

EAST BUDLEIGH with BICTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 25 September 2018 in the Village Hall, East Budleigh.

PRESENT

Cllrs

M Smith
Lister
C Taunton
P Barnard
S Miller

K Quant
Mrs P Hayman
J Carter
D Wensley
S Roberts

District councillors T Wright and A Dent were present.

13 members of the public were present.

PCSO Justin Willis has been invited to give the monthly police report but did not submit one.

PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS:

It has been proposed and agreed that members of the public be allowed to speak for **3 minutes** at the beginning of the meeting. This time scale will run to maximum of 30 minutes, therefore allowing 10 people to speak. This will bring EBPC in line with other town/parish councils. Members of the public wishing to speak on an Agenda item are requested to inform the clerk no later than 24 September 2018. It should be noted that this is **NOT** a question and answer session, it simply provides a vehicle for the public to make the council aware of views of the public before discussing agenda items. The clerk received no applications to speak.

- 1. APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Cty Cllr C Channon and District Councillors S Hall and G Jung.
- 2. MINUTES:** The Minutes of the July meeting were confirmed and accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & RISK ASSESSMENT**
There was no declaration of interest and Risk Assessment was given by the Chair.

- 4. COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT:** The Headteacher of Drake's School has decided to take early retirement for personal reasons. She will leave at Christmas and in the meantime the Governors are looking at various options as to how best to fill the vacancy.

Mill Water School has nothing to do with the Grade 1 listed garden at Bicton College. The new school was built on land which the college had been using for horticultural services and not inside the walled garden. The College is responsible for the garden and DCC built them a Sports Hall in lieu of payment for the land on which the school was built. I have reason to believe that the walled garden may come within the boundary of Colaton Raleigh parish and not Bicton with East Budleigh. I do not have any up to date knowledge regarding the current state of the garden.

5. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT:

Cllr Wright reported that EDDC are looking into local car parking costs and are considering parking permits. Costs of £100 pa were suggested for anytime parking in Exmouth and Budleigh Salterton and for an extra £40pa (i.e £140pa) parking in Sidmouth would be included. Residents are reminded that car parking in East Budleigh is free. Local recycling has improved to a level of 61%. Cllr Wright also reported on the partial collapse and closure of the footpath by the cricket field. A full report is included in the P3 report by Jon Roseway.

Cllr Dent reported that he is a member of the Strata Joint Scrutiny Committee which met on 24 September.

- Strata provides IT services to EDDC, ECC and TDC
- Started from scratch four years ago and now has a turnover of over £6million
- Objective was to provide savings, cyber security and flexibility for digital developments.
- Currently achieving savings ahead of prediction. This year approx. £420,000
- Complex and difficult task to rationalise all the systems used by the three councils
- This largely achieved and now officers have a common desktop system and unified servers in the basement of ECC. All inter connected via newly laid fibre optic cabling.
- Better working relationship with councils and local authorities set the work priorities
- Looking to the future shows that there is a fundamental need for more IT training.
- The equipment used by officers and councillors has changed dramatically over four years
- We are all using technology more and more but most of us lack the IT knowledge and skills needed

- This evening at the Joint Executive Committee Council leaders are being asked to support additional funding for further specialised training. This will be for both officers and members.
- Whether we like it or not the future is digital!

6. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

Defibrillator

RESOLVED – Training in the use of the defibrillator has been arranged for Tuesday, 20 November in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Extensive advertising for this event will take place between now and November 20th.

Review of Risk Assessment, Financial Regulations and Standing Orders (including new Model Standing Orders)

ACTION – This item will be brought to the meeting in October to allow all new proposals put forward by Cllr Wensley to be considered by councillors.

Annual Review of Policies/Actions in the Neighbourhood Plan

RESOLVED – Cll Roberts presented his proposals which will involve input by various councillors in order to keep it as a rolling topic for the PC Meetings.

These proposals include:

Creation of a business page on the parish website.

Explore with BS Medical Centre the possibility of a weekly surgery being provided in the Village Hall.

Parish Council to set up lines of communication with Mill Water School.

Seek to develop improved linkages of pathways within the parish and pathways to neighbouring parishes.

Seek funding to support promotion and enhancement of parish walks. Creation of a wildlife corridor from Middletown Lane to EB15.

Pursue and support proposals for improvements in traffic safety in East Budleigh and Yettington.

