

Bridestowe Parish Council

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Bridestowe Parish Council Annual Meeting Minutes

Meeting held – Wednesday 2nd October 2024 at 7.30 pm The Ark, Bridestowe

In attendance: Clerk, Parish Cllrs Young, Pritchard, Hodgson and Thirtle, Proctor, District Cllr Mott, Guest Speaker Mark Edwards from Baker Estates, members of the public (4).

1. Apologies.

Cllrs Burder and Bickle.

2. Possible Declarations of interest.

None.

3. Public Open Question Time.

A member of the public spoke to raise concerns over planning application 2921/24/PAT. The resident is concerned about the RF-EMF emitted from the mast and the lack of evidence within the application to show that it is safe. Emphasising that the onus should be on the applicant to provide this rather than the public to seek. The resident thanked the Council for sharing details of how to report potholes, adding that he had used the system, and the holes had been filled.

4. Guest Speaker – Mark Edwards of Baker Estates Ltd.

Mr Edwards was welcomed to the meeting and made a short speech explaining the stage the development was at. Advising that the initial surveys are coming to an end, including a full LCA assessment considering views from Dartmoor. Bakers Estates will be holding a public drop-in session on October 16th for the community to have a chance to raise concerns, ask questions and share ideas on the development. They have sent all residents a letter of notification and spoken directly to the closest neighbours. Following the drop-in session full plans will be drawn up and an exhibition will be held. Councillors thanked Mr Edwards for keeping them informed.

5. District Councillors Report – circulated by email.

Cllr Young mentioned that the Rural Housing Design Guide that Cllr Mott shared was very interesting and informative.

6. Approval of minutes of meeting held August 21st, 2024.

Cllr Thirtle proposed the minutes be signed as a true record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Pritchard and agreed by all. The chair signed a copy.

7. Matters arising.

7.1 Natwest – discuss progress of additional signatories.

Cllr Young had been back to Natwest and provided ID. The Clerk had received correspondence addressed to a previous council member. Cllrs Young and Thirtle will send a letter to the bank giving them permission to discuss the account with the Clerk. The Clerk agreed to follow up with Natwest.

7.2 Asset register – review proposed replacement costs.

The Clerk reported with updated replacement costs for the mast/lighting/extra box, the bus shelters and benches and the playground following a replacement quote from Rhino. Cllrs agreed the register now seemed more accurate and will review it again in 12 months' time. Proposed by Cllr Pritchard, seconded by Cllr Hodgson and agreed by all.

7.3 Cleaning of multiplay equipment in the Sporting Green – update from Cllrs.

Cllr Proctor confirmed there would be a meeting of volunteers in the Sporting Green on Sunday 6th to look at the equipment and clean it up where possible.

7.4 Grass cutting – discuss frequency of cuts.

Councillors discussed the number of grass cuts required, agreeing that the two cuts that were taken out this year should be reinstated (if the contractor agrees that it would prevent some of the issues encountered this year). The Clerk will discuss with the contractor and confirm when he will be spraying the gutters. Actions proposed by Cllr Hodgson, seconded by Cllr Proctor and agreed by all.

7.5 Allotments – discuss interest received and possible locations.

The Clerk reported that there had been an expression of interest from 7 different members of the parish. Councillors discussed ideas about where the allotments could go, and it was suggested by the Chair that perhaps this could be incorporated within the Bakers Estates development. The Chair will raise it with them at the drop-in session. Cllr Mott reminded council that it could be something to look at within S106 following the development.

7.6 Road closures – discuss highways signage.

Councillors discussed the recent signage that had been in place and suggested that signs stating ‘business open as usual, access not affected’ or similar would be useful and welcomed by the local business owners. The Clerk will send feedback to Highways. Cllr. Thirtle suggested that in future the PC contacts Highways promptly once informed of a road closure suggesting, with the benefit of local knowledge, where signage should most effectively be sited.

8. Planning - discuss and agree comments of support/objection.

8.1 2305/24/HHO Rosemary Cottage, Combebow.

Cllrs agreed to support this application. Proposed by Cllr Proctor, seconded by Cllr Hodgson and agreed by all.

8.2 2921/24/PAT Station Road, Bridestowe.

Cllrs agreed to broadly support this application as there was a clear need for better signal but first question whether the mast could be for multiple providers and to seek further clarification or evidence regarding the RF-EMF emitted from it. Proposed by Cllr Proctor, seconded by Cllr Thirtle and agreed by all.

8.3 3045/24/TCA Clearwell, Crandford Close, Bridestowe.

Cllrs agreed to support this application. Proposed by Cllr Proctor, seconded by Cllr Pritchard and agreed by all.

9. Accounts for payment:

9.1 Martin Ashley – grass cutting x 5 £1368

9.2 WDBC Emptying litter bins - £190.94

Cllr Thirtle proposed the accounts to be paid, seconded by Cllr Pritchard and agreed by all.

Current account statement balance as of 23/08/24: £16892.36. Cashbook circulated to all Cllrs.

10. Correspondence: Mostly circulated to councillors.

10.1 DALC, WDBC; DCC: Newsletters.

Acknowledged.

10.2 Highways – traffic notices.

Acknowledged.

10.3 Moretonhampstead PC regarding 20mph speed limits.

Cllrs agreed to support the proposal as a neighbouring parish. The Clerk will send a comment. Cllr Mott agreed to share it at the meeting if appropriate.

10.4 WDBC Polling Station Review.

Acknowledged.

10.5 WDBC Gambling Policy Review.

Acknowledged.

10.6 Museum of Dartmoor Life.

Cllrs Young and Hodgson expressed an interest in attending the event on 22nd October.

11. AOB

11.1 The Clerk was asked to write to the primary school to ask that notices and posters are only erected on school property and noticeboards and not on lamp posts and telegraph poles.

11.2 Cllr Mott shared a message from Tristan Allen of Highways asking for the 20’s plenty signs to be removed as they have been deemed as distracting and misleading.

11.3 Cllr Proctor asked if council could seek permission to sink a galvanised tree holder with a cap into the ground for the annual Christmas tree. The Clerk will contact Highways.

11.4 A resident has raised that the Sycamore tree on the village green has encroached on her garden and is causing some issues. Cllr Young agree to visit the site, advice will be sought following this.

12. Agree date of next meeting (proposed date Wednesday 20th November) and close meeting.

Proposed date agreed and the meeting was closed at approx. 8.35pm.