

# LANGTREE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING

8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020

Note – This meeting was held remotely using video conference facilities

<b>Present</b>	Councillors: Geoff Bond Jenny Coles Colin Edworthy James French Mark Glover (Chairman) Peter Haselhurst David Ley Pat Mitchell Franklin Tucker Andrew Saywell (DCC) David Hurley (TDC)
<b>In attendance</b>	Leigh Pollinger – Parish Clerk  2 members of the public.
<b>294</b>	<b>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>  The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first meeting in this format. There were no apologies received.
<b>295</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</b>
295.1	Matters Arising  None
295.2	Minutes of meeting held on 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2020 to be agreed and signed.  Minutes were proposed by James French and seconded by Colin Edworthy, minutes were not signed on this occasion.
<b>296</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b>  Jenny Coles reported that she had an interest in the planning application for Cops Removals (item 299.1 below).
<b>297</b>	<b>REPORTS</b>
297.1	Police Community Support Officer  None received.

297.2

County Councillor

**Coronavirus**

- Stats – As of 6<sup>th</sup> October DCC area of Devon now up to 2,348 coronavirus infections since the start of the pandemic.
- This is a weekly increase of 549... far higher than previous weekly increases **BUT**, 394 (72%) of those cases were in Exeter. And the overwhelming majority of those cases are from the student population.
- By way of comparison... in Torrington there were just 8 cases in the last 7 days. North Devon 20 in 7 days, West Devon 17 in 7 days.
- DCC Public Health Team are working closely with the University, Public Health England, City Council and other agencies to contain the outbreak.
- At the time of writing all close contacts have been traced and self-isolating. DCC Public Health Team believe, looking at the data, a cohort of students brought the infection with them from their home cities/towns and then infected their student households. There is no evidence at present of wider community transmission.
- Deputy Director of Public Health says we are **NOT** near a lockdown yet, for Exeter or for Devon – watch this video here: <https://www.devonnewscentre.info/deputy-director-for-public-health-devon-says-were-not-near-lockdown-yet/>
- **The publicised delay in the national reporting of the most recent cases has not held up any local interventions.** It is important to point out more tests are being carried out in Devon – up to nearly 13,000 a week compared with 6,500 at the start of September – and these are picking up more positive results.
- Overall, positive cases are still lower than the England average.
- All of the data is publicly available and can be found online here - <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/coronavirus-data/>

**Looking ahead...**

- I don't have a crystal ball to predict the future but with new national restrictions having come in, I echo the words of the Council Leader, John Hart, **to say now is the time to be careful, follow the regulations, keep sticking to the basics – hand, face, space.**
- **We have seen good observance of this in Torrington Rural** – whenever I have been in Torrington and our villages I've been pleased to see social distancing being observed, and people

	<p>wearing facemasks, sanitising hands etc. even when it has been busy. We must keep up our efforts. If we stick to those basics we reduce the risk of virus transmission and will keep our infection numbers in Devon low, avoiding the need for further punitive restrictions.</p> <p><b><u>Highways</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I know the Parish Council have reviewed the highways priorities for the year ahead but please take up the offer of a virtual meeting with Highways to discuss further. We had our first virtual meeting with Beaford Parish Council today which went well. For those not online you can phone into a Microsoft Teams meeting – one Cllr in Beaford had to phone in due to technical issues but got through ok and was able to contribute.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Schools</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Devon schools reopened in September and to date we have seen a good attendance of pupils attending. Latest figures up to 1<sup>st</sup> October have a 93% attendance rate (higher than 90% national average), vs a normal annual average of 95%.</li> <li>Langtree School has reported an even higher attendance rate of 98.5%</li> <li>There have been 15 schools who, following Public Health England advice, have had to close to certain year groups or have self-isolated ‘bubbles’ of children, with pupils in 9 schools currently going through the self-isolation period.</li> </ul>
297.3	<p>District Councillor</p> <p><b><u>DC Report Oct 2020</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swimming pools and Leisure Centres being managed by a Company called 1610 have,as yet, not re-opened since closure at the commencement of lockdown in March. TDC are in discussions with 1610 to overcome certain problems that have arisen as a result of Covid and hopefully these can be overcome in the near future.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Management Structure at TDC</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steve Hearse, newly appointed CEO at Torridge, has presented his view of how the management structure of the Council should be going forward. As part of the reorganisation, and presuming it is agreed by TDC Members, two new posts will be created at Senior Management Level. These are, Head of Legal + Governance + Monitoring Officer and Head of Communities and Place.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>National Planning System</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Government is presently consulting on reforms to the</li> </ul>

