

BRANSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Year Ending: 31st March 2021

c/o Higher House, Branscombe, EX12 3BH

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MINUTES OF THE BRANSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held online via ZOOM platform on **THURSDAY 18th MARCH 2021 at 19.00hrs**

PRESENT: Cllrs Fastnedge (Chair), Evans, Lambert, Pegler, Pike, Powell and White, Cllr Pook (EDDC), Cllr Shaw (DCC) and Rob Skinner (NT)

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: One

PRESS: None

CLERK IN ATTENDANCE: Nicky Langley

- 1) APOLOGIES: Beth Salter (PC 7114).
- 2) PUBLIC SPEAKING: None.
- 3) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Parish Council meeting held on 23rd February 2021, as previously circulated, was approved by Council and will be signed by the Chair as a true record at the next face-to-face meeting.
- 4) DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Cllr Lambert noted that he was a neighbour of the applicant in planning application 21/0712/FUL.
- 5) ORGANISATIONS' REPORTS:
 - a) Police: report received and previously circulated.
 - b) National Trust: Winter work is continuing including scrub clearance and felling ash trees suffering from dieback, maintaining the SW Coast Path and the West Cliff habitat restoration. The Mill will remain closed for the remainder of 2021 due to Coronavirus. Rob queried BPC participation in the "Parish pathways" scheme; the Clerk will conduct further investigations.
- 6) REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS:
 - a) Cllr Shaw, DCC: report received and previously circulated. Cllr Shaw discussed the budget and tax increases due to social care costs being pushed down from government to councils. Preparations for the May elections are proceeding with door-to-door canvassing and leaflet distribution now permitted.
 - b) Cllr Pook, EDDC: EDDC business continues online; budget increases have also been set with the Council plan weighted in green issues (Greener East Devon). A report on EV charging points in car parks was approved last week. No Branscombe planning applications have gone to committee. Phase 3 of the restricted business grants going through hand has been managed well.
 - c) Village Hall: The cricket club and tennis courts reopen on 29th March.
- 7) MATTERS ARISING:
 - a) Parish Emergency Plan – will be printed when lockdown permits (printer is closed).

- b) Website Accessibility – draft website was demonstrated; it is being checked and populated by Clerk, who has also produced “accessible” documents for the agendas, minutes, finance, etc.
- c) St Winifred’s churchyard maintenance – item held until April meeting.
- d) Gift to staff at Exeter Hospital – work in progress.
- e) Jurassic Fibre provision for Village – Mike Pellatt advised Cllr Pegler that a survey will be complete by mid-2021, thereafter if successful, work will either be completed by year end or by a government provider by end 2022. Crowd funding was not considered viable. Cllr Evans asked Cllr Pegler to enquire if Weston was being included in the survey.
- f) Annual Meeting & Annual Parish Meeting – 6 May is the local election date and will coincide with the Annual Meeting; the Village Hall is closed until June so the meeting will have to be held online, using Zoom protocols previously developed. Clerk to prepare documents by April Council meeting and invite reports from relevant organisations and circulated prior to the meeting.

8) PLANNING

- a) Parish Planning Update – noted.
- b) Applications, Appeals & Enforcement Actions:
 - i Replace lean-to and attached substandard store with two-storey ancillary accommodation and linked glazed extension. Hole Mill Branscombe EX12 3BX. Ref. No: 21/0712/FUL; Chair thanked Cllr Pegler for his summary and Cllr Pegler described the small extension being of little visual effect outside of the property. There was a concern over the access of construction vehicles but this is a non-material planning concern. It was noted that there are solar panels already on the house and there is a space for a ground source heat pump (GSHP); Cllr Pegler proposed support with further consideration for GSHP / solar panels and a transport managed plan for the construction phase, seconded by Cllr Lambert, all in favour.

9) HIGHWAYS/FOOTPATHS

- a) Culvert by Village Hall – Cllr White suggested that NT be asked to dig their side of the culvert out again. Chair suggested another meeting with DCC when Covid restrictions lifted. Clerk to ask NT and DCC what work was being conducted with respect to the road closure in place on the day of the meeting.
- b) DCC “Doing What Matters” project – plans were put forward and discussed by DCC at the recent Traffic Group meeting attended by Cllrs Shaw and Cox.
- c) Road Wardens – Clerk to purchase Viafix materials from Start Traffic to utilise DCC grant of £678.30 and also road signs to satisfy item 9e). The BPC-designed sign may be increased in size to 45 x 45cm and / or text reduced, such that it is clearer.
- d) Weston Hamlet and Branscombe Village signs – all responses with DCC to progress.
- e) Restricted width signs on Northern Lane – see item c) above.
- f) Branscombe signs on main / village roads – Clerk to ask Steve Kelly if BPC Road Wardens can obtain the parts / mend these.
- g) Temporary Traffic Notice TTRO2139279 – noted (work believed underway, see 9a).
- h) Notification of Road Closure LM501NC8709209 – noted.

10) GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE (as previously circulated)

- a) Draft Resource and Waste Strategy for Devon and Torbay – noted.

11) FINANCE

a) Finance Update 2020/21:	Total receipts for year	£ 10,313.69
	Total payments for year	£ 10,723.59
	Difference	£ (409.90)
	Current balance	£ 23,391.43

- b) Budget – items identified for earmarking of reserves included additional road mending materials, face masks for Villagers, and support for an EV charger for the Village Hall. With regards to the latter, Chair proposed that BPC inform the Trust that we are like minded, seconded by Cllr Pike, all in favour. Cllr Evans noted that the precept had already been allocated for in the 2021/2022 budget and that reserves may therefore fall further in this financial year.
- c) Update on internet banking: need all signatories to sign form electronically once new mandate passed (with NatWest for processing).
- d) Payments approved and cheques will be circulated for signature.

12) MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDA WITH PERMISSION FROM THE CHAIR

- a) Cllr Lambert noted that Seaton Jurassic was closing due to Devon Wildlife Trust pulling out.

The next meeting will be 15th April 2021.

Meeting closed at 20.00 hrs.

Signed..... Date