

WEST DOWN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
West Down Parish Hall
Wednesday 2nd October 2024 at 7.00 p.m.

Present Cllrs: S Ayre (Chair), M Reeves (Vice Chair), R Kenshole, H Knight, S Tanton, T Verney.

Also present: C Cllr Davis, D Cllr Wilkinson, Daniel Bleasdale (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

Apologies: S Whitby

5343. Declarations of Interest
None.

5344. Public Participation
Tracey Blackmore of North Devon Council gave a presentation on the re-use of disused and redundant rural buildings. The PowerPoint presentation is available on the website.

5345. Approve & Sign Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 4th September 2024.
Cllr Reeves proposed that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th September 2024 be accepted as a true record which was seconded by Cllr Tanton. Decision unanimous.

5346. Matters Arising
Cllr Reeves noted the full approval of North Devon Climate & Environment Grant on the September 25th of £7910 in partnership with the Parish Hall to install battery storage for solar energy, also to be used to landscape the southern part of the grounds with hedging and wild flowers. It remains for the Chairman of the Parish Hall Management Committee to notify us that his committee accept the terms.
Cllr Reeves is meeting with someone who may express an interest to be co-opted on to the council.

5347. Police Report
Monthly Crime Figures for August 2024 West Down: 1 Assault, 1 Road related offence.

5348. Report from County Councillor.
C Cllr Davis reports roadworks on the A361 will be completed within days. Stagecoach will be taking over the bus services from Filers, C Cllr Davis has emailed Stagecoach to confirm the route.
Cllr S Ayre brought up the damage on Dean Road to C Cllr Davis's attention, who stated that she would ask the highways officer to take a look once the main road works are completed.
Cllr Reeves asked where the flashing speed camera coming from Braunton has gone, She will investigate.

5349. The Reactive Speed sign: Concern was expressed about the weight of the sign, 23 kg and if the battery is detachable. C Cllr Davis will find out which sign Bratton Fleming have. C Cllr Davis will liaise with the new Clerk to push this forward.

5350. Report from District Councillor.

D Cllr Wilkinson noted the LGA Coastal issues AGM has taken place in the area as part of a 3 day conference. The conference went very well and covered a lot of issues affecting coastal communities.

The National Trust has 49 saplings from the sycamore tree that was cut down at Hadrians wall that communities can bid for.

There is a household support fund if people are on pension support credits, this is available from the District Council.

5351. Reactive Speed Sign: This was covered by C Councillor Davis

5352. Planning Decisions: None

5353. Planning Applications

79176 – Demolition of existing barn and erection of new dwelling and change of use of land to form domestic curtilage (fall back position of application 77945) at Moore Farm, West Down, Ilfracombe, Devon, EX34 8NT.

Approval proposed by Cllr, Kenshole seconded by Cllr Reeves, approved unanimously, on the condition that this is for primary occupancy.

78661 – Conversion of outbuilding into ‘granny annexe’ for use exclusively by existing family at Homeleigh, 5 South View Cottages, West Down, Ilfracombe, Devon, EX34 8NR. Approval proposed by Councillor Kenshole, seconded by Councillor Reeves, approved unanimously.

5354. Footpaths

Cllr Verney has started looking at the new tender, there was an issue with one of the footpaths and Cllr Ayre has been informed. There is also an issue with one of the landowners regarding the contractor, these issues need resolving before Cllr Verney can finish.

The Clerk will try and get the new head of footpaths to visit.

Forgotten Footpath: A letter was received enquiring about a forgotten footpath, Cllr Ayre investigations revealed that the footpath was generated as part of a countryside scheme and was only in place for 10 years.

5355. Emergency Plan

Cllr Reeves noted Andy Odell has finished the Emergency Plan both the public version of the plan and the redacted one containing private information. These have been sent to Devon Communities Together, with a few minor corrections on the initial draft.

Another emergency exercise is planned for May 2025. Devon Communities Together have indicated that they may use West Down as a case study. The Grant for walkie talkies was approved £389.95.

The emergency plan is to be reviewed once a year.

5356. Car Park Lease

Laura at Samuels has sent the draft lease and is waiting a map plan. Some maintenance will take place before a completed transaction takes place.

5357. Air Ambulance Light

The light is now working. Ben Hookes has agreed to do the testing once a month.

5358. Pay out of small grants following the second precept payment.

Parish Hall £250 PCC £700 WDVGFA £500 WDS PTFA £332.5 Proposal to approve payments proposed by Cllr Kenshole seconded by Cllr Verney, decision unanimous.

5359. Neighbourhood plan

The Clerk will contact Elizabeth Dee as suggested by Tracey Blackmore and ask her to speak to the Parish council.

5360. Section 106 Money

The Parish Council will contact groups in the village to put applications in for low, medium and high value projects.

5361. Community Land Trust

The CLT has run out of funds and are applying for more funding.

5362. Review of Quotation and Tender Policy

The existing version is very suitable, Approval proposed by Cllr Verney, seconded by Cllr Reeves, decision unanimous.

5363. Finances

a) Balances: Treasures Account: £24885.33 Business Bank Account £4898.77

b) Received invoices for payment:

North Devon Council Clerks Salary £395.53 plus Admin Charge £ 7.72 £ 403.25

Western Web Renewal of Cloud email account £ 86.40

Mrs V A Ford Poppy Wreath from RBL (incl Delivery) £ 24.49

Total Payment £ 514.14

Approval proposed by Cllr Tanton, seconded by Cllr Verney, decision unanimous.

Cllr Reeves proposed that we pay Andy Odell for the walkie talkies as soon as he gets banking access.

c) To receive the mid-term accounts: The clerk suggested the removal of dog waste bins and to increase the election budget and will investigate these. Approval of mid-term accounts proposed by Cllr Verney, seconded by Cllr Reeves, decision unanimous.

5364. Correspondence

None

5365. Unresolved Questions

None.

5366. Items to be added to the next meeting Agenda

- a) S106
- b) Neighbourhood plan
- c) Budget
- d) P3 footpath survey
- f) Insurance
- g) Tenders for Parish grass cutting
- e) Small grant applications

5367. Any Other Business

- a) The Clerk will remove Vals name and address from the website and change postal addresses as they come up.
- b) The previous clerk has been removed from banking.
- c) Training has been booked and the Clerk will book Cllr Tanton on if there spare places on the planning course.
- d) The Clerk was asked to add the Emergency plan to the website.
- e) Home waste has not been collected on Pullands Lane, the Clerk will chase this.
- f) An abandoned car awareness sticker has been posted on the vehicle.
- g) Highways cannot put new traffic warning lines on the road outside the Community Shop.
- h) The Clerk confirmed he has all he needs to take over as Clerk, and will track his hours.

PART B – THE PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE EXCLUDED FROM THIS PART OF THE MEETING.

5368. None

The meeting closed at 9.37 p.m.