital expenditure will be subject to receipt of grant funding.
238.4	<p>To agree precept for 2020/21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions regarding budget funding and the need to increase contingency funds were held. It was agreed unanimously to increase the precept from £7800 to £8500. This is an increase of 7% or £1.78 per annum on a Band D house.
238.5	<p>To review correspondence received</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have received an opportunity from DALC to enter a draw for a previous chairman of the PC to go to a Buckingham Palace garden party. Terry Attridge was proposed.
239	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No comments received.
240	<p>ANY OTHER ITEMS AT CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The increasing number of potholes around the parish were raised as an issue. A number of these have been reported to DCC Highways. • The meeting ended at 8.35pm.
241	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday 13th February 2020 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.</p>