

TALATON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **MEETING OF TALATON PARISH COUNCIL** held on **WEDNESDAY, 8th JANUARY 2025** at **7.30pm**. The meeting was held at the **PARISH HALL, TALATON EX5 2RG**

PRESENT: - P Lenehan (**Chair**), G Hawkins (**Vice-Chair**) K Walker, A Peters, R Bos, S Wood D Hirt and the Clerk – Mrs C McIntyre

PUBLIC FIFTEEN-MINUTE OPEN FORUM

There were no members of the public present

25/01/01

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

DCC Cllr I Chubb and EDDC Cllr R Jefferies. Both councillors had sent in reports of interest which had been circulated to councillors

25/01/02

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF 4th DECEMBER 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 4th December 2024 be approved as a true and correct record. They were signed by the Chair *Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by Cllr Hirt*

25/01/03

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

See Item 6ii – Planning Matters

See Item 12 – Verge Trimming

25/01/04

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

It was **AGREED** that Item 10 (Village Green/Voneus) be discussed in Confidential Session

25/01/05

FINANCE: CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ITEMS I – III

i. Approval of accounts for the period 1st – 31st December 2024 including Petty Cash

NAME OF ACCOUNT/PETTY CASH	BALANCE
Community (Current)	£374.31
Business Premium (Reserve)	£13,115.18
Petty Cash	£ 1.42

ii. Approval of the January 2025 Payment Schedule

NUMBER	CHEQUE NUMBER/BACS	PAYEE	DETAILS	COST	VAT	TOTAL
1	Bacs	HMRC	Income Tax Dec/Jan	82.20		82.20
2	Bacs	Employee	Salary (Net) Dec/Jan	329.64		329.64
3	Bacs	DALC	Training - Cllr Hirt	15.00	3.00	18.00
4	DD	ICO	Data Fee	35.00		35.00
5	Bacs	M Kingdon	Grass Cutting the Moor - 10 cuts	700.00		700.00
			TOTALS	1161.84	3.00	1164.84

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

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

iv. Reduction in Barclays Bank Interest Rate

The current rate of 1.40% interest which applied to the Council's investments would be reduced to 1.35% by Barclays Bank on 11th March 2025. This was noted by councillors

25/01/06

a.Items of Correspondence

Citizens Advice Bureau report

EDDC – hybrid meetings consultation

b.Items of late Correspondence

Information Commissioner's Office – annual renewal confirmation

All correspondence was noted

25/01/07

TO APPROVE 25/26 PRECEPT AMOUNT

After much discussion it was **RESOLVED** to approve a precept of £9200 this being an increase of £60 from the previous year's amount. It was noted that this was the lowest increase in four years *Proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Wood*

25/01/08

VE DAY 8TH MAY 2025

There was much discussion. It was **AGREED** that a Council organised event would not take place ie a street party as VE Day would not be a public holiday. However representations could be made to the Talaton Inn by the Vice-Chair re the suggestion of a Fish and Chip evening which was being promoted by national organisers as being a traditional meal to have as part of the event. Bunting could also be displayed around the village and contact would be made with the persons who normally provide/erected this.

25/01/09

TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT TO SELL THE COUNCIL'S PROJECTOR SCREEN AND, IF AGREED, TO DETERMINE THE SALE AMOUNT AND ANY CONDITIONS

It was **RESOLVED** that the projector screen be sold for £65 and the purchaser to agree to it being made available to the Council on reasonable notice being given by the Council to the purchaser. It was noted that the projector was currently with the Chair and the screen (which at last month's meeting it had been resolved to sell to the same purchaser for £135) was stored in the Parish Hall *Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by Cllr Hirt*

25/01/10

TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM PARISHIONER TO MARK A SPECIAL EVENT IN THE PARISH

It was **RESOLVED** to agree with the parishioner's request to mark the occasion, to be paid for from the Chair's Annual Allowance up to a maximum of £50. In addition, representations to be made to a Parish Hall representative by the Chair and Vice Chair, for the Hall to consider marking the occasion and for the Cllr's to report back at the February meeting *Proposed by Cllr Wood and seconded by the Vice-Chair*

The Council then went into Confidential Session

25/01/11

VILLAGE GREEN (THE MOOR) – UPDATE RE VONEUS BROADBAND AND TO MAKE DECISIONS (AS REQUIRED)

