

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LANDKEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2021 AT 7.00 pm**

Present: - Councillor Halliday (Chairman)
Councillors Beer, Hommell, Lane, Morton and Prowse.

DCC Councillor Henderson

M Isaac (Clerk)

In Attendance: Parishioner/Members of the Public - 1

167. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Nel.

168. MINUTES

- a) RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th October 2021 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- b) Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

169. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIR SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY

The following matters were raised:

Claim – The Chairman stated that an update would be considered in Part B of the agenda at the end of the meeting.

Skateboard Park – Councillor Hommell reported that she had had a meeting with Toby Parkin regarding a Skateboard Park in the Village. He was looking into possible sites and costings and how other villages delivered a skateboard park.

170. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest announced.

171. PUBLIC SESSION

A Parishioner asked pursuant to the September minutes when Marie Bailey, NDC Service Manager for Development was going to be invited to a future Parish Council meeting. The Clerk stated that Marie Bailey had resigned from NDC but had a change of mind and had now been re-employed. It was hoped to invite her to attend a meeting in January/February.

It was also asked if Bishops Tawton Parish Council had been contacted regarding the earth Works being undertaken in Bableigh Valley.

Councillor Prowse stated he had raised his concerns with NDC regarding the works being undertaken but had been informed that there was no breach of planning.

The Chairman stated that Bishops Tawton Parish had not yet been contacted.

172. NDC COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

NDC Councillor Lane had no NDC issues to report.

173. DCC COUNCILLOR REPORT

DCC Councillor Paul Henderson reported the following issues:

- That there were currently no planned Link Road closures.
- That speed monitoring had been undertaken along the link road and a number of people fined.
- That the Government had provided additional funding for Education, but this was not considered sufficient, and more funding was sought.
- That there was a reluctance to the introduction of 20 mph speed limits, but the consultation results were awaited.
- That there was a shortage of Care Workers across Devon, and a recruitment drive was underway.
- That DCC had pledged to be carbon neutral by 2030.
- That a series of farming resilience workshops had been held to help Devon and Somerset farmers prepare for the biggest change in farm support for generations.
- Speed Monitoring. That the Highways Service was being reviewed and he would be happy to use some of his Community Grant fund to fund a Flashing Speed sign to be moved around several Parishes.
He agreed to provide the Clerk with the speed monitoring data through the village taken to date.

174. RE INTRODUCTION OF BEAVERS.

The Council received an update on the introduction of Beavers along the Venn Stream from Toby Willcocks.

He stated that the purpose of the project was to alleviate flooding in the villages. A project to introduce Beavers had been successful in South Devon and it was hoped to extend the introductions in other parts of Devon and Cornwall. Chris Jones from the Beavers Trust had visited that area and had looked at possible sites from Bishops Tawton to West Buckland. Prime locations had been identified at Riverton and West Buckland.

Councillor Lane stated that the sites should be the other side of Swimbridge to avoid flooding downstream.

Concern was also raised that the Beavers would cut down trees. It was stated that this could be managed.

It was agreed to invite Chris Jones to a future Parish Council meeting.

175. NEW COMMUNITY BUILDING GROUP

The Chairman reported that the Community Engagement meeting was the following evening, 4th November in the Village Hall. The project was sponsored by the Parish Council.

Council recorded its thanks to the Members of the Working Group for their hard work and dedication.

176. VENN QUARRY DEVELOPMENT: UPDATE

Councillor Lane reported that Habitat First had paused the development in 2020 and were now in the process of starting it all up again and re-engaging with the utility suppliers for water and electricity to be bought to the site. These infrastructure projects had all been delayed by Covid but it was planned to have works progressing again on site in 2022.

Two of their early clients went on to purchase the holiday unit designed for Birchwood and had it built at their Cotswold site. As part of that process, they would be making some revisions to the unit and would therefore submit revisions to NDC in due course.

177. BUS SHELTERS, BAKERY WAY – REFURBISHMENT.

The Clerk reported that Councillor Nel awaiting a quote to clean the top bus shelter in Bakery Way. Councillor Beer reported that the bottom bus shelter had been power washed and he would seek quotes to paint both shelters.

178. TELEPHONE BOX: UPDATE RE PROVISION OF SHELVING

Councillor Beer reported he and Councillor Halliday had inspected the telephone box. The water leak had been fixed and silicone sealant put around all the glass panels. The bottom of the door had rusted and needed attention. Once fixed the shelving would be installed.

179. COVID IMPACT ON THE PARISH – PARISHIONERS AND BUSINESSES.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should be proactive in encouraging Community activities and re-starting groups that have not reformed in the Village following Covid and to set up a campaign early in the new year.

It was noted that the WASAIL would be on 15 January 2022.

180. PROVISION OF FENCING BETWEEN THE MUGA AND ALLOTMENT LAND.

The Chairman reported that he was meeting a local contractor A. Jewell the following day to obtain a quote to provide fencing between the MUGA and Allotment site.

