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HOLCOMBE BURNELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of Holcombe Burnell Parish Council held at Longdown Village Hall on **Monday 20th September 2021** at 7.30pm.

PRESENT

Cllr Louise Brind (Chair)
Cllr Marion Bulley
Cllr Kate Morley
Cllr Andy Swain (TDC)

Cllr Judith Betney
Cllr Chloe Bickley
Cllr Sir Henry Studholme

IN ATTENDANCE: Jim Roberts (Clerk and RFO) 0 members of the public

1 Open Forum incl. AOB

The bin at the bus stop needs a new wooden post as the one currently used (from the redundant PC noticeboard) has worn out. **Cllr Bickley** will pursue repairs with Culver sawmill/SM Fencing. There is a severely damaged Inspection cover on the footpath on the Exeter side of the bus stop. This is now a trip hazard. Highways re-seated it a few weeks ago but it is now badly damaged.

Footpath Warden's Report – The FW reported that he had visited the stile on FP2 with the PROW officer from DCC who decided to replace the stile with a gate. This has now been completed and is a good job.

The FW had a meeting with Culver Sawmill to tackle water erosion to FP3 (Old School House to Kingsford Lane). He is still waiting to hear from them and will pass the quote to DCC for action.

Valley Farm is with DCC and the PROW Officer has been in touch a few times with the farmer. The matters previously raised about access through are ongoing. Work has been done to the shed roof so that water will no longer run onto the path.

The FW believes that DCC will wait until winter to see what happens in the bad weather. The Environment Agency is also involved.

Cllr Morley will continue to take monthly pictures, although everything is fine at the moment as it is the summer.

There is also an issue with the number of gates across the path and some farm materials and items left too near the path. It will be the landowner's responsibility to replace/remove the gates. The Council hopes that any replacement gates will be suitable for horse riders.

DCC have a contractor going around all our footpaths to trim the overhanging growth. The FW had chased DCC as the contractor was leaving the cuttings on the path.

The Chair thanked the FW for all his hard work.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Eden who had a diary clash with a previous engagement - The Council unanimously resolved to accept the reasons

3 Declarations of Interests & Registers of Interests – None

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4 Minutes

Council approved the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2021 as true & correct records. The Chair duly signed them.

Matters arising - Item 7 – The Council felt that only half a page of Longdown news would be lost in the larger Teign Valley newsletter and we should stick with The Tedburn Times. Items such as the defib use should be included – **Cllr Betney** will write a short article and submit it.

Clerk will include Matters arising on the agenda.

Some Councillors felt that the volume of items to discuss suggested that a meeting in August should be considered next year.

5 Reports of County and District Councillors.

5.1 Devon County Council No report this month

Cllr Swain did give some information on the variable speed cameras. Whitestone have one. and could share with Tedburn, but batteries can be expensive to replace. Ide are focussing on parking rather than speed. The **clerk** will ask neighbouring Parishes about their views.

5.2 Teignbridge District Council Cllr Swain reported

Climate Emergency – TDC are considering how to decarbonise Forde House and the Leisure Centre but it will cost £millions.

Problems with bin collections – The pandemic has led to much more household waste and more parked cars than previously plus there is the shortage of HGV drivers. TDC is doing better with inhouse service to the adjacent outsourced councils. If you see the staff working - please bear in mind the workers are working hard.

Shillingford PC are interested in joint defib training and the Council were happy to share costs in a joint venture. HB defib had recently been used and the patient survived, but this had generated interest in defib training

The Village Hall's glass recycling bank is to be removed as it is not used enough. The low use was put down to the fact that the Social Club hasn't been open for 18 months and the Village Hall car park was locked closed to prevent flytipping so the glass bank could only be accessed on foot The Council feels that even a smaller glass bank would be useful. The **clerk** will feed this back to TDC.

6 Village Concerns

6.1 Speeding traffic on Chapel Hill & Children's Sign Competition

The Council had very few entries to the sign competition, but decided on the straight or Chapel Hill. The Council decided to print three of the entries – 3 x £10 WH Smith vouchers (**clerk**) for the winners. **Cllr Bickley** will progress the printing, Council will then decide the locations.

6.2 Driving and anti-social behaviour on the fields behind Chapel Hill

Since the last meeting the problem has reduced and taken place at more acceptable times. Cllrs will keep an eye on the problems. It will be logged if a nuisance.

6.3 Road surface to the Church

The Council understand that there haven't been any accidents for 3 months.

6.4 Queen's Green Canopy for the Platinum Jubilee in 2022

Cllr Morley attended a Devon Hedge group meeting and discussed apple trees to be given away. This could lead to a community orchard could lead to community for apple

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pressings etc. She believes it would be nice to plant a tree for food, and the Village Hall overhaul could be an opportunity.

There are grants and rare Devon varieties of apple should be considered. The Woodland Trust will give away free tree packs. Cherry trees would be a nice alternative for the blossom.

