

WEST DOWN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting held via Zoom on
Wednesday 7th October 2020 at 7:30pm.

Present. Cllrs. C King (Chair), S Ayre (Vice Chair), R Drew, M Reeves, S Squire,
T Verney and C Cllr. A Davis.

Apologies. Cllr K Oades and D Cllr. M Wilkinson.

4204. Public Speaking.

None.

4205. Police Report.

No newsletter supplied as yet; it is to be put on the village website when available.
The reported crime figures for Morteheo/Woolacombe & West Down, (Includes Mullacott & Bittadon) in August were: - Antisocial Behaviour x 4, Theft x 2, Violence and Sexual Offences x 2, Other Offences x 2.
Of which, Antisocial Behaviour x 1 and Theft x 1 were in the West Down area.

4206. Minutes of the last meeting.

The September Minutes were approved and signed.

4207. Matters Arising.

a. 4183a. The Parish Council have, again been advised that approximately six cows had been encountered on the road between Dean Cross and Willingcott. Mr Jeremy Mann from the Environmental Department, is to be informed again.

b. 4183c. Climate and Environment Grant. Further information has been received about the grant deadline being extended to the end of January 2021. Cllr Mike Reeves has been speaking with Terry King, Chair of the Parish Hall Committee, again since the last meeting and they have gained more information about the system in place and how storage of the power can be achieved. A quote is expected with regard to a storage battery. The District Council are very keen to have electric charging points in available car parks. This will be looked into in the future. No mention has been made about match funding so an application is to be made.

c. 4183d. GDPR. Cllr Mike Reeves is to join a webinar for Town and Parish Councils on the 13th October to gain information. This is also being looked at by Cllr S Ayre and is ongoing. This is to be revisited at the next meeting.

d. 4183g. Police Advocate. Cllr S Ayre is receiving emails and is forwarding any that are relevant or of interest to the village.

The C Cllr is to chase it up.

f. 4199a. The following Accessibility Statement has been put on the website.

'If you have any problems accessing the information on the West Down Parish Council pages, please contact the Parish Clerk, Vanessa Hunt by email at v.huntwdparishclerk@gmail.com who will provide a format suitable for your needs'.

g. 4199b/c. When the planning department are asked about a suspected planning infringement, will they inform the Parish Council of the outcome? C Cllr A Davis advised that they should but it doesn't seem to be happening. It was agreed that the Clerk would chase the Planning Dept for an update.

4208. Report from County Councillor.

a. The update on Covid-19 is that there is a cluster of 4 cases in this area and a reminder that everyone needs to be careful. It is recommended to download the track and trace app. Exeter figures are very high. This is a big concern for many people.

b. The recycling in the area has increased during lockdown. It seems that being at home has made people more conscious of where to dispose of items. This area has one of the highest rates in the country at 56%. A figure for North Devon will be available soon.

c. Road works on the A3123 at Berry Down Cross will be there until the end of the month, drainage work is underway and the resurfacing will follow. Traffic management is in operation.

d. Highway problems in the area are not being reported. The public need to be sure that all issues are made known to the Highways Dept.

e. Tarka Trail is still ongoing.

f. The pot hole at Churchill Cross is going to be fixed.

4209. Report from District Councillor.

a. Village Sign: I have been talking with Mike and am happy to fund the full cost of the proposed sign and installation.

b. I have circulated a potential grant route for electric charging points. I am convinced that it is the way forward especially if Mr. Johnson's message about the increase in off shore wind farms by 2030 becomes reality.

c. The saga of the Pearl Dean development continues and, as you are aware, it will be referred back to the Planning Committee. John Stainer has written some very strongly worded correspondence to the planning officers and Chief Executive on behalf of the Village Hall and Village Field Committees. NDC are still awaiting the outcome of the Plymouth consultation.

building appearing in the grounds of Woodlane Farm. It states that the development is "an enormous two storey building, in a prominent position in the woods of Woodlane Farm". It also claims that "The building is also considerably bigger than what was drawn in the application" I would appreciate you having a look and advising me if you consider it needs to be referred to the Enforcement Team. Although the letter is anonymous the writer will be looking at the minutes of this meeting.

It was agreed unanimously to ask DCllr M Wilkinson to refer the matter to the Enforcement Team.

