

EAST BUDLEIGH with BICTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18th October 2024

RISK ASSESSMENT BY CLERK – All correct, but projector & screen not working

PRESENT: Parish Councillors Derek Wensley, Jim Ferrers, Louis Allan. John Tresidder, Jim Carter, Angie Canning and Kathy Moyle BEM, District Councillor , Melanie Martin, Charlotte Fitzgerald and Henry Riddell

APOLOGIES: County Councillor Channon

The **MINUTES** of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th September 2024 were approved.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - none

A presentation was made by the Landscape Recovery Group, set up by Clinton Devon Estates. They are working on long term plans, alongside groups such as ELMS & DEFRA, in order to encourage biodiversity whilst working to the benefit of land users (farmers) and the natural world. Councillor Wensley will attend future discussions on behalf of the Council.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT (emailed): "I have spoken with Marc Jobson about the people who may be able to claim Pension Credit. He told me that Seachange could provide such a service and thought it a good idea. However he asked about funding. I have asked him to send me a quotation so that we can have some idea of how much we would need to cover the costs. I am pretty sure that there are a number of useful charities who might help."

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS:-

District Cllr. Martin said a motion was proposed by Jess Bailey for EDDC to fulfil its ecology commitments, Cllr. Martin seconded and the full council approved. Cllr. Martin is now leading the Independent group of district councillors. Councillor Wensley referred to the PC's potential support of Otterton PC, to reduce traffic speed on Sleep Hill. Cllr. Martin said speed checks had not found anyone speeding. The Clerk said efforts were being made to set up a Speedwatch group for Budleigh Hill, with the support of Yettington Speedwatch Group.

District Cllr. Riddell had attended the meeting with South West Water. Plans are funded and in place to start work after Christmas, with a major reconstruction required to the Dalditch sewer. Weekly updates will be sent to local Councils.

District Cllr. Fitzgerald said the first round of site selection under the Local Plan had not achieved sufficient locations. The Plan will be examined again on 29th October 2024. She referred to the consultation on Dog Patrol Orders, which the PC has responded to.

Rent Review of Football Ground and Tennis Court/ Recreation Drive

After a full discussion Councillors chose to leave rents for the Football and Tennis Clubs at £30.00 per annum. The Clerk was authorised to contact the clubs and also remind them of their commitments under their Leases. Councillor Wensley suggested funds should continue to be set aside in the Precept for potential maintenance costs of the Recreation Drive. The Recreation Drive needs repair. Estimates for full refurbishment are beyond the means of the PC. Councillors asked the Clerk to contact Clinton Devon Estates, the Leaseholders, for assistance.

Review of Representation on outside bodies.

1. Councillors chose not to attend the Traffic Group, which has no direct relevance to East Budleigh.
2. Councillor Ferrers offered to represent the Council at meetings of the Climate Change Group.
3. Councillors chose not to send a representative to the Hedge & Woodland strategy meetings with EDDC. District Councillor Martin will report matters of interest to the PC.
4. Councillor Wensley will continue to attend the Heath & Sea Landscape Recovery Group.

Application by the Womens Institute to assist in the purchase of a replacement bench at the bottom of Middletown Lane. Councillors agreed to donate £150.00 towards the cost. Payment to come from the S137 account.

Reports

Chair: Councillor Wensley confirmed a second review will take place of the Local Plan, to extend potential provision of housing.

Clerk: The Clerk confirmed a dangerous branch had been removed in Wynards Road, after a storm. The bridge near the Rolle Arms is scheduled for repair.

Resilience/Community Shop/ Climate Emergency/Recreation Ground – Councillor Tresidder:

EAST BUDLEIGH COMMUNITY SHOP

The Community Shop has been greatly encouraged by the response of residents to the appeal to support the shop and local products, to ensure its future is safe.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY NEWS, GREEN SPACES & RECREATION GROUND

The devonclimateemergency@public.govdelivery.com website is always worth a look for information about local initiatives. This month there is local news from Exmouth and an update on grants available from the Tree Council.

