

Beaworthy Parish Council – MIN0082020

Minutes of a Virtual Meeting held on Thursday **17 Sept 2020** at 7.30pm via Zoom.

Councillors present: Cllr Rendell, Cllr Coleman, Cllr Johnstone, Cllr Wonnacott.

Also present: A Braidwood (Clerk), Cllr Southcott (WDBC)

1. **Apologies** – None received

Councillors present agreed Cllr Coleman would Chair the meeting.

2. **Chairman's welcome.**

3. **Public Forum** – no members of the public spoke.

4. **Declarations** of interest in items on the agenda. Cllr Wonnacott declared a personal interest in item 6.1 and would not participate in vote.

5. **Minutes of the previous meeting** held on **20th August 2020** were approved as a true record and signed by the chair.

6. **Planning** –

6.1 **2549/20/HHO** – It was proposed by Cllr Coleman and seconded by Cllr Rendell, with 3 votes for and 1 abstention, to **RESOLVE** to support the application with the following comments:

The council has no objection to the extension but possibly more consideration should be given to the design/appearance and visual impact. The council would like to see a pitched roof replace the flat roof design to be in keeping with the original building.

7. **Grant Policy.** It was proposed by Cllr Johnstone and seconded by Cllr Coleman and unanimously **RESOLVED** to adopt the grant policy with the following amendments: To be reviewed annually; The council will only consider one application from an organisation within any one financial year.

8. **Consultation on highway code for road safety.** It was unanimously **RESOLVED** it would be appropriate to give individual responses to this consultation.

9. **Consultation on government changes to planning** – It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to consider the planning for the future consultation at the next council meeting but to give individual responses to the changes to planning system consultation. Clerk to add to the next agenda.

10. **Clerks Report** – report noted. Annex A.

11. **FINANCES**

11.1 **Finance Report and bank reconciliation**

Totals to Date								
Receipts								
Total	Precept	Grant	Bank Interest	VAT Refund	Column1	Column2	Column3	
2,025.02	3,610.00	100.00	-	120.02	-	-	-	
Payments								
Total	Clerk's Salary	Grants and Donations	Admin and training	Office Costs	Insurance	Asset Maintenance	Election Costs	VAT
1,465.10	781.75	300.00	56.28	96.81	152.62	-	63.22	14.42

Bank Summary Cashbook			
			Current A/C
Balance at	31/03/20		1,700.03
Receipts			2,025.02
Payments			1,465.10
Balance at			2,259.95
Bank Reconciliation			
			Current A/C
Balance per statement 28 Aug 2020			2,660.62
Outstanding cheques	Chq No	Amount	
	333	150.00	
	338	156.35	
	339	46.80	
	340	47.52	
Total Outstanding cheques			(400.67)
			2,259.95
Difference			-

11.2 **Accounts for payment** – It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

- Clerk salary Sept 2020 £156.35
- .COM domain renewal £19.37

12. **Request for grant funding** – It was **RESOLVED** to defer a decision on the request for a grant from the Beaworthy Outdoor Cinema until more information on the venture and evaluation of community benefits was available. Clerk to obtain relevant details prior to the next meeting.
13. **West Devon borough Councillors report/update** - noted and attached **Annex B**.
14. **Items for the agenda for next meeting** – BT phone box update, Japanese Knotweed update.
15. **Date of next meeting** – 22 Oct 2020
16. **Meeting closed** at 2045 hours.

Annex A

Clerk Update Report 17 Sep 2020

Finance

Mandate to remove Brian Hill has been approved. We can now apply for a standing order for salary.

Cllr Johnstone has sent an email to BT customer services again on 9 Sept regarding the pay phone repair previously reported on 3 July. I will forward any further information as it comes in.

Highways

I have reported both Madworthy ditch and to road from Green Meadow cross to Polehayes to the Highways officer, unfortunately they are on leave until 14th Sept. I also sent the email to csc.roads. I have had a reply that the report has been received and will be looked into. I will forward on any information as it comes in.

Grants

I have left messages regarding the outdoor cinema but have been unable to speak to them yet. I was hoping to get some further information to allow the grant to be assessed. I will update this if I am able to contact them before the meeting.

Annex B

WDBC Parish Update – Sep 2020

WDBC, along with other councils, continue to financially support the leisure facilities in Tavistock and Okehampton. An appeal by all of the SW councils has been made to ensure funding is made available to continue to do this.

