

LANGTREE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

13th AUGUST 2020

Present	Councillors: Geoff Bond Jenny Coles James French Mark Glover (Chairman) David Ley Pat Mitchell Franklin Tucker
In attendance	Leigh Pollinger – Parish Clerk 3 members of the public.
273	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apologies received from Melissa Baker PCSO, Andrew Saywell DCC, avid Hurley (TDC) and Colin Edworthy
274	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
274.1	Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark Glover announced that he has agreed to stay on as Chairman for the time being.• We have let the spare allotment at Butts Meadow to Duncan Francis of Torrington as there was no interest to our Facebook advert from people in Langtree / Stibb Cross• Section 137 grants – we have received requests from Butts Meadow Community Garden, Langtree Park, Little Acorns, Methodist Church. It was agreed to send each of these groups £50.
274.2	Minutes of meeting held on 9 th July 2020 to be agreed and signed. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minutes were approved by James French and seconded by Geoff Bond.
275	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Franklyn Tucker advised the council that it is his property that is the subject of the planning application to be discussed at point 278.1
276	REPORTS

276.1	<p>Police Community Support Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report from the PCSO was read out.
276.2	<p>County Councillor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report this month
276.3	<p>District Councillor</p> <p>The following report was read out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The last few months have certainly been challenging with no face to face meetings possible. Only now do we appear to be emerging from that scenario. In June, at a Full Council meeting, Councillors were presented with some rules for remote meetings which obviously differed from our Constitution. These rules reflected the situation we were in due to Covid. This week we were informed that those rules no longer apply as we have now moved to a situation whereby we are now able to adhere to our Constitution. Next I hope to hear that live meetings at TDC are possible. • <u>Westward Ho!</u> Slipway at Westward Ho! has been extended after much behind the scenes activity. The concrete ramp was extended to beneath the sand line which has always been the problem. The level of sand has previously fluctuated depending on the strength of the tide which sometimes left a drop of 2-3 feet prior to accessing the beach. This extension has alleviated the problem and it now means that the beach is accessible to all. The official opening was yesterday afternoon. • <u>Appointment of Torridge CEO</u> I have previously reported that after many years service to the Council, Jenny Wallace retired from the position of Head of Paid Service. Head of Finance, Steve Hearse, has for the past 5 months held the role of Interim HOPS and has in the opinion of the majority of Councillors performed the role well in extremely difficult circumstances. After an Internal Interview by a panel representing all Parties that form the Council it was recommended to Full Council that Steve Hearse be appointed as the new CEO at Torridge. This was almost unanimously agreed upon. • <u>Safer Summer Scheme</u> This is an initiative driven by the Police and Crime Commissioner – Alison Hernandez, which includes additional funding for the provision of Street / Beach Marshalls. Bideford Quay and Westward Ho! have, through the Safer North Devon partnership,

been awarded £18,314 to provide a 10 week service. The scheme was launched in these locations and in North Devon recently.

- **Free Parking Notice of Motion**

A Notice of Motion was presented to Full Council on Monday proposing 1 or 2 hours free parking for a period of two months in Bideford, Torrington and Holsworthy to try and stimulate footfall and purchases in the local shops. As there is a possible financial consequence to this a NoM had to be passed to Community and Resources to debate. This will take place at the meeting to be held on 17th August.

- **Stop Loan Sharks Community Fund**

The England Illegal Money Lending Team (IMLT) is cracking down on loan sharks across the country and stripping them of their ill-gotten gains under the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) legislation.

The Stop Loan Sharks Community Fund is open again for bids from charities, voluntary organisations and community groups involved in activities that have a positive impact on their communities.

The Fund is made up of money seized from convicted loan sharks, which is made available to groups through a bidding process and grants are awarded to successful applicants.

Each group will be able to apply for grants of up to £5,000 and will have to demonstrate the positive impact their project would have on their community. Applicants will also have to demonstrate how their project contributes to delivering the IMLT's priorities which include raising awareness of the dangers of loan sharks; promoting the work of the IMLT in communities and encourage reporting of loan sharks. The closing date for current applications is 31 August 2020.

