

LANGTREE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

11th January 2024

Present	Councillors: Mark Glover John Davies David Ley Pat Mitchell Geoff Bond Anna Moseby Penny Stowell Chris Whateley (TDC) Andrew Saywell (DCC)
In attendance	Linda Davies Parish Clerk 1 member of the public
637	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none">Apologies were received from Jenny Coles, Colin Edworthy, Melissa Baker (PCSO), Cheryl Cottle Hunkin, (TDC)
638	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
638.1	Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Chairman had met with Mike Evans to discuss the proposal for a memorial in the church yard. It was agreed costings would be obtained, for either a stone plinth or freestanding metal work. Mike will supply wording for plaque.The owners of Hillandale House were contacted regarding cutting the hedge at the junction with Withacott lane, and a site meeting has been arranged for Saturday 20th January to discuss requirements.
638.2	Minutes of meeting held on 14 th December 2023 to be confirmed and signed. <ul style="list-style-type: none">These were agreed and the minutes were signed.
639	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS <ul style="list-style-type: none">There was no declaration of interests.
640	REPORTS
640.1	Police Community Support Officer

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A report was received – crimes = 1 domestic related, Logs = 1 road collision, 1 public safety, 1 missing person.
640.2	<p>County Councillor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways – I will be working with my Neighbourhood Highways Officer to put further sites in Torrington Rural forward for consideration for patching and resurfacing. <p>We will also be looking at additional sites for Dragon Patching, with the road going past Langtree Week currently being assessed for the ‘dragon’.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devolution – It has now been announced that the Government have approved a Devolution Deal in principle for Devon and Torbay (Plymouth have dropped out). Discussions are ongoing in Whitehall and a decision expected at end of January. • Budgets – At the moment the County Council remains on target to balance the budget for this current financial year. The overspend is 4.5 million now down from 9.1 million. Draft target budgets will be set in March. • Community Library – Langtree has been selected as a pilot project which will have access to a larger pot of funding to help set up. I am keen that we progress this as quickly as possible and will keep in touch with the officers on this project.
640.3	<p>District Councillor</p> <p>Joint Planning and Policy Committee – we now have a 5-year Housing and Land Supply again. Both councils have given the go ahead to do a new joint local plan and will start visioning before the formal process starts. The last meeting highlighted the need for more traveller sites which has always been a struggle.</p> <p>Full Council</p> <p>Barbara Shaw Chief Exec of Westward Housing presented to full council in December with their Highlights. There were 826 home improvements, 5731 repairs with 826 home improvements, 5731 repairs, with £16 m invested in repairs and maintenance. Also 54 new homes for rent and shared partnership in Torridge and they received a customer satisfaction award last year. Torridge District Council Strategic Plan- Plan consultation is now completed, and plan now adopted. This will be integrated into the council’s business plans. There were a few additions made as a result of the consultation and the plan was adjusted accordingly, including to investigate the appetite for and feasibility of a</p>

rail link connecting Barnstaple and Bideford. It should be noted that most of that line would be within North Devon District Council not Torrridge. There was unanimous support from District Councillors for mental health link centres to remain open that DCC are proposing to close down.

Old Torrington Creamery/Old Milk Factory/ Dairy

The demolition of the old Torrington Creamery commenced in November and is expected to last for 8-10 months. The project is being carried out by the joint administrators of Waterside Construction Southwest Ltd and Valley Estates Southwest Ltd (in administration) that own the site, with the support of Farm Finance Ltd, TDC assistance, Cornwall and Devon Police and Fire and Rescue Services. This move was welcomed by Torrridge District Council.

Community Safety Partnership with North Devon Council

There was emphasis on the importance of street Marshalls. In North Devon this has been funded through the Safer Streets Fund but was not available in Torrridge. The police have said they will not fund it, and so the question is where the funding will come from if you want to continue or see more of it. There has been success regarding a night bus service between Barnstaple and Bideford and the councils are requesting they extend the routes to Ilfracombe and Torrington. If it helps to keep people safe by reducing drink driving, unlicensed taxis, people trying to walk home under the influence of alcohol.

First Meeting held recently of the North Devon Culture Board

To deliver North Devon culture strategy for wellbeing, talent development, cultural hubs in market Towns, youth and training skills. This also includes heritage and museums. There were initial discussions around a cultural directory, mapping, events and youth workshops. The board is looking for more members with specific skills in the cultural sector, including young people.

641	PARISH MATTERS
641.1	Update on Langtree Park. - none
641.2	<p>Other matters impacting the parish.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions were addressed to the DCC regarding the potholes on the Parish roads, and why only some holes were fixed, and other adjacent ones were not, as it seemed that it would be common sense to fix all holes in the road at a location. DCC explained this was due to the structure and funding of the contracts with the contractors.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions were raised regarding gritting of the roads in the Parish at it appeared these were not being done. DCC stated that the timetable of the gritting schedule would be sent by email after the meeting. • The Street light in Stibb Cross which is not working has been reported to highways via the website by the Clerk. • It was reported to TD councillor that vehicles have suffered punctures around the creamery demolition site. 						
642	PLANNING						
642.1	Any updates on potential planning application for land at The Crescent, Langtree. - There is nothing new to report.						
642.2	To consider any other planning applications received between issuing of agenda and meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new planning applications have been received. 						
642.3	Clerk has contacted TDC to investigate if there are any 106 monies due to Parish						
643	CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCE						
643.1	To receive update on financial position at end December 2023. The position at the end of December was: <table border="1" data-bbox="434 1173 1386 1391"> <tr> <td>Lloyds account</td> <td>£807.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reserve account</td> <td>£1552.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£2359.94</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a payment of £3,360.00 to Southwest Ambulance. £200.00 to Langtree School PTA, £5742.00 to Cumbria Clock. • In addition, there is £2,008.29 in the Langtree Park account. 	Lloyds account	£807.70	Reserve account	£1552.24	Total	£2359.94
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643.2	To request approval of BACS Payments and cheques. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No payments have been made in January but £1623.56 has been received from HMRC as a Vat refund. 						
643.3	To review correspondence received. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email from DALC to explain the increase in subscription for 24/25 year. Council agreed we should continue to subscribe. 						
644	APPROVAL OF 24/25 BUDGET						

644.1	Budget was discussed and agreed, and the level of precept needed to meet the budget was discussed and agreed.
645	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.
646	<p>ANY OTHER ITEMS AT CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The light in The Crescent that is not working had been reported. • There is still a need for additional bins in the village. • The meeting closed at 8.50pm.
647	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The date of next meeting is Thursday 8th February 2024</p>