If we can get the trees for free/subsidised could collect from the VH. **Cllr Morley** will research the availability of trees.

7 Village Hall Major Overhaul of Outside Space

The Council discussed the VH Cttee proposals that had been circulated. It is the 50th anniversary of the Hall this year and cttee want to convert some of the car park to an outside green social area. The Council considered uses for its leased land including children's activities (eg bug hotel), Nature School (eg hazel coppice), attracting butterflies, habitats vs open space and wildflower plantings vs woodland scrub. It would be good to connect the land to the Play Area and there should be a community event to decide what could be done with the site. Many people wouldn't know that this parcel of land exists.

The Council will ask **Cllr Eden** to discuss this with the VH committee.

8 CIL Payment and Community Project

The Council would like a meeting with Devon Highways and Cllr Connett to discuss how to implement the traffic calming measures. The action should be communicated to the village via the website and newsletters. **Cllr Bickley** will draft something. The **clerk** will organise the meeting.

9 Reports

9.1 Clerk's Report –

The clerk reported the following –

- He attended a webinar on Internal Controls on 9th September. This was useful to confirm the procedures in place and to understand where risks existed for Parish Councils. He felt that it was aimed more for Cllrs as much of it dealt with controls on the clerk.
- The Village Hall Hire (11.2) below was incorrect (by £1). The email exchange between the clerk and the VH Treasurer had discussed the arrears for Sept 2018 – July 2021 which totalled £99. The Treasurer has invoiced in advance for Sept 2021 -July 2022 which is £100. The clerk has asked the Treasurer for the arrears invoice.
- The Village Hall had also asked about the Parish Council possibly having its own website. The Council
- Cllr Morley had asked whether the Council could have a Facebook presence to promote some initiatives. Some people may be reluctant to contact Cllrs or the clerk on some issues, such as Hardship Grants, and may miss out. The clerk explained how he used Facebook on behalf of his other Council.
- The Parish Council has received the Dog Waste bin contribution from the VH and the Chairman had raised another £35 from sales of The Leviger's Tale at the Railway Walk. This has been banked.
- There are grants available for electric charging points and War Memorial repairs. The **clerk** will register the Council's interest in charging points.
- He asked for guidance on Remembrance Day orders and the Council asked him to order a wreath.
- TDC have asked about Operation London Bridge and whether the Parish has a Condolence Book and a place for the laying of flowers. The **clerk** will buy a condolence book.

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- The Chairman had asked the clerk to chase 4 properties about hedge trimming and he had delivered the letters on his way to the meeting.
- Exeter City Council is seeking views on 2 aspects of their new Local Plan – the Main Planning Issues and the Statement of Community Involvement. The Council resolved to comment at the next meeting.
- The clerk was able to confirm he had found missing cheque no. 000829 which had been re-issued at the last meeting. He was now able to cancel it and staple it in the chequebook.

9.2 Nature Warden's Report - Cllr Morley had previously circulated monthly report.

9.3 Defibrillator Report – Cllr Betney had ordered and submitted the report online under accreditation ref. 618.

9.4 Play Area Report – Cllr Brind had nothing additional to report but had seen the play area well used over the last month.

10 Planning

10.1 Sylvan – Future of the fence and the site.

The Council had confirmation from TDC that the fence was permitted temporarily, and no enforcement was appropriate at this time. The Council is very concerned that this fence does not become permanent and the original Landscape Plan is adhered to. Cllr Morley has chased this with TDC and confirmed that it is unsightly, and not compatible. She will keep it under review. It is understood that the new owners have been visiting the property.

Review again next month.

10.2 Response to the Bovey Parish Neighbourhood Plan (email of 24th August refers – deadline 27th Sept)

The Council have no comments to make.

10.3 Response to TDC Licensing (Gambling) Statement of Principles (email of 13th August refers – deadline 8th Oct)

The Council have no comments to make.

11 Finance

11.1 Council noted the current balances -	Treasurer's Account	£ 11,667.53
	Business Bank Account	£ 3,425.54
	Total	£ 15,092.87

Payments The Council unanimously resolved to make the following payments

11.2 To Longdown Village Hall for room hire (Sept 2021 - to July 2021 10 meetings)	£ 100.00
11.3 Payment to Josh Bush for strimming & grass cutting (July & August)	£ 260.00
11.4 Payment to Cllr Brind for printing the CIL questionnaires	£ 33.65
11.5 Payment to Cllr Betney Defib replacement parts	£ 72.49
11.6 Payment to J P Roberts (clerk) for pay (July & August) and receipts	£ 356.23
To DCC Pension Fund (clerk's pension - July & August)	£ 97.78
To HMRC for clerk's PAYE Income Tax (July & August)	£ 75.20

12 Date of Next Meeting – Monday 11th October 2021.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:20pm.

Signed
Cllr C E G Eden, Chairman

Date