<https://www.stoploansharks.co.uk/cash-seized-from-loan-sharks-to-fund-community-projects/>

- **Man fined for carrying waste with no Licenses**

Following an investigation carried out by Torridge District Council Jason Vickers admitted that he had been paid to collect waste and failed to dispose of it in an approved manner. The waste was all non domestic and included a 6ft fridge freezer, car parts, building and green waste totalling 220 kilos.

Mr Vickers admitted in interview that he had collected the waste and that he did not have a Waste Carriers Licence or any permits issued by the Environment Agency. A Fixed Penalty Notice for £300 was issued and later Mr Vickers stated that he could not pay the Fixed Penalty Notice and was advised that he would have to

	<p>go to court and the issue dealt with as a criminal matter.</p> <p>On the 4th August 2020 he did not show, and the case was held in his absence, and he was found guilty and was ordered to pay a £500 fine, £790 Costs and a £50 victim surcharge totalling £1,340 with 28 days to pay.</p> <p>If residents are using third parties to dispose of waste they are reminded that it is important to check that the third party is licensed or their waste can end up fly tipped, and householders run the risk of action being taken against them as a result.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Isaacs'Yard Bideford</u> <p>Councillors backed outline plans that could see the heart of Bideford transformed as part of a £9.7m bid for investment and regeneration. The scheme has been developed as Bideford's bid for a slice of the £1billion "Future High Streets" Fund set up by the government. The complex funding arrangements mean that Bideford will be asking for the highest figure available of about £4.3million.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Future High Street Fund is designed to support the transformation of town centres. The properties and land at the heart of the town's transformation will run from the Heard Brothers garage complex on Queen Street, through adjoining buildings and open spaces, right into the heart of the retail district in Mill Street. The plans also encompass a number of architecturally important buildings whose features will be preserved and enhanced. One of these heritage spaces is a walled garden that will be open for the public to enjoy. • <u>Finally</u> <p>I'm sure you will have read about the many Councils up and down the country who are in financial difficulties due to the Pandemic. Torrington, despite having had to provide extra financial resources to cover problems raised by the pandemic, are still in a good position and I have every faith in the team at TDC to continue to keep the Council in a good position.</p>
277	PARISH MATTERS
277.1	<p>To receive an update regarding the recreation field activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The grass mower has needed further repairs. • Spraying for clover on the football pitch appears to have been successful and the pitch has been sprayed again. • Excavation work around the Parish Hall and in the football pitch and dog walking area to put in the ground source capabilities for the hall are underway. This will cause some minor disruption to people who wish to access the areas.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It has been agreed not to proceed further with investigating a skateboard facility in Langtree. 						
277.2	<p>To review report regarding construction of MUGA. Decision required to proceed. (See Appendix)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report (see appendix) was delivered and discussed by the council. As we have most of the money and can cover any shortfall if necessary from reserves it was agreed unanimously to proceed. It is planned that there will be a charge for the use of the MUGA and it was agreed to discuss charging rates at the next meeting. 						
278	PLANNING						
278.1	<p>To consider planning application 1/0537/2020/FUL. Replacement farmhouse, East Stibb Stibb Cross Torrington Devon EX38 8LN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Franklin Tucker left the meeting whilst this item was discussed. The planning application was approved. 						
278.2	<p>To consider any other planning applications received between issuing of agenda and meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were no other applications for discussion. 						
279	CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCE						
279.1	<p>To receive update on financial position at end July 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bank balances at end of July <table border="1" data-bbox="528 1319 1385 1547"> <tr> <td>Lloyds Bank balance at 31/07/20</td> <td>£270.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lloyds Number 2 account at 31/07/20</td> <td>£10,504.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£10,775.04</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receipts £50.00 from Keith Wilson. Payments £95.00 to Sanders (auditor) and £435.00 to Baker (grass cutting) 	Lloyds Bank balance at 31/07/20	£270.24	Lloyds Number 2 account at 31/07/20	£10,504.80	Total	£10,775.04
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279.2	<p>To request approval of BACS Payments and cheques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Payment to L Pollinger to cover £50 loan to Keith Wilson as part of cash float during coronavirus. Andrew Symons £10.18 to cover blade fuses. Approved 						
279.3	Update on co-opting a new councillor						