Councillors had been e-mailed the proposed provisions to be included in the agreement with Voneus. It was **RESOLVED** that these be approved and the Clerk to confirm this with the Council's solicitor. In addition it was noted that Voneus had provided an undertaking to pay the Council's legal costs whether or not the agreement was completed. *Proposed by the Chair and seconded by the Vice-Chair*

The Council then resumed public session

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25/01/12

INSURANCE MATTERS – VERGE CUTTING AND CHRISTMAS EVENTS (ERECTING AND DECORATING TREE)

i. It was understood that a verge in the Parish (which was maintainable highway) was being maintained by a parishioner rather than the Council's contractor who was paid to do this. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk write to the parishioner and to thank him for all his hard work but to explain that because of insurance issues, that he should cease from carrying out the work with immediate effect and allow the Council's contractor to maintain the same. This course of action should protect the parishioner as well as the Council from potential claims. *Cllr Walker declared an interest in view of her personal connection with the person concerned and she took no part in the discussion or decision making.*

ii. The Clerk suggested that the Risk Assessment for the annual Christmas tree lights switch-on event be reviewed in the Autumn. Once it was signed off by the Council, for it to then be e-mailed or sent by hard copy to volunteers and councillors involved in the event and for them to confirm by e-mail/letter that they have received and read the same. It was **AGREED** that the Chair and Vice-Chair would engage with any volunteer(s) who had any concerns/issues with the Council's requirements and would report back at the February PC Meeting

25/01/13

LOCALITY FUND – UPDATE

It was noted that an application form had now been e-mailed by the Clerk to DCC (who had confirmed receipt) with regards to the Council obtaining £500 towards the cost of repainting the telephone box and staining the parish seats. The Clerk advised that the form may take some time to process due to DCC staff sickness

25/01/14

UPDATE RE LANDMARK TREE FROM DEVON WILDLIFE TRUST AND TO MAKE DECISION ACCORDINGLY

The Clerk reported that the Trust no longer had any bird cherry trees left which the Council had requested. Alternative species of tree were available but the Council concluded that they would be too large. It was **AGREED** that that Clerk request a bird cherry tree immediately that the Trust advertised their availability in the future

25/01/15

S106 FUNDING – TO CONSIDER SWW QUOTE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A WATER PIPE AT THE ALLOTMENTS AND TO MAKE DECISIONS AS APPROPRIATE

A quote had been received from SWW but this was simply for the connection charge and did not include digging for the laying of pipes; road closure order and legal costs for easements. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk request an additional quote which encompassed all the aforementioned costs to allow the Council to make an informed decision about whether or not the installation was affordable

25/01/16

HORTON AND PAYTHERDEN SOLAR FARMS – UPDATE AND TO MAKE DECISIONS AS NECESSARY

The Clerk has sent chasing e-mails to the contacts of both proposed solar farms regarding the monies that the Council was entitled to for the benefit of the community. Paytherden had not responded and Horton advised that it would sending out letters to the local community advising of its plans but would also be willing to attend a Council meeting. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk request again the information it was seeking from Horton and Paytherden as to the amounts of money both solar farms would provide for the local community

25/01/17

PLANNING MATTERS

i. Consideration of Planning application 24/2635/Ful – 1 The Moor Talaton – Mr and Mrs Colin - Two storey side extension and alterations

The Council confirmed that a site meeting had recently taken place. It was **RESOLVED** to support the application as the materials to be used were in keeping with properties in the vicinity. The Council was also pleased to note that the applicant was giving consideration to any potential drainage issues by

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consideration of upgrading/improving the current drainage system

ii. Escot – update re planning application 21/2045/FUL -Devon Country Pursuits Ltd

