

LANGTREE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

11th MARCH 2020

Present	Councillors: Terry Attridge Geoff Bond Pat Mitchell David Hurley (TDC)
In attendance	Leigh Pollinger – Parish Clerk 0 members of the public.
253	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies received from Jenny Coles, Colin Edworthy, Mark Glover, David Ley, Franklin Tucker, Andrew Saywell (DCC), Melissa Baker (PCSO).
254	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
254.1	Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Darren Parish of Torrington Fire Brigade has been requested to deliver presentation again.• Mick HARRISON, Community Engagement Worker, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner will be giving a talk at the May meeting.• The Stibb Cross Speedwatch team have been contacted and will carry out a survey in due course.
254.2	Minutes of meeting held on 13 th February 2020 to be agreed and signed. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes proposed by Terry Attridge and seconded by Geoff Bond.
255	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None reported.
256	REPORTS
256.1	Police Community Support Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A report has been received.
256.2	County Councillor The following report has been received from Andrew Saywell <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coronavirus update

DCC has set up a dedicated Coronavirus page on its website - <https://www.devon.gov.uk/document/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/>

Public Health England, Devon County Council, Torbay and Plymouth Councils and local and national NHS colleagues are working closely together to respond to this situation locally and plan for any further cases.

As of the time of writing (10 March 2020), the UK Chief Medical Officer has announced a total of 373 cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK, and you will probably be aware that cases have now been confirmed in South Devon (in the Torbay area). These individuals are getting all the necessary support from the relevant agencies that they need

Public Health England has contacted anyone who may have had close contact with the confirmed cases. Close contacts have been given health advice about symptoms and emergency contact details to use if they become unwell in the 14 days after they had contact with the confirmed cases. This tried and tested method will ensure that any risk to them is minimised and the wider public is protected.

The County Council has contingency plans in place to ensure that vital front-line services are able to continue, and that our most vulnerable residents are kept well and safe. DCC are advising our staff to take the necessary hygienic precautions in line with PHE advice, providing extensive information and links to national guidance, both on our external and internal websites.

The Council is also in daily contact with colleagues across the NHS, Public Health, Police and other public services to ensure continuity of messaging, approach and response.

I have made enquiries about the procedure regarding school closures – currently a school will only be closed on the advice of Public Health England and PHE will liaise directly with the schools on any suspected cases.

If anyone suspects they are suffering from coronavirus symptoms please use the NHS 111 number. People are asked **NOT** to turn up at their GP surgery or other health services (e.g. hospital).

If people have trips planned, they should follow the Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice.

To stay in touch with the national situation and response and any advice PHE is giving, you can visit their website.

Alternatively, you can follow the Department for Health and Social Care on Twitter - @DHSCgovuk

	<p>I would encourage everybody to keep you up to date through the national information being made available, and on our <u>Devon County Council website</u>.</p> <p>Three other minor updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Plough <p>Discussions are ongoing between DCC and The Plough but I am hopeful the Council will be able to support its Crowdfunder appeal with a contribution of up to 10%, or more, of its £30,000 target. There is also a potential for The Plough to apply for another DCC grant for up to £20,000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barnstaple Police Station <p>Due to advice from structural engineers, Devon and Cornwall Police will have to vacate Barnstaple Police Station by June 2020. There was a longer term vision by the Police and Crime Commissioner to relocate in any case, however the Police will now have to identify temporary accommodation prior to any longer term options. No services are being cut – they are trying to keep everything currently offered in Barnstaple either in the town or nearby while they look for a permanent site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCC Budget <p>As expected the Budget was approved at Full Council in February. Facts and figures are as reported last month.</p>
256.3	<p>District Councillor</p> <p>The following report was given by David Hurley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Council Tax</u> <p>Council Tax notifications for this year are being sent out on Friday. Councillors took the decision to raise C/T by £5 per Band D property. This is the annual increase and equates to 3.06% of a Band D property. Funding from Central Government to Councils has been dropping year on year and it is expected that Councils make up some of this shortfall by increasing Council tax by the maximum allowed each year. This year this is 1.99% or £5 per Band D property. In addition Council Tax was frozen for two consecutive years at the request of Central Government and one off payments were awarded to Councils to offset the waived income. However by doing this is, income to the Council by way of lost increases from those two “frozen years” is gone forever. In the case of Torrington, the accumulative amount over the past 7 years is in the region of £2million.</p> <p>Further pressure to increase C/T to balance the budget was provided by the announcement that New Homes Bonus is to cease from this year. Because of the way the system operates Torrington will</p>