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been three applicants for the post who will be interviewed at the next meeting. The post is still open for anyone else to apply.
279.4	<p>To review correspondence received.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No other items were discussed.
280	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a brief discussion regarding the process of being a councillor. It was reported that other people were interested in the role and they were directed to discuss this with the Parish Clerk.
281	<p>ANY OTHER ITEMS AT CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Hill has asked for help with the memorial committee and wondered if we could ask a member to attend their events and meetings? Also they are gathering at the stone to commemorate VJ Day on Saturday as well as the usual 27th August. Jim French agreed to liaise with David Hill • It was reported that there are potholes in Dragons Hill and pothole outside David Ley farmyard entrance. These are to be reported to DCC. • There was a discussion regarding Wonders Corner coffee and camping facility. This is to be monitored. • The meeting closed at 8.30pm.
282	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday 10th September 2020.</p> <p>Note: it is intended to interview potential candidates for the vacant councillor position at this meeting.</p>

APPENDIX

Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)

10th August 2020

Decision Required

A decision is required from Langtree Parish Council to go ahead with construction of a MUGA in Langtree.

Introduction

As a result of a Section 106 agreement with a developer 5 affordable homes have been built and a large field directly behind Langtree Parish Hall has been sold to the Parish Council.

This is being developed as a nature walking area, full size football pitch and changing room, and has sufficient space for a significant sized MUGA which is adjacent to the Primary School and can be easily accessed through the large car park connected to the Parish Hall.

The project is to build a MUGA, size 35m by 17m, with synthetic surfacing, full height fencing and flood lighting.

The resultant space will be set up to allow netball, five a side football and potentially tennis to be played. The synthetic surface and drainage will permit the area to be used for all activities that need a hard surface to be played in all weathers and the flood lighting will allow games to be played in the evening.

Planning permission has been applied for and granted by Torridge District Council.

Costs

Anticipated costing details are as follows:

Supplier	Description	Cost (ex VAT)	VAT	Notes
TK Play	Construction of groundworks and fencing	£63,642	£12,728	Revised quote from TK Play - originally £67965. We have received three quotes in total the other two were approx £70k
Abacus	Lighting masts and installation	£13,768	£2,754	The quote from Abacus has been negotiated down by £2k but I am expecting some additional PC sums e.g. for armoured cable. We have an alternative quote for £12497 however I don't trust the supplier
P Mitchell	Groundworks for lighting Trenching and	£1,000	£0	PC Sum to cover groundworks and assistance to TK Play
P Mitchell	Pathway from hall to MUGA	£2,000	£0	PC Sum to cover creation of pathway to allow disabled access to MUGA - Pathway will need completing at future date
Lloyds Bank	Overdraft to fund VAT repayment period	£500	£0	On receipt of invoices Parish Council will need to fund VAT during period between paying suppliers and repayment from HMRC. Have assumed for calculation that we will have an overdraft for 3 months. Discussion with Lloyds Bank gives interest rate of 9.8% per annum, there are no fees for arranging. ¹
	Coastal Recycling repayment	£2,215	£0	This is the access cost for Coastal Recycling. Suggest that this will be part of the Parish Council contribution.

¹ Temporary borrowing by way of a bank overdraft is permitted without government approval only where funds are needed quickly and funds are expected but have not yet reached the council. It is not permitted pending receipt of a promised grant or pending receipt of funds from the sale of land.

Either David Gubb or Irene Sutton	Web site	£1,500	£300	It is proposed that we have a web site to allow users to book access times to the MUGA and also pay for time used. Parish Council needs to agree charging fees.
	Total	£84,625	£15,482	

Funding

Grant Provider	Amount	Notes
Sports England	£48,000	Payment will be made 28 days after invoice evidence and views of construction are provided.
Coastal Recycling	£19,859	Payment will be made 28 days after invoice evidence and views of construction are provided.
Local fund raising activities	£7,117	Monies currently held by Parish Hall
Devon County Council	£1,000	Monies agreed and will be forwarded to us shortly.
Parish Council	£3,500	It is assumed that the PC will utilise the £2500 reserved for Langtree Park activity plus £1000 from reserves. We currently have £10.5k in the bank and we can expect £4.2k precept in October.
Parish Hall	£2,000	Donation requested.
Total to date (10th August 2020)	£81,476	
<i>Balsdon Trust</i>	<i>£5,000</i>	<i>Application sent to Balsdon Trust. Decision end September 2020.</i>
Total	£86,476	Includes for overspend.