	<p>National Planning System.  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sessions are being held for TDC Councillors to help them understand the proposals. Consultation closes on 29<sup>th</sup> October.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Parking Initiative</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It has taken a while, been back and forth with amendments to different committees and Full Council but at last agreement has been reached with regard to a parking initiative for Bideford, Torrington and Holsworthy. From 9<sup>th</sup> October until the end of November there will be charging system in place whereby when an hours parking is purchased the second hour is free. This it is hoped will encourage shoppers back into the towns.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>TDC Website</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Torridge website was revamped in 2015. It was basically a stopgap and has proved to be cumbersome to navigate and therefore in the main not user friendly. As such the time has come for a complete rebuild. I am part of the team tasked with this initiative, not to actually rebuild the system, but to input ideas. The first meeting with the web designers took place on 9<sup>th</sup> October and was both interesting and fruitful.</li> </ul>
<b>298</b>	<b>PARISH MATTERS</b>
298.1	<p>To receive an update regarding construction of the MUGA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TK Play have completed most of the layout, fencing and groundworks, including path from rear of changing room to MUGA. Electric cable for lighting has also been laid and a site meeting held with Abacus who are installing lighting.</li> <li>• Currently weather and Covid permitting it is planned to have the MUGA and pathway completed at the end of October, with lighting and computer booking system (D Gubb) in place by end of second week in November.</li> <li>• P Haselhurst reported that there is considerable local interest in using the facilities including local schools.</li> <li>• G Bond wondered whether we should open the Changing Room.</li> </ul>
<b>299</b>	<b>PLANNING</b>
299.1	<p>Prior notification for the change of use of office (B1(a)) to 1 dwelling (C3) under Class O  Copp's Removals &amp; Storage Cherrywood Park Business Centre Langtree  Torrington Devon EX38 8LQ  Ref. No: 1/0765/2020/COUPD</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council decided not to support this planning application for the following reasons: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The potential for noise / smell or other disturbance for any residents from the neighbouring garage / workshop.</li> <li>The applicant is looking to change a building set up to support his business into a domestic property.</li> <li>If approved, we would like to see some form of tie of the property to the business (similar to an agricultural tie).</li> </ol> </li> </ul>						
299.2	<p>New double garage &amp; replacement workshop Ponderosa Stibb Cross Torrington Devon EX38 8LW Ref. No: 1/0725/2020/FUL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council has no objections</li> </ul>						
299.3	<p>Alterations and extensions to garage to create annexe as overflow accommodation to main dwelling Penrose Cottage Langtree Torrington Devon EX38 8NX Ref. No: 1/0689/2020/FUL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Council has no objections</li> </ul>						
299.4	<p>To consider any other planning applications received between issuing of agenda and meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No other applications have been received.</li> </ul>						
<b>300</b>	<b>CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCE</b>						
300.1	<p>To receive update on financial position at end September 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bank balances at end of September</li> </ul> <table border="1" data-bbox="528 1375 1385 1603"> <tr> <td>Lloyds Bank balance at 30/09/20</td> <td>£7321.31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lloyds Number 2 account at 31/07/20</td> <td>£8504.89</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£15826.20</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receipts were £6579.19 primarily being precept and Balsdon Trust grant.</li> <li>Payments were £2477.94 primarily being CTP payment to Grantscape.</li> </ul>	Lloyds Bank balance at 30/09/20	£7321.31	Lloyds Number 2 account at 31/07/20	£8504.89	Total	£15826.20
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300.2	<p>To request approval of BACS Payments and cheques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Payment to L Pollinger purchase of armoured cable for MUGA £94.09</li> <li>Cann's Contractors £118.08 for spraying of field</li> </ul>						

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travis Perkins £45.10 timber and fittings for repairs to bench in Beech Road</li> <li>• BHIB Insurance £65.08 insurance cover for MUGA</li> </ul>
300.3	<p>To review correspondence received</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No additional correspondence to that previously circulated.</li> </ul>
<b>301</b>	<p><b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No comments were received.</li> </ul>
<b>302</b>	<p><b>ANY OTHER ITEMS AT CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geoff Bond gave an update on the current work pipework being installed for the ground source heat pump.</li> <li>• James French thanked Mark Glover for repairing the bench in the Beech Road play area, Stibb Cross.</li> <li>• David Ley reported that the pothole outside his farm has been repaired.</li> <li>• Mark Glover noted that the Council normally presents a wreath Church Remembrance Day service – to be organised.</li> <li>• The meeting closed at 8.15pm</li> </ul>
<b>303</b>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020. How this meeting will be held is to be confirmed.</p>