receive less than half what was received in the peak year (2016-17) and this sum is used in both the Capital and Revenue budgets.

Bear in mind that DCC have increased their C/T by 3.99% , Somerset and Devon Fire Brigade by 1.99%, Office of PCC by £9.36 (4.41%) and Town and Parish Council precepts by 5.5%. As a result of higher preceptors than Torridge, the share of the C/T collection for Torridge has fallen from 9.5p in the £ to 8.4p

- **Western Power Distribution**

I recently attended a seminar at Wadebridge in which Western Power were asking stakeholders for their views on a number of issues. Whilst there I was made aware of the Priority Services Register that WPD offer. This service is aimed at customers who rely on electricity for medical equipment or who are elderly, very ill or disabled. Registering for this service gives access to a direct line to WPD, get informed about a planned interruption, keep customer informed as much as possible in the event of an unplanned power cut and also provide special help, if needed, through the British Red Cross. Registering is via the website or contact WPD for more information.

- **Kivells**

An agreement between Kivells and TDC with regard to final costs has at last been reached. Hopefully this long drawn out saga can now be put to bed and a working relationship between both parties restarted.

- **Jenny Wallace**

Jenny Wallace is stepping down as Head of Paid Service and finishing her local Government career after 46 years, 32 of these at TDC. Jenny became Interim Head of Paid Service in 2012 and the role was made permanent in 2013.

- **Rental Properties and TDC**

Torridge District Council is calling on private landlords with properties for rent in the Bideford area to come forward to discuss long term leases for their properties. The request is part of the Councils push to find a more ready supply of accommodation for when people find themselves temporarily homeless or in need of housing assistance.

The shortage of readily available affordable accommodation across the district means that some people have to be placed into bed and breakfast or hotel accommodation for short periods.

TDC is looking for available properties that it can lease on a 2-4-year basis to temporarily house people. The Council will manage the property, ensure that it is returned in the condition that it was

leased and provide the landlord with a guaranteed income for the duration of the lease.

Further info can be obtained via the TDC website.

- **Fly Tipping Conviction**

A local builder has been found guilty for a second time of fly-tipping offences in a recent case heard by magistrates. The case began with the discovery of around 400kg of builder's waste dumped in a lane off Clovelly Road in Bideford, in January 2019. Despite little other evidence amongst the dumped materials exhaustive work by environmental officers traced the waste to this builder and a property in Bideford, that was undergoing a loft conversion.

The builder claimed that the waste had been collected by a third party arranged by the owner of the property. He also claimed that other waste had been disposed of via a waste contractor for a payment of £50 in cash. However, investigating officers found that the waste had not been collected as the builder claimed and that the waste contractor mentioned does not deal in cash and no waste transfer note had been issued by the firm as required by law. Witnesses were also able to confirm they had seen the builder load the plaster and window into his van shortly before the waste was reported as fly-tipped.

He was given a community order of 150 hours unpaid work and ordered to pay a victim surcharge and costs totalling £1,529.

Members of the public can report fly tipping incidents by calling the Council on 01237 428700 or via email at environmental.protection@torridge.gov.uk

- **New Partnership formed to clamp down on fly tipping and litter**

Devon has launched a new multi-agency task force to combat fly tipping. Many of the county's leading agencies will be working together in a crime-busting partnership known as the Clean Devon task force. It brings together for the first time many organisations from across Devon into a single partnership.

