

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WEST DOWN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD AT WEST DOWN PARISH HALL ON 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020.**

Present. Cllr. C King (Chair), Cllrs. R. Drew, K. Oades, M. Reeves, S. Squire, T. Verney, R. Watts.

Apologies. CCllr A. Davis, DCllr. M. Wilkinson, Cllr S. Ayre.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:30pm.

4064. Public Speaking.

None.

4065. Police report.

The main points on the Newsletter are: -

1 X Theft from motor vehicle.

1 X other theft. (both crimes committed at Mullacott Cross Industrial Estate)

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Drive carefully and according to the road conditions. **“Think Safety” at all times**

Beware of icy conditions particularly during early mornings. Leave more time for travelling so you can take extra care. As well as taking responsibility for your driving, police also urge you to check the condition of your vehicle. Basic checks are necessary on things such as tyres, wipers and lights. Before setting off, drivers are also advised to make sure the windscreen is fully cleared and headlights are on.

The **five** main causes of serious injuries and deaths on the region’s roads, known as the **‘fatal five’**, are excessive or inappropriate speed, driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, not wearing a seat belt, driver distractions such as using mobile devices & careless and inconsiderate driving.

On top of the **“Fatal five”** at this time of year we also have the weather to worry about.

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**Operation Snap** is a secure online facility which allows submissions of video and photographic evidence relating to driving incidents that members of the public have witnessed. If you have captured a driving offence on your dashcam or other digital device, you can send it to the police simply, quickly and securely through Operation Snap. You need to be 18 years old or over, able to supply the registration mark of the offending vehicle and be willing to sign a witness statement and possibly appear in court. You can read the frequently asked questions on the web link before submitting your video or photos.

[www.dc.police.uk/opsnp](http://www.dc.police.uk/opsnp)

4066. Minutes of the last meeting.

Minutes of the December meeting were approved and signed.

4067. Matters Arising.

a. 4045. The abandoned scrambler bike has gone. A complaint was registered with the Police about the reporting issues encountered. A generic reply was received and forwarded to all. It was noted that another member of public had also reported the bike.

b. 4047c. Martin Rich spoke at the Emergency Planning Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019. This was considered to be a productive event with a good selection of the community represented. Although not an exclusive Parish Council matter, it was recommended that a small committee of 4-5 people be set up.

*King*  
5/12/20

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C. King will take forward, perhaps with Cllr Ayre, possible emergency venues will be investigated and a skills audit undertaken.

c. 4047d. The District Councillors grant is to be claimed for use against the cost of a Map Case. A suitable item has been sourced at the cost of £344.21 + vat. It is to be located next to the Parish Council Notice Board if the Community Shop is in favour. Proposed by Cllr K. Oades, seconded by Cllr M. Reeves and approved with 1 abstention.

d. 4053. Concern was raised regarding the amount of work to be undertaken on grass cutting and bus shelter cleaning given the low quote. It was reiterated that the contractor has said that the low quote was due to being village residents and wanting to play their part in keeping the village nice. It was also confirmed that suitable public liability insurance is in place. Cllrs K. Oades and R. Drew (footpath wardens) will inspect the areas at regular intervals as usual.

e. 4055. The additional salt sack delivery has not been received yet, to be chased.

f. 4049. The bid for trees has been sent and a response received.

g. 4063. Missed Agenda Item, new child's pads for ECD required, to be included next month.

4068. Report from County Councillor.

"I'm asking if residents in the area could be extra vigilant in reporting highway defects especially on the A361, there is a scheme being planned to upgrade the surface (this will I expect be some resurfacing) but in the meantime the wet weather will cause more potholes .....

Please report any highway defects on the website, (this is for anyone to use):

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/map/>

Or via telephone: 03451551004

Lynton Cross

I would like to give an update on where we are with the Lynton Cross proposals and have attached the latest Consultation Plan. The proposed layout has now been altered to a 4-arm roundabout, which is proposed not to be street lit due to the environmental sensitivity of the location (i.e. close proximity to the AONB, fringes of Exmoor NP, the dark skies agenda, impacts on ecology). The scheme proposals also entail; (i) some minor improvements at Hore Down Gate, in order to maximise the available visibility splay at the junction, and (ii) reviewing the white lining layout on the A3123 between Mullacott Cross and Easter Close Cross.

Please can you let me know how the members feel about the new proposal. Please be aware that the funding is for the A3123 only, (Safer Roads Fund from dept of transport). You will be the first parish council to have seen the revised plans!"

After discussion it was agreed that the proposed roundabout would be better than no intervention, although concerns were made over ease of use for large vehicles.

4069. Report from District Councillor.

None.

*King*  
5/2/20

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DCllr M. Wilkinson is liaising regarding 70712 at Foxhunters Inn West Down, Devon EX34 8NU. The lack of notification to the neighbours that seems to be happening was raised with him.

4070. Footpaths.

a. Complete P3 Survey.  
Reports back from Cllrs. S. Squire, K. Oades and R. Drew.  
All footpaths were said to be extremely muddy.

4071. Budget.

The Financial Regulations approved in June will need to be reviewed again at the AGM if it is felt necessary to change the criteria for grants. It was proposed that the Budget needs to be brought forward to November to give time for deliberation before final decisions made in December. Unanimous approval. A revised Budget form to be sent to all councillors. It is good practice to have groups apply for a grant.

4072. Planning – Decisions from NDC

None.  
It was noted that the Gazette had reported that the Planning application 70366 – Willingcott Valley Holiday Village had been approved. The NDC website states that the decision is 'pending'.

4073. Planning Applications.

a. 70712 at Foxhunters Inn West Down Devon EX34 8NU.  
Concerns were raised about highway safety, sewers and flood plain.  
Unanimous refusal on grounds of overdevelopment and highway safety.

4074. Correspondence.

Clerks & Councils Direct – January edition. (in float file).

4075. Finance.

a. Bank Statements.

(1) Current Acc.	As at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2019.	£4,266.57 reconciled.
(2) 30 Day Notice Account.	As at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2019.	£4,806.19 reconciled.
(3) Petty Cash	As at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2019.	£ 23.54 reconciled.

b. Cheques.

(1) Chq 632 £183.58 NDC – Clerk Salary.  
(2) Chq 633 £1,846.09 G. J. Hookway. Grass cutting and bus shelter cleaning.

4076. Unresolved Questions.

None.

  
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4077. Items to be added to next meetings agenda.

- a. Footpath Allocation.
- b. Child pads for EDU.

4078. Any other business.

- a. Dog bins not emptied. Notification of staff shortages over the holidays was received, resulting in missed collections. Collections are made on a Thursday. Situation to be monitored.
- b. Thanks to be recorded for Mr J Pearce for the clearing of undergrowth and drain clearance and Mr C Facey for hedge trimming. Councillors were asked to report back on anyone who was seen to be helping the community to keep the village safe and tidy, so that they can be thanked.

Meeting Closed to the public at 20.45.

  
5/2/20