

TALATON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **MEETING OF TALATON PARISH COUNCIL** held on **WEDNESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY 2024** at **7.30pm**. The meeting was held at the **PARISH HALL, TALATON EX5 2RG**

PRESENT: - Cllrs P Lenehan (**Chair**), G Hawkins (**Vice-Chair**) K Walker, M Gray, S Wood, A Peters, R Bos; EDDC Cllr R Jefferies (arrived later in the meeting) and the Clerk (Mrs C McIntyre)

PUBLIC FIFTEEN-MINUTE OPEN FORUM

There were no members of the public present. However EDDC Cllr Jefferies provided an update re EDDC matters later in the meeting

24/03/01

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

DCC Cllr Chubb (Cllr Chubb had submitted a report which had been circulated to all councillors and was noted)

24/03/02

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF 24TH JANUARY 2024 AND TO APPROVE THE SIGNING OF THE SAME BY THE CHAIR AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes from the meeting of 24th January 2024 be approved as a true and correct record. They were signed by the Chair *Proposed by Cllr Gray and seconded by Cllr Walker*

24/03/03

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were none`

24/03/04

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 (PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED): TO AGREE ANY ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER THE PUBLIC AND PRESS HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED

There were none

24/03/05

FINANCE: CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ITEMS I – III

i. Approval of accounts for the period 1st – 31st January 2023 including Petty Cash

NAME OF ACCOUNT/PETTY CASH	BALANCE
Community (Current)	£692
Business Premium (Reserve)	£12,123.78
Un-presented Cheques	£60.00
Petty Cash	£13.22

ii. Approval of the February 2024 Payment Schedule

CHEQUE NUMBER/B ACS	PAYEE	DETAILS	COST	VAT	TOTAL
Bacs	HMRC	Income Tax	79.00		79.00
Bacs	Employee	Salary Jan/Feb (Net)	316.46		316.46
Bacs	M Kingdon	Strimming allotment plots and covering with plastic sheeting	120.00		120.00

Initials.....

Bacs	Mrs C McIntyre	Repayment of cost of ink cartridge and SLCC allotment training course	52.04		52.04
Bacs	Dunn & Baker (On behalf of Julie Thorne)	Lease Rent for the Moor	5.00		5.00
Bacs	Connetts Farm	Cost of Christmas Tree	120.00	24.00	144.00
		TOTALS	692.50	24.00	716.50

iii. Transfer of funds (£1000) from the Business Premium to the Community Account

It was **RESOLVED** to approve Items 1 – iii *Proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Walker*

iv. Further compensation paid by Barclays

The Council had received a further £150 for the inconvenience it had incurred re the setting up of on-line banking for Cllr Walker. The total compensation paid to the Council by Barclays to date, was £350. Cllr Walker should now be able to access on-line banking and authorise payments

v. Information regarding the accepted reserve the PC should hold

The Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance (JPAG) was responsible for issuing proper practices about the governance and accounts of smaller authorities and had stated that the generally accepted recommendation with regard to the appropriate minimum level of a smaller authority's general reserve was that this should be maintained at between three and twelve months of net revenue expenditure. This information was noted by the Council and it was suggested that this be referred to at the next budget meeting for 25/26

24/03/06

CORRESPONDENCE

a. Items of correspondence distributed to councillors

The following correspondence was noted:-

- EDDC – Devon Community Resilience Forum Conference takes place on 22nd March 2024
- EDDC – Community Resilience Network Update
- EDDC - DCT Devon Communities together grant funding opportunities
- EDDC – Update on Neighbourhood Planning intentions and availability of grants
- DCC – Daniel Wood Neighbourhood Officer has left DCC and Kyle Walker is his replacement
- TRIP – Volunteer drivers required
- Peninsula Transport – Public consultation on the draft Transport Strategy closes 5th February 2024

b. Items of late correspondence

There were no items of late correspondence

24/03/07

TO CONFIRM DROP IN DATES FOR 24/25 (PROPOSED DATES OF 27TH APRIL; 27TH JULY; 26TH OCTOBER AND 25TH JANUARY 2025)

The Council **AGREED** the aforementioned dates

24/03/08

PLANNING MATTERS

i. Application - 24/0091/FUL - 3 Beacon Cottages Talaton EX5 2SA 2025 - Mrs Cameron – Replacement PVCu windows and new entrance door - to confirm the recommendation (to support the application) made by the Council at the Extra Ordinary Meeting of 24th January 2024 in respect of the planning application

