

## EAST BUDLEIGH with BICTON PARISH COUNCIL

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### Minutes of the East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020 in the Village Hall, East Budleigh.

See online at [www.eastbudleigh-pc.gov.uk](http://www.eastbudleigh-pc.gov.uk)

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**PRESENT:** M. Smith, J. Carter, P. Hayman, S. Miller, P. Barnard, M. Walters & D. Wensley. District Councillor T. Wright, County Councillor C. Channon plus 8 members of the public were present. Cllr Wensley chaired the meeting

**PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS:** A member of the public spoke of her concerns over the closure of Shandford Care Home in Budleigh.

**APOLOGIES** were received from Cllr. J. Tresidder

**RISK ASSESSMENT:** The Clerk had inspected the premises. No risks identified. Emergency exits were indicated by the Chair

**MINUTES:** The Minutes of the January Parish Council meeting were confirmed and were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were no declarations of interest

**COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT:** Cllr. Channon reported that repairs of the Brick Cross monument had stalled because of uncertainty over ownership. She reported that the Parish Clerk would proceed to obtain estimates for the work and then discuss a resolution with Highways and other parties.

Cllr. Channon gave a detailed explanation of the funding problems in connection with the Shandford Care Home. The current premises would not meet the latest CQC standards and were no longer fit for purpose. The cost of bringing the old buildings up to date was deemed to be too great. The home will close under current plans. Residents are being found alternative accommodation elsewhere in the area. Any monies resulting from the sale of the premises will have to be reinvested with a legally specified charitable trust for the wellbeing benefit of residents of Budleigh and surrounding parishes.

**DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT:** Cllr. Wright reported that the East Devon proportion of council Tax will increase by £5 for a band D property for a year – a 3.5% increase. Over the last ten years, Government grants have decreased by 60%. In two years time, there will be no Government Grant to local authorities, so Councils will become landlords of businesses in order to generate funds. The monies from the sale of premises at Knowle have been realised and all costs have been met. The use of the new building in Honiton has already saved £190,000.00.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:** The Clerk reported that repair of the bus shelter has been organised by N. James and will take place when the weather improves. A refund has been obtained for the March servicing of the Rain Gauge. Re-siting will be considered in conjunction with the Flood Resilience project. The new Banking

Policy was now in place. Invoices are to be authorised by two Councillors and will be paid online by the Clerk.

## **MATTERS DISCUSSED**

**Yettington Hall:** Cllr. Wensley explained that after research and discussion with the Trustees of Yettington Hall and other parties, it was concluded that the Parish Council do not have ownership of the building. This affects the treatment of VAT.

**Neighbourhood Plan :** The Plan is now due for renewal. Cllr. Wensley asked Councillors to offer assistance with the task. An achievable Plan of Action needs to be developed to assist forward planning over the next five years.

**Emergency Numbers:** Cllr. Miller asked that emergency telephone numbers be more prominently displayed in the Parish and in the Parish Magazine.

**Road Signs:** The clerk reported that Jon Roseway (P3 project) had removed the East Budleigh in Bloom road signs as they are now out of date. Cllr. Wensley suggested consideration should be given for a possible replacement, welcoming people to the village.

**The Notice Board in Yettington** is not Parish Council property (we have no key), so any necessary repairs would fall to the owners.

The clerk reported that the **Yettington Telephone box** was in a state of disrepair. Cllr. Walters explained that it is not suitable for its intended purpose as a store for sandbags, which are now all kept beside the Community Shop. Cllr. Tresidder and the Clerk have keys.

**Village Amenities:** The clerk reported that she had done her rounds of the Parish. She found dog waste at the bottom of Brookfield Road. Wallgate had been called out to repair the washing facilities in the Public Toilets and Streetscene had responded quickly to clear a blockage.

**Planning:** Cllr. Wensley reported on previous Planning Applications. His late objection to renovations on a property in Yettington had been received and planning permission was refused. The Planning department will also look at the concerns relating to replacement of hedging by a wooden fence. Planning permission was granted to Ferndown in Middletown lane despite the Parish Council's concerns at the removal of a hedge.

A late application for planning permission was received (ref **20/0384/FUL**) to replace an existing conservatory extension with a single storey structure. There were No Objections.

Cllr. Wensley thanked Cllr. Walters for a successful **Resilience Day**; attended by 61 people.

**Dog Forum:** Cllr. Smith reported the Recreation Field in good order.

**Parish Paths Partnership** – A report from Mr. Roseway was read out. All is in good order in the Parish and he is continuing with replacement of gates and improvements as they arise. There will be a consultation by EDDC at some point about registering footpaths in our

Parish. Cllr. Wensley advised that individuals may log footpaths themselves online, for consideration.

**Drake's School:** Cllr. Hayman reported that children from the school are excited about going up to their allotment to start gardening. The School Library has been moved to a more central position and a new Accelerated Reader system introduced to encourage children with their choices of books

**Village Hall & Flood Warden:** Cllr. Walters reported that Resilience Day had been well supported. Funding has been received and orders will now be placed for protective clothing and equipment. 20 residents have signed up to give support in the event of a flood or other disaster. A meeting will be held in early March to develop plans further.

**Otter Valley & East Devon Conservation meeting:** Cllr. Carter said there will be a third meeting in March. The group are mapping the area and will soon be ready to review it in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan. He also asked that historic documents be placed in a secure venue, where they will be available for reference. Cllr. Wensley suggested the information room might be appropriate.

**ACCOUNTS & FINANCES:** The clerk gave out the monthly cash statement and report. She asked for several invoices to be passed for signature. All agreed. Cllr. Hayman carried out a bank reconciliation and found it to be satisfactory.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. The Clerk was given permission to distribute the RSV pamphlet to encourage Community Companions.
2. DCC has reissued a Protection of Public Spaces Order to continue controlling the exercising of dogs, seagulls and anti-social behaviour. This will remain in force for three year and then reviewed.
3. Affordable Housing: A draft plan will be out for consultation from 24<sup>th</sup> March to 23<sup>rd</sup> May. An online leaflet is available on request.
4. The clerk said she had distributed posters with health warnings from the NHS about Corona Virus.

The clerk reported that a request had been received from All Saints Church for a grant. Cllr. Wensley said this would be considered after the end of this financial year.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

The date of the next Meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in East Budleigh Village Hall.

Signed..... Chairman      Date .....

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**Bills Approved for payment – February 2020**

GDPR	£40.00
Village Hall Hire Jan 2020 (Council Meeting)	£24.00
DALC (Clerk's training course)	£69.49(VAT£11.00)
Flood Resilience – reimbursement from Grant Fund	£51.35(VAT £4.04)
Village Hall Hire - Feb 10 <sup>th</sup> 2020 (Resilience)	£38.00
Church Hall Hire – February 12 <sup>th</sup> (Planning)	6.00
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TOTAL	£ 228.84
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Refund from Hydro-Logic of £429.60

**Monthly 2019 invoice for payment of clerk's salary and expenses from North Devon Council (PAYE)**

January salary	£504.96
Admin Charge	£ 6.43
VAT	£ 1.29
Expenses	
Stationery	£ 9.81
HDMI Cable for projector	£ 6.44
Phone/Broadband - Feb	£ 6.67
VAT on expenses	£ 4.58
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TOTAL	£540.18
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**Computer Items Purchased by Debit Card**

HP Laptop with Windows 10	£349.00
Office 365 – 1 year subscription	£ 59.34
External Hard Drive for backup - 1TB	£ 49.99
Laser Printer	£ 89.00
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Total	£537.34 inc 97.89 VAT
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