4210. DCllr Grant/Village Sign.

Cllr Mike Reeves gave an update on the state of play. A quote has been received from a local company that has been used before. A photo was taken of the stone sign and has been replicated on an aluminium sign. This was forwarded to DCllr Wilkinson for comment. The sign is £240 + vat and the cost of fixing is £70 + vat totalling £310 + vat. Information on the verges at Ilfracombe Hill as to siting of the sign needs looking into. Agreed unanimously.

4211. Footpaths.

- a. No problems have been reported but it is noted that the ground is very wet.
- b. The budget has £1000 that needs to be used on the footpath network.
- c. The bridge on footpath 12 is currently approximately two feet underwater. It was hoped that work can be done to improve the area. Cllr T Verney to supply photos.

4212. Acorn Developments.


No response has been received from North Devon Council. Plymouth CC are expected to return their findings this coming week. Letters from the 'Save Our Section 106 Village Benefits' group have been circulated. When the Parish Council know the outcome of Plymouth CC and when the Planning Committee meet, it will then be able to plan the way forward. Torridge Council, in light of this, are quite concerned about their own affordable housing and would like to be kept informed. It was unanimously agreed that an Extraordinary Meeting will be called as soon as the information is received on the findings of Plymouth CC.

4213. Poppy Wreath.

A Poppy Wreath is to be ordered on behalf of the Village and laid by the Parish Council Chair, Cllr Carole King.

4214. Standing Orders.

Cllr Mike Reeves has produced the following passage as an insert for the Standing Orders to cover the Parish Council for remote meetings.


14/11/20

Emergency Legislation

In line with The Local Authorities (Coronavirus) Flexibility of Local Authorities Meetings (England) Regulations 2020, West Down Parish Council will be conducting meetings remotely via the "Zoom" video conferencing platform until further notice.

This situation could continue until May 2021 unless further guidance or regulation is issued by the Government. The Council will do its utmost to adhere to the guidelines for conducting remote meetings published by the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) in April 2020 and updated in June 2020.

Unanimous approval was received.

4215. Planning - Decisions from NDC.

a. 71753 – Easterground, West Down EX34 8NJ
Conversion of redundant barn to a dwelling - Approved.

4216. Planning Applications

a. 72130 – Land at Crookmans Corner West Down.
Prior notification of extension to existing agricultural building to store fodder/hay and straw for cattle. – prior approval not required.

b. Applications received after publishing of the agenda

None.

4217. Correspondence.

a. Notification received from PKF Littlejohn LLP.
Receipt of documents – notification of exempt status 2020.

b. WDPHMC Annual Insurance Policy.

c. WDPHMC Application for Grant.

d. WDVGFA Application for Grant.

4218. Finance.

a) Bank Statements.

(1) Current Acc.	As at 30 th September 2020. £ 6,920.39 reconciled.
(2) 30 Day Notice Account.	As at 30 th September 2020. £ 4,807.79 reconciled.
(3) Petty Cash.	As at 30 th September 2020. £ 22.20 reconciled.

b) Cheques.

657	WDPHMC	50% Grant	£ 250.00
658	WDPC	50% Grant	£ 550.00
659	WDVGFA	50% Grant	£ 400.00
660	NDC	Clerk Salary	£ 212.62



Handwritten signature and date: H.11/20

4219. Mid-Term Accounts.

Mid-Term accounts have been produced, circulated and approved.
Six months of Parish Hall Rent was paid in March, this payment will carry over to when the Parish Council are able to use the hall for meetings again.

4220. Grant Distribution.

Each Councillor will have to apply in writing beforehand to the Proper Officer (Clerk) for a decision.

Each individual must confirm:

- The description and nature of the interest to which the dispensation relates.
- Whether they wish to discuss only or discuss and vote.
- The date of the meeting.
- An explanation of why the dispensation is sought.

4221. Online Banking.

Ongoing, Cllr S Ayre to visit Lloyds Bank to obtain Online Banking Application.

4222. Items to be added to next meeting Agenda.

- a. Footpaths.
- b. Online Banking.
- c. Remembrance Service.
- d. Acorn Developments.
- e. Village Sign.
- f. Budget.
- g. Grant distribution.
- h. Grass Cutting Tender.
- i. GDPR.

4223. Any other business.

- a. The Councillor Vacancy has been advertised in the Parish Council Notice Board, the Parish Hall Notice Board and on the Village Website.
- b. The Hedges in Stang Lane are in need of trimming.

The meeting was closed at 21:07.