The Council **RESOLVED** to support the recommendation made at the ExtraOrdinary meeting of 24th January 2024 which was to support the planning application *Proposed by the Vice Chair and seconded by Cllr Walker*

ii. Application – 22/2561/LBC – Stoney Court, Talaton EX5 2RJ – Dr Rafik Taibjee – Instal on Shed 1 6 no solar PV Shed 2 8no solar PV – Grant of Listed Building Consent

The planning consent was noted by the Council

iii. Pig Farm, Lashbrook Farm – Update on recent building work

EDDC's Planning Enforcement Officer had advised that there were no external changes to the dimensions of

Initials.....

the barns planned. The contractors were updating the internal machinery of the barns to further automate their operation. Therefore the work did not require planning permission. The information was noted by the Council

24/03/09

NOMINATION FOR THE BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY

There were no nominations received

24/03/10

ALLOTMENTS UPDATE AND ANY ACTIONS TO BE AGREED

The strimming works to the two plots and the covering with black plastic had been completed. No interest from parishioners had been received regarding the vacant allotment plots to date despite the Clerk advertising the same. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk readvertise the plots and also contact the person who had expressed an interest (but who lived outside of the Parish) that she could take the plot now rather than waiting until the end of March as originally suggested. The Clerk has sent three reminders to SWW about the water provision (bowsers) and no response had been received. The Clerk would send a further reminder to SWW but would emphasise the positives of having a good working relationship between the Council and SWW for the benefit of the community. The matter of growing pumpkins on one of the spare plots was mentioned. The Clerk would look into this re health and safety implications

24/03/11

D-DAY CELEBRATIONS 6TH JUNE 2024

The suggestions as to how to celebrate this event were noted by the Council in the first instance. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would contact the church to ascertain whether they would be ringing the church bells as part of the celebrations and if so then the Council could then consider what other actions (if any) needed to be taken

24/03/12

EDDC – REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING PLACES INFORMATION HAS BEEN E-MAILED TO COUNCILLORS

The Council was happy with the Parish Hall as its polling station and had no comments/representations to make

24/03/13

APPROVAL OF:- I. DRAFT COMMUNICATIONS POLICY; II. DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR STAFFING COMMITTEE; III DRAFT SICKNESS AND ABSENCE POLICY AND IV. DRAFT VEXATIOUS COMPLAINTS POLICY

It was **RESOLVED** to approve all the proposed Policies and Terms of Reference *Proposed by the Chair and seconded by the Vice Chair*

24/03/14

VILLAGE GREEN (THE MOOR) – UPDATE RE RENTAL PAYABLE; VONEUS BROADBAND AND ANY OTHER MATTERS AND TO MAKE DECISIONS (AS REQUIRED)

The Clerk had now received banking details from the solicitor handling the estate of the late Barry Thorne in order for the Council to make the £5 annual rental payment which it was required to do under the terms of its lease. It had been reported that Voneus had laid broadband cabling without seeking the Council's permission despite it being the tenant of the land. In addition, the Council should have been a party to a wayleave agreement which Voneus had omitted to arrange. The Clerk was in the process of contacting Voneus to rectify the situation with regards to the required legal documentation. The Council had been asked whether any of its members had disclosed to a third party, a private phone number of a party connected to the transaction with Voneus. All members were emphatic that they had not done so and in any event were extremely mindful of GDPR requirements

24/03/15

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS UPDATE

The Clerk reported that both three year contracts had been signed by Matt Kingdon and Andy Hazeldine

24/03/16

PARISH MAINTENANCE: ITEMS REQUIRING ATTENTION AND UPDATE ON ITEMS REPORTED AND TO AGREE ANY FINANCIAL PROVISION (IF APPLICABLE)

i. The potholes adjacent to Escot had now been filled and the road was now in a good state of repair. It was

Initials.....

AGREED that an e-mail of thanks be sent to Kyle Walker the new DCC Highways Officer and at the same time let hm know that two sandbags in the vicinity of the filled potholes required collection. A parishioner had been corresponding with the Clerk about the potholes and had provided a video of the extent of water run offs which could be used when liaising with landowners regarding this issue. . The Clerk had not heard anything from Escot re meeting to discuss surface water run off and it was **AGREED** that she should send a reminder e-mail.

ii.From 4th – 8th March the road from Larkbeare Cross to Talaton Farm Cross – road from Beacon Cross to Talaton Farm Cross – road from Talaton Farm Cross to Fairmile Inn would be closed for cabling works

iii.From 11th – 15th March the road from Larkbeare Cross to Straightway Head, Whimble would be closed for cabling works

It was agreed to suspend this item (Agenda Item 16) to allow EDDC Cllr R Jefferies to speak

Cllr Jefferies advised of a Peer Review; sewage and South West Water; possible merger of DCC and Torbay Council. Cllr Gray raised the point of whether the merger would affect the district councils but Cllr Jefferies advised that currently this was not the case. He confirmed he was in correspondence with a parishioner regarding a planning application. He confirmed that he would be happy to look into the matter of the SWW issue re water provision at the allotments. The Clerk would e-mail him the necessary information. Cllr Jefferies was thanked for his attendance

Item 16 of the Agenda then resumed

iv.DCC had advised that the sign at the junction of Newtown was now pointing in the right direction

v.DCC had acknowledged the reports of the road requiring repair from Talaton Farm Cross to Fairmile Inn; the pothole on land past Moor farm and the potholes in the lane opposite the Parish Hall

vi.A parishioner had sent an e-mail re various matters which had been forwarded to all councillors. The Council had considered all her points and it was **AGREED** that the Clerk signpost her to various agencies and advise her that the Council was hoping to meet with landowners re water run off. The Council could not intervene regarding farming methods.

vii.It was **AGREED** that the Council would like to receive from DCC, notifications of major roadworks in neighbouring parishes (as residents may likely travel through these parishes frequently for work etc)

viii..EDDC had advised that the vehicle at Hillside was not considered to be abandoned unless it had no tax or MOT. The vehicle had an active MOT until 15th March 2024. Once the MOT had run out the vehicle could be further reported to EDDC

24/03/17

TO REPORT ANY DELEGATED DECISIONS MADE BETWEEN COUNCIL MEETINGS

There were none

24/03/18

TELEPHONE BOX

i.Update on the unmetered electricity supply and to consider quote provided by Utility Aid

The quote had been submitted to councillors in the sum of £340.37. It was **RESOLVED** not to accept the quote from Utility Aid and to review the situation again once the Council had received its annual invoice from Npower in March. *Proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Bos*

ii. To consider the repainting of the Telephone Box and to agree the purchase of materials required and whether the repainting was to be carried out on a paid or voluntary basis

It was **RESOLVED** to purchase 5 litres of Trade Paint at £68.99 (inc Vat and delivery). *Proposed by the Vice Chair and seconded by Cllr Wood* It was **AGREED** that the Clerk advertise for a volunteer(s) to paint the telephone box, in the Calendar, noticeboards and on social media

Initials.....

iii. Possessory Title Requirements

The Clerk advised as to the requirements for seeking possessory title of the land surrounding the telephone box. After much discussion the Council agreed that there was insufficient evidence at this time to make a claim but it was ` a work in progress`

24/03/19

UPDATE ON GOVERNMENT DOMAIN

Information had been e-mailed to all councillors. The Clerk had attended a free course regarding the PC changing to a government domain. It was likely to be expensive initially to go down this route with the Government paying £100 towards the costs. Following on, there would be annual costs to pay likely to be in the region of approx. £300. The Clerk would be attending another free course this month to obtain further information and would report back at the next Council meeting. The Council would then be in a position to determine whether or not they wished to progress further

24/03/20

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY OR DISCUSSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

- i.The Drop In of 27th January was attended by a number of parishioners who mainly raised the issue of potholes. Code of Conduct training was carried out following the Drop In session.
- ii.The Chair would make enquiries to ascertain whether Village Day was going ahead and would report back.
- iii.A resident had advised of the potential for increased traffic through the village, by HGV drivers (from the proposed quarry) taking a short cut to the M5 if they were heading North. The Council was of the view that although it was grateful to the resident for drawing this to the Council's attention, currently this was an unknown quantity (as the quarry was not yet operational) and thus there was no way of knowing how the quarry, once operational would impact on traffic movements

iv.Both Defibrillators had been checked

24/03/21

MATTERS OF URGENCY: ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE CHAIR'S DISCRETION

There were none

24/03/22

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

6th March 2024

24/03/23

CLOSE OF MEETING

21.02

SIGNATURE OF THE CHAIR	
DATE OF SIGNATURE	

Initials.....