Work with Village Hall trustees to improve vehicular and pedestrian access to the site.

Work with other local groups to encourage public transport providers to offer services as needed by the community.

Explore National Lottery funding to explore schemes such as habitat conservation, skills training, repairs to distinctive buildings, improving access to landscape.

Explore Community Land Trust Grant funding to develop and manage affordable housing in the parish.

Preparation of Parish Council meetings document

RESOLVED – After viewing the proposed document councillors agreed that it should be put on the parish council website as a true and legal explanation of the procedure for parish council meetings.

7. **MATTERS DISCUSSED**

Request for extra-ordinary payment for debris clearance at Yettington

RESOLVED – it was agreed that a one-off payment should be made to the resident concerned.

Memorial tree for Beryl Maynard, East Budleigh in Bloom

ACTION – the request was referred to Clinton Devon Estates, owners of the Recreation Ground for their permission as to the type of tree suitable and the location for planting.

Parish/village Heritage particularly Salem 2019

ACTION - this item will be brought forward to the October meeting.

Bicton at risk/Mill Water School

RESOLVED – this item was covered in Cty Cllr Channon’s report.

8. PLANNING

Applications to be considered – There was none. Cllr M Smith

	Application No.	Location	Proposed Development
8.1	18/1464/FUL	The Pound, Lower Budleigh, EB	Demolition of existing barn and construction of a single dwelling.

Any amended plans relating to the above received by the Parish Council will be discussed at an appropriate future meeting.

Decisions from EDDC to planning applications

Reference	Location	EDDC Decision
17/1813/FUL	The Rolle Arms, EB	Awaiting a Decision
17/2841/FUL	The Old Vicarage, East B’leigh	Awaiting a Decision
18/0929/FUL	2 High Street, East Budleigh	Approved with conditions
18/1464/FUL	The Pound, Lower Buleigh, EB	Awaiting a Decision

9. REPORTS FROM WORKING PARTIES

Chairman – The Chair and Vice Chair attended a Chairmanship Short Course and found it to be very informative and useful. The new Football Club lease is still in the process of being finalised.

Clerk – The clerk reported that a new lease has been drawn up for the Tennis Club and will be discussed at a future meeting. The External Audit has been signed off as correct and will be available to view on the website. In compliance with GDPR the files for the past 12 years have been sorted and housed in a new filing cabinet in the clerk’s house. Files which were no longer considered necessary were removed by a specialist firm for shredding. A certificate to this effect has been issued to the parish council. Cllr Quant is unable to undertake Chapter 8 training due to health problems. The clerk will contact surrounding parishes to find out their procedure for drain clearance.

Recreation – No report.

Parish Paths Partnership – On Sept 14 the sea undermined a section of the EB2 footpath on the east side of the cricket field and later it fully collapsed, destroying several metres of the path. DCC have closed the path between Lime Kiln carpark and White Bridge until Oct 4 while they carry out emergency repairs to protect the

cricket field from flooding and prevent further damage to the embankment on which the path runs.

I strimmed a short section of Bicton 2 footpath that I considered to be potentially dangerous. This was the only path not cut by DCC during June-July and their contractor eventually came and finished it off in early September. Work by DCC on the three main items identified in the last annual report as requiring restoration had not started as per mid-September. These comprise a persistent hole in EB1, a broken gate on Bicton 1 and a short section of collapsed stream bank on Bicton 2.

DCC has agreed to mend the bottom two steps at the footpath entrance to the Recreation ground (the upper steps are in good condition), but there may not be adequate funds in their 2018 budget and the work may have to be postponed until next year. In my view, the entrance is not unsafe, but if the Council consider that this work should not be delayed, then EBwB P3 funds for 2018 are available. The kissing gate at the top of the steps is in good condition, but I have suggested replacing it with a standard self-closing metal gate as there are no issues regarding the escape of livestock and it would give easier access for people with limited mobility. Other suggestions for the entrance include moving the gate to where the footpath opens up onto the field or removing the gate altogether to give open access. Open access wherever feasible is DCC policy, but may not find favour with parents of young children and dog walkers, although children and dogs should always be under close control of course! Any changes to the gate would not be paid for by DCC but out of the EBwB P3 2018 budget, I ask the Council for guidance on this matter.

Drake's School – No report.

Village Hall – No report.