181. AMENDED NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA

The Clerk reported that Swimbridge Parish had no objections to the inclusion of land up to Star Cross Farm on the south side of the road and to Crossways on the north side in Swimbridge Parish in a new Landkey neighbourhood plan area.

It was agreed that the Clerk inform Swimbridge Parish Council of its intentions to prepare a document ‘Shaping Our Future’ for public consultation outlining the Parishes aims and objectives for the Plan area to be used by North Devon Council when considering planning applications.

182. PURCHASE OF DEFIBRILLATOR LANDKEY FOOTBALL CLUB.

The Clerk reported that Landkey AFC had applied for a grant of £500.00 towards the purchase of a defibrillator at the Football Club which was being installed on the wall outside the changing rooms. Landkey United Charities had donated £650.00 to help cover the cost of an electrician to install it for public use. The football club were also donating £500.00.

It was agreed that a grant of £500 be agreed towards the provision of a new defibrillator.

183. POLICE

There were no issues reported.

184. HIGHWAY MATTERS

Blocked Gully Stoney Lane – Hunnacott. Councillor Halliday reported that a Parishioner had raised concerns at the gully blocking up and flooding the road.

DCC has refused to clear the drain.

It was agreed to refer the matter to the Environment Agency for action.

Streetlighting. Councillor Lane reported that the streetlight adj. to Fernhouse on the junction of Bakery Way and Vicarage Road was not working.

Councillor Hommell agreed to find out the streetlight number and report to DCC.

185. PLAYING FIELDS

The Clerk reported the receipt of two quotes from Graham Lane and Williams Building Services to replace the broken posts and panels in the Play Area. Both quotes were £350.

It was agreed that authority be delegated to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman to agree the quote from the contractor who can undertake the work the soonest.

Councillor Lane declared an interest in the above matter as his brother had provided a quote.

186. MILLENNIUM GREEN

The Clerk reported that the Millennium Green Trustees were undertaking work to alleviate the water drainage problems from the football field and along the path that runs down from the mazzard orchard to the old Leat. In winter the water runs across the path, making it potentially dangerous in frosty conditions. A temporary channel had been dug to take away the water, but this needed to be made permanent. A contractor will dig a trench with a mini digger, fill it with aggregate enclosed in a membrane, and cover it with a hard surface, in layman's language a French drain. All the work will be on Millennium Green land, but the Contractor needed to access the site with his vehicle and mini digger across Parish Council land. The work was likely to take place week of 20 November.

It was agreed to allow the Contractor to access the site over Parish Council land.

187. OLD SCHOOL CENTRE

Letting Charges – It was agreed to defer consideration of the lettings charges to ascertain the hire charges made for the Village Hall.

188. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER

There were no issues to report.

189. FINANCE MATTERS

a) Payments

RESOLVED:

That the following payments be approved:

M. Isaac	Expenses	£49.63
HMRC	Income Tax Payment – Clerk Salary	£125.20
North Devon Council	Dog Bin Emptying	£78.00

b) Half year financial position.

The half year bank reconciliation (previously circulated) was noted.

c) Precept 2022/23

RESOLVED that the precept for 2022/23 be £20,475 (no increase)

190. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) 74161 Extension to dwelling, 7 Acland Road, Landkey, Barnstaple.

RECOMMENDED No comment as unable to make a comment as no plans visible on NDC web site.

- b) 74107 Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) planning permission 72636 (extension & alterations to dwelling) to allow for amended design, 15 Church Meadow, Landkey, Barnstaple.

RECOMMENDED No comment.

191. CORRESPONDENCE

The Council noted the following correspondence:

Broadband – An update from Airband on that the build was now due to be completed Winter 2022 (January). A summary would be included in the newsletter.

Flooding – An awareness update from the Environment Agency that a mailing that would be going out to properties at risk of flooding from the Landkey Stream, during the week commencing 22 November.

The mailing would inform residents that they had been automatically registered to a new flood warning service for the Landkey Stream.

The new flood warning service for Landkey Stream would be launched on 24 November 2021. This free service would provide residents and businesses in areas at risk of flooding from the Landkey Stream a flood warning, allowing them to take actions in advance of flooding to help prepare.

Historic Document – Declaration of Acceptance of Office – Landkey Parish 1895 – 1931

The Chairman informed Council that he had received the above historic document.

192. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Christmas Tree - Councillor Hommell asked Members if they wished to provide a Christmas Tree outside the Castle Inn.

It was agreed in principle to again provide a Parish Christmas Tree. Councillor Beer agreed contact the Castle Inn.

Water crossing a footpath in the Playing Field.

Inspection Parish Council Assets.

193. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Wednesday 1st December 2021 @ 7.00 p.m.

194. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED:

- a) That under section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by paragraph 3 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act (as amended from time to time) namely information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding the information).
- b) That all documents and reports relating to the item be confirmed as Not for Publication.

195. CLAIM

The Clerk updated Council on the views of the Council's Insurer.
The view of the Insurers was noted and accepted.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.