

**Minutes of the Berrynarbor Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
at 7.00pm in The Manor Hall, Berrynarbor.**

Present: Cllr A Stanbury (Chairman)  
Cllr G Bacon, A Coppin, L Lowe, M Johns, J Latham and N Wright.  
Mrs K Graddock – Parish Clerk and 16 members of the public.

**121101 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Sian Barten.

**121102 Declarations of Interest**

None received.

**121103 Public Participation**

A member of the public spoke positively regarding the provision of Airband and the company. The persons mother had been to the local shop and collected a flyer about Airband and is at present spending £400 a month on internet. They informed members it was Important to have Airband in the community and saddened to hear that there has been bad experiences or damage. They further reported that they regularly have to work away from their home because they have no internet signal which is required for their career.

A member of the public spoke against the work carried out by Airband and in particular the work carried out at Haggington Hill. They had been informed that the Copper Beech Tree would not be involved in any of the works, but it was later found that a tree surgeon had been booked to clear the tree. The resident contacted the land owner who hadn't given permission for this work to be carried out. The resident raised concerns over cabling and poles in the area and felt that the community had been given mis information from start to finish.

A Member of the public spoke to oppose the Car Park changing to 7 day terms. They felt the car park is for all residents and people visiting the area. Not just for the same residents. They further asked, that if the Council finally take over the car park, a public meeting should take place to gather views from residents.

A member of the public raised concerns over Barton Lane. The hedge had been cut but debris in the road.

A member of the public informed members that they had had a look at the proposed roadway plans and in particular the new access at Lynton Cross. They felt grave concerns over the lorries using the new layout proposed. They felt the proposal is okay, but if they close part of the road, it is just redirecting the problem elsewhere.

Mr Savage, Rural Housing Enabler for Communities asked the Council if they would be interested in looking at having a Housing Needs Survey. He informed members that he had worked with the Parish sometime ago to bring a scheme forward, but it was closed at the planning process at the last minute. He mentioned that he had recently been piloting a new scheme with housing needs surveys and possibly affordable housing, which could be available to the

community. The scheme isn't dependant on housing associations and developers.

**121104**

**Minutes**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.

(7.1abs)

**121105**

**Airband**

Members welcomed representatives from Airband to give an update on the current progress to date. They reported that the only outstanding matter is the back hall which is the feed into the actual network. The permanent solution will be from Openreach and is in progress at the moment with a possible live being in the new year. They informed members that they are aware of negative comments from the public and assured the Council that the majority of work had now been completed and that the company had worked with AONB and the Planners at North Devon Council. They informed members that Cllr Johns had attended a meeting uninvited with the District Council. Berrynarbor was identified by the Government as an area in need and requested to complete work to ensure community is able to access internet.

They reported that the only time they would now be in the village, would be to install in the individual properties.

Cllr Coppin asked where they were planning to connect? They replied that BT have a cabinet 2/3 up Barten Lane. BT already have a connection to the cabinet and there is likely to be no need for digging up of the road.

Cllr Johns stated that he was particularly appalled at the way in which Airband has conducted themselves and the way in which they have trampled in the village and felt that a complaint on behalf of the Council should be made.

Airband asked what the complaint would be made against and asked for the concerns to be shared.

The Chairman encouraged Cllr Johns to share the details with members to ensure that they are aware

Cllr Lowe asked how much uptake has there been?

Airband replied that they hadn't promoted it very much due to the village concerns.

Cllr Stanbury asked whether there a target date for the services to be delivered?

Airband replied that the target date is the middle of 2021 and that Airband do have some lessons to learn from this installation.

Cllr Wright asked for the posters to be removed from the village. Airband confirmed they would action this.

Cllr Tucker, North Devon Council informed members that he had invited Cllr Johns to the meeting with the District Council.

The Chairman thanked Airband for the update. Airband then left the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the item be placed on the next Agenda for discussion. The parishioners are asked to contact the Clerk for comments on their experiences with Airband and these are submitted to the next meeting to ascertain whether a formal complaint should be made.

(NC)

It was **RESOLVED** to bring forward Item 10: Road Traffic Accident – Berrydown to allow County Councillor A Davis to discuss this matter with members as she has another meeting to attend.

(NC)

121106

**Road Traffic Accident – Berrydown**

Cllr A Davis reported to members on the proposals to date and that these are preliminary and were for consideration only. There was no further budget available but things can be altered.

Cllr Latham spoke regarding the Lynton Cross consultation and that her family were advanced regarding the possibility of purchasing land for this work. She continued to say that she had severe concerns regarding the action proposed and did not think it would make any difference. The Chairman and Clerk advised her she should have declared a DPI in the Lynton Cross proposal.

**Berry Down Junction:**

There were concerns regarding the speed limit for the area. Members discussed possibilities of chicanes, lowering the speed limit, street lights and traffic lights. in chicanes.

**RESOLVED:** That solar powered street lights are investigated as well as a reduction in speed limit to 20mph or 30mph.

(NC)

\*\*\* Cllr Latham declared an interest at this point in the Lynton Cross consultation and left the meeting, however before leaving gave a statement saying that the major volume increase in traffic from Lynton Cross through Iron Letters Cross to Two Potts will become an even greater accident blackspot. She stated that there has been a number of accidents and this proposal could make matters worse. \*\*\*

**Lynton Cross:**

Members felt that the proposal wouldn't make that much difference. From a practical point of view, they felt going back to their original proposal and possibly apply for more funding because there has been