East Budleigh Dog owners Forum – Correspondence was received from Ross England who was the referee for a recent football match on the Rec Ground. During the pre-match inspection amounts of fox and dog fouling were found and cleared away. During the match further dog fouling was cleared away. Further correspondence was received from a resident reporting clearing of the pitch prior to matches. Badgers have also excavated two pits with copious amounts of faeces. The resident also asked if a further litter bin could be provided near the Pavilion to deposit plastic rubbish, tapes, bottles and cups. All incidents will be recorded and considered when the pitch clearance is reconsidered next year.

Public conveniences – No report.

Flood Warden – Cllr Quant reported on the difficulty in clearing the brook of debris. Residents have been approached to suggest clearance of the brook adjacent to their property but this is proving difficult to enforce. He will therefore obtain a quote to have the brook cleared professionally. Devon Air Ambulance have viewed Bicton Arena for night time landing but have found it unsuitable. They will view the Recreation Ground as a possibility.

Any Other Reports – Cllr Taunton reported that the correct email system is now in working order.

10. ACCOUNTS AND FINANCES

The Clerk gave out the monthly cash statement and report. She asked for several cheques to be passed for signature. They were proposed, seconded and carried. Cllr Hayman carried out a bank reconciliation and found it to be satisfactory.

• August 2018	JRB Enterprise	£ 78.60	999
	Clerk's salary & Expenses	£846.79	1000
• September 2018			
•	PKF Littlejohn LLP Auditor	£240.00	1001
•	PHS Group – toilets	£ 90.30	1002
•	JRB Enterprise	£ 39.30	1003
•	sse Southern Electric – toilets	£ 14.42	1004
•	Alan Tweedie – toilet repairs	£315.65	1005
•	Exeter Morris Men – Walter Raleigh	£200.00	1006
•	Westcountry Falconry – Walter Raleigh	£275.00	1007
•	Clerk's salary & expenses	£798.55	1008
•	John Tresidder – War Memorial	£115.00	1009
•	Yettington brook clearance & keys	£ 50.20	1010
•	Viking – 2 drawer cabinet & files	£ 86.37	Debit Card payment
•	HomeshredUK – file destruction	£ 59.98	Debit Card Payment
	Total	£3210.16	

11. CORRESPONDENCE

A synopsis of correspondence, magazines and brochures received and not covered elsewhere on the Agenda was received and read out. The clerk suggested that councillors who were interested in any of the correspondence should take it away to read and return it to the clerk at a later date.

12. TOPICS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

(Maximum half an hour) – Please note no decisions may be made, but matters may be discussed which involve no more than an exchange of information.

- A resident from East Budleigh in Bloom showed suggested signage for the Recreation Ground, gates, use of dog bags etc. These will be discussed at the October meeting.
- It was suggested that various meetings be arranged between Cllr Smith and the Recreation Ground committee, and further meetings between the Football Club, Tennis Club and the Recreation Ground so that problems arising in any area could be discussed informally.
- A resident complained about the lack of information and transparency from EDDC Planning regarding contentious applications.

- A resident complained about the lack of volunteer driven buses for transport to and from the Hub.
- Residents submitted the following regarding objections to the planning application for The Pound and subsequent removal of resident bats:

“ We emailed all three ward councillors and forwarded various research material on Bat law in the UK, and research done by the experts on the Grey long eared and Greater Horseshoe Bats.

We met with EDDC chief of planning on Aug 23rd. At this meeting we were assured that a FULL ECOLOGY REPORT WOULD BE CARRIED OUT. A petition of almost 500 signatures was submitted and accepted by the chief of planning with copies to Natural England, CDE, EBPC and all three ward councillors.

The President of the CPRE, Professor Nick Groom, and Devon Wildlife trusts conservation manager, Ed Par Ferris, both adding their voice to the applications objections.

We emailed Dr Sam Bridgewater, and Leigh Rix at CDE to arrange a meeting where we could discuss our concerns, but neither have responded.

We also wrote to Mr and Mrs Smith of Wynards Farm, as despite us being on local green space or sitting in Mr and Mrs Crossland’s rear garden, tensions arose with our monitoring 'their barn', we expressed our sincere apologies for not including them, or asking for their opinion.

We are continuing to monitor the barn and the Pound for its rarities.”

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 30 October 2018 at 7.30pm in East Budleigh Village Hall. Planning applications can be viewed prior to the Planning Section.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

SignedChairman Date