A report will be going to the Hub committee to discuss the three weekly waste collection. It is proposed to extend the trial for a further 6 months to try and get a more accurate picture of how the service would operate as the Covid-19 pandemic has distorted the results.

Schools are open and we are being encouraged to get out and about more, a reminder from DCC to ensure we maintain social distancing, wear masks etc. This follows a slight increase in numbers of reported cases in Devon. As before you can get updates:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/>

Various grants are available:

Green Homes Grant Scheme – Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

The government will provide a voucher worth up to £5,000 or £10,000 to help cover the cost of making energy efficient improvements to your home. Improvements could include insulating your home to reduce your energy use or installing low-carbon heating to lower the amount of carbon dioxide your home produces.

You must redeem the voucher and ensure improvements are completed by 31 March 2021.

You can apply for the voucher from the end of September. In the meantime, you can find out what improvements can be made to your home and obtain quotes from certified tradespeople.

The government will provide a voucher that covers two-thirds of the cost of qualifying energy efficiency or low carbon heating improvements to your home. The maximum value of the voucher is £5,000.

If you are on a low income and receive certain benefits, you can receive a voucher covering all of the cost of the improvements. The maximum value of the voucher is £10,000.

To apply for the voucher, you must either:

- own your home (including park homeowners, long-leaseholders and shared ownership)
- be a private or social landlord

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-for-the-green-homes-grant-scheme>

Current central government consultations continue:

Changes to the Current Planning System: consultation on changes to planning policy & regulations – Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Government states that: “This consultation sets out proposals for measures to improve the effectiveness of the current planning system. The 4 main proposals are:

- changes to the standard method for assessing local housing need
- securing of First Homes through developer contributions in the short term until the transition to a new system
- supporting small and medium-sized builders by temporarily lifting the small sites threshold below which developers do not need to contribute to affordable housing
- extending the current Permission in Principle to major development”

This consultation closes on 1 October 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-the-current-planning-system>

Planning for the Future – Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Government states that: “The Planning for the future consultation proposes reforms of the planning system to streamline and modernise the planning process, bring a new focus to design and sustainability, improve the system of developer contributions to infrastructure, and ensure more land is available for development where it is needed.”

This consultation closes on 29 October 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future>

Waste management Plan for England – Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

Government are seeking views on a revised draft Waste Management Plan for England (the Plan). Under the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 the Government is required to review the Plan every 6 years. The content of the Plan is determined by the requirements of Schedule 1 to the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011. The Plan provides an analysis of the current waste management situation in England. It is primarily about the quantity of waste there is in England and how that waste is managed. The Plan sets out a summary of current policies, not new policies or announcements. It reflects the policies included in the Government’s Resources and Waste Strategy, published in 2018.

This consultation closes on 15 October 2020.

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/waste-management-plan-for-england/>

Developing a tree strategy for England – Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

Government is seeking views across a wide range of topics on trees and forestry to help inform the development of an England tree strategy. They want to know your views on how government can:

- increase tree planting and woodland creation
- increase protection for trees and woodland
- bring more woodland into management

- maximise trees' role in supporting the economy
- engage more people with trees and woodlands

They will use these views to develop the England tree strategy. The strategy will provide a basis to support work on:

- 25 Year Environment Plan commitments
- nature recovery
- clean growth
- net zero goals to 2050

This consultation closes on 11 September 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/developing-a-tree-strategy-for-england>

Review of The Highway Code to improve road safety for cyclists, pedestrians and horse riders – Department for Transport

This consultation is seeking views on proposed changes to The Highway Code to improve safety for vulnerable road users, particularly the groups of:

- cyclists
- pedestrians
- horse riders

The main alterations to the code being proposed are:

- introducing a hierarchy of road users which ensures that those road users who can do the greatest harm have the greatest responsibility to reduce the danger or threat they may pose to others
- clarifying existing rules on pedestrian priority on pavements, to advise that drivers and riders should give way to pedestrians crossing or waiting to cross the road,
- providing guidance on cyclist priority at junctions to advise drivers to give priority to cyclists at junctions when travelling straight ahead
- establishing guidance on safe passing distances and speeds when overtaking cyclists and horse riders

This consultation closes on 27 October 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/review-of-the-highway-code-to-improve-road-safety-for-cyclists-pedestrians-and-horse-riders>