The Pound may have had a final cut, depending on the weather! At the War Memorial the winter bedding is in and getting established. It should look good for November if I can keep on top of all the leaves!

I am pleased to say that there are no incidents to report from the Recreation Ground – or around the village!

EMERGENCY RESILIENCE

Dave Whelan, EDDC Emergency Planning and Business Continuity Officer, has

provided accurate and detailed weather and flood warnings during our run of stormy weather. He has also provided feedback from the Devon Community Resilience Forums to ensure our emergency planning is up to date. Keeping drains clear – helped by a number of residents – has minimized any risk of flash floods. We do have a good stock of sandbags available!

P3 Report – Jon Roseway: The annual cut was carried out thoroughly, but did not start until August, which was unexpected. Despite the late start, rapid regrowth on one path has required another cut by a contractor from the village at a cost of £40. A plank is missing from the footbridge on Bicton 2 footpath where it crosses the old railway line. It is a minor trip hazard and not severe enough to warrant closing the bridge. I have reported it to Devon CC

Village Hall/Drakes School - Councillor Allan: A routine Electrical inspection has been carried out and has included fixing an outside light and a ceiling light in the hall, with a few follow up tasks to be carried out.

The Dishwasher has been serviced and new comprehensive guidance notes on its use are being drafted.

New lighting system in, with a follow up to enable remote operating.

The problem with the new AV system concerning the projector has been fixed and notes are being drafted to provide explicit guidance on how to use both the sound system and lighting system.

A community supper is being organised in the village hall in December in order to raise funds for the Village Community Shop.

There have been some further concerns raised regarding the car park, particularly from elderly people using the hall who can't park in the car park. It is expected that this issue will be eased soon when the building work on the house opposite the hall has been completed.

The hall continues to have regular users every weekday evening and most weekdays have a booking during the day. There are also a steady stream of ad-hoc bookings for events such as group meetings or parties.

Two quotes have been received for the environmental survey which is required to support the hall refurbishment planning application. Both are surprisingly high, probably as a result of having to include Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) aspects - this action continues.

Drakes Church of England Primary School

The pupils and staff have returned from their summer holidays and embraced their new learning this term. We welcomed 3 new reception children and their families to the school in September. The younger children joined the children from Otterton School and visited Pyne's Farm Shop to learn about food followed by a walk along the River Otter.

Our Harvest Service was led by the Rev Martin Jacques and the children sang songs, showcased Harvest Hats and the new reception children were presented with Story Book Bibles.

The older children took part in Cross Country with other schools from the Link Academy Trust at Stover School. The course was challenging but they all supported one another through the event.

The children also took part in a TAG Rugby festival at Littleham Primary School which was a culmination of the skills they have learnt in their PE lessons.

Community Pub – Councillor Canning: The pub continues to be a social focus for the village as well as attracting visitors from beyond, as evidenced by the hugely popular and successful beer festival last weekend.

The menu continues to evolve in an effort to satisfy everyone's wishes. There are more special events planned for November and bookings are already being taken for Christmas meals during December.

Local Liaison/Salem Chapel Councillor Moyle BEM: Councillor reported a potential purchaser of the Salem Chapel will set it up as an Arts & Craft centre with options also for Village events.

Cricket Club: Councillor Carter said the Cricket Club are trying to raise fund to surface their CarPark. He said dead Elms in Kersbrooke were gradually being removed.

Yettington - Councillor Ferrers:

Pot Holes

W241757806

Pothole, Pothole (Single or multiple)

Location: Road past Lemprice Farm, Yettington

Thank you for contacting us about this issue, which was originally reported on 10-June-2024. The record was completed on the 01-July-2024.

Defibrillator: Tested and working correctly **Flooding** Nothing to report.

Financial Reports: Council approved the bills and financial records for August & September.

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm.

The next meeting will be on 18th November 2024 at 6.0 pm in the VILLAGE HALL