It will provide a single, coordinated way of reporting fly tipping anywhere in the county, via its website <https://cleandevon.org>, as well as advice to residents, businesses and landowners about how to dispose of waste legally.

Partners will compile a fly tipping and litter data base, collate and share intelligence, and introduce the latest technology to help identify the culprits and seek to investigate and prosecute illegal behaviour.

Incidentally the National Press have reported that the Government will unveil plans for a mobile phone app that will allow people who

	<p>spot dumped rubbish to report it at the touch of a button. An image of the area can be sent that will allow Local Authorities to identify hot spots and better crack down on fly tippers.</p>				
257	PARISH MATTERS				
257.1	<p>To receive an update regarding the recreation field activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An investigation into prices charged for comparable football pitches and changing rooms was carried out. Sample costs are <table border="1" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Tarka Tennis Centre (North Devon Council) £42 for 2 hours including Changing Room</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ilfracombe Academy £40 per hour including Changing Room</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clinton Hall Merton £40 per event excluding Changing Room</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bexhill London £63 per hour excluding Changing Room</td> </tr> </table> <p>It was agreed that the Council will discuss charging rates for the football pitch and changing room at the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pat Mitchell advised that he had been approached regarding teams wanting to play Under 8s Sunday league. We have been advised by Sue Lee that a wedding party at the end of August wish to have a marquee and allow a few tents on the football pitch area. <p>This raised a number of questions and it was suggested that a member of the Parish Council should attend the next Parish Hall committee meeting to understand the requirement in more detail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is understood that the Parish Hall committee want another 20 foot container similar to the existing to store items. It was suggested that the container should match the existing one. It was also suggested that this requirement should be discussed with the Parish Hall committee at the next meeting. Trees donated by the Woodland Trust will be delivered 12th March. It was agreed that we will have a tree planting day in the dog walking area on Saturday 21st March 10.00am. An advert about this event will be placed on Facebook. 	Tarka Tennis Centre (North Devon Council) £42 for 2 hours including Changing Room	Ilfracombe Academy £40 per hour including Changing Room	Clinton Hall Merton £40 per event excluding Changing Room	Bexhill London £63 per hour excluding Changing Room
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258	PLANNING				
258.1	<p>To consider any planning applications received between issuing of agenda and meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One planning application received 1/0116/2020/REMM Application for Reserved Matters of Landscape, Appearance, Layout and Scale pursuant to 1/0611/2018/OUTM Land At Stibb Cross Devon 				

	<p>There were no objections to this application but comments regarding the two bedroomed bungalow without garage and the layout of the access road allowing for additional housing to be built on the designated green space would be pointed out to TDC.</p>						
259	CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCE						
259.1	<p>To receive update on financial position at end February 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bank balances at end of February <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lloyds Bank balance at 28/02/20</td> <td>£1593.85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lloyds Number 2 account at 28/02/20</td> <td>£6202.62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£7796.47</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note £2500 is reserved for Langtree Park purchases Payments were made to Central Devon Electrical Services of £90, and Pat Mitchell for £360. Receipts were received from Greg Mitchell (Travis Perkins contribution to defibrillator) £200 and HMRC for VAT of £1233.58. Documentation has been sent to Devon County Council for payment of a grant for the mower of £500. 	Lloyds Bank balance at 28/02/20	£1593.85	Lloyds Number 2 account at 28/02/20	£6202.62	Total	£7796.47
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259.2	<p>To request approval of BACS Payments and cheques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no payments requested this month. Three applications for Section 137 monies have been received. It was agreed that applications will be discussed at the next Council meeting. 						
259.3	<p>To review correspondence received</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A request has been received from DALC to provide details of any cemeteries in the area owned by the Parish Council. An invitation to purchase a metal VE day bench was received. As the total cost was £750 including carriage and VAT it was decided not to go ahead. 						
260	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No comments. 						
261	ANY OTHER ITEMS AT CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None. The meeting closed at 8.35pm 						

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 9th April 2020 at 7.30pm