Andrew Wood - EDDC -Director of Place had advised of the following:-

“Planning Officers are currently in discussion with the applicant/agent regarding conditions which have been requested by the Environmental Health Officer during their consideration of the application (relating to noise and hours of operation, as detailed in their consultation comments on the application), along with other conditions which Planning Officers consider appropriate, if the proposal is to be recommended for approval. The result of these discussions will aid Planning Officers in determining the final recommendation which will be made on the proposal. It is hoped that this matter can be resolved so that the application can be brought to a close during January 2025. Officers are currently waiting for a response from the applicant/agent and this will ultimately determine the timescales moving forward.” The Clerk had responded by querying why the expiry date for the planning application was shown on EDDC’s website as 2/11/22 as she understood that there were statutory timescales a planning authority had to adhere to, re determining a planning application and it appeared that they had not been met. To date she was waiting a further response from Mr Wood. A councillor also raised the insurance implications for activities currently being carried out on the site (particularly if fire arms were being used) if the site did not have planning permissions. Cllr Wood declared an interest as her husband had previously commented on the planning application

iii. Site Meetings – consideration of most suitable days for site meetings to be arranged

It was **AGREED** that there should be more flexibility on the days for site meetings to take place rather than simply having them always on a Saturday as this seemed to preclude a number of councillors from attending. It was also suggested that site meetings could take place prior to a Council meeting.

iv. Any other planning matters

A letter of complaint from Gittisham Parish Council to EDDC had been e-mailed to all councillors regarding the process that had been followed in the Local Plan site selection procedures followed by the Strategic Planning Committee. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk send a letter of thanks to Gittisham PC as the Council found their letter most informative and hoped they did well with their representations

25/01/18

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

i. Following concern expressed by a parishioner, the Clerk had chased Ed Polding regarding the blocked drain near the telephone box and was waiting a reply. It was reported by the Chair that rainwater downfall was running through the ditch only, which ditch DCC had dug to try and resolve the issue. In addition water was running from Orchard Close and dribbling down the concrete steps that led to the footpath and road. In view of the cold weather, if the water froze this would have serious health and safety implications for the elderly residents of Orchard Close and all other persons who used the footpath.

ii. The Ottery St Mary and Fairmile `finger` from the finger post near the Talaton Inn was missing. The Clerk would report this on the DCC system

iii. The Clerk to contact Ed Polding DCC regarding the mud/stones run off on the highway which had resulted from the recent excessive rainfall and which was creating drain blockages again. Mr Polding be asked to request the farmer responsible, to clear the debris and ditches

25/01/19

ROADSIDE DRAIN BLOCKAGES IN THE PARISH AND CONSIDERATION OF WAYS TO ADDRESS

A response and plan from Ed Polding DCC had been e-mailed to all councillors. Cllr Hirt would consider the plan provided and report back at a future Council meeting

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25/01/20

TO REPORT ANY DELEGATED DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL (INCLUDING PLANNING)

The following delegated decisions were made

i. Prior approval 24/2518/PDQ – Mr and Mrs R Kirby (Class Q) for change of use of 1no. agricultural buildings to 1no. dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) with associated works, including garden area, parking and turning space - Talewater Hill Farm Talewater Talaton Exeter EX5 2RR

Provided this application met the criteria under class Q of part 3 of the Town and Country Planning Order 2024, Talaton Parish Council supported the application for a sympathetic barn conversion that fits well into the landscape and provides a home for a family member.

ii. Planning Application 23/2435/FUL – Mr R Hale Proposed removal of a window on the rear elevation Larkbeare House Talaton Exeter EX5 2RZ

Given that the window in question was added in the 1930's to the rear elevation, Talaton Parish Council was happy to support the application

iii. Planning Application 24/2436/LBC Mr R Hale- Proposed internal room layout changes, including removal/addition of walls and doors; removal of a window on the rear elevation - Larkbeare House Talaton Exeter EX5 2RZ

Talaton Parish Council is not commenting on the application for internal works, as it considers that this is best left to the experts in EDDC's planning team.

25/01/21

ITEMS (INCLUDING DEFIBRILLATORS) FOR INFORMATION ONLY OR FOR DISCUSSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

i. The defibrillators at the shop and Newtown had been checked by the Chair and Vice Chair and were found to be in good order. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would re-register both defibs on 'the Circuit'. The Clerk would need to input information about both defibs on a quarterly basis and the Chair and Vice Chair would continue to physically check them on a regular basis

ii. It was noted that the next Drop-In was on 25th January at the Parish Hall at 10.30am. Cllr Walker gave her apologies

25/01/22

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

There were none

25/01/23

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

5th February 2025 - Cllr Hirt gave his apologies

25/01/24

CLOSE OF MEETING

9.05pm

SIGNATURE OF THE CHAIR	
DATE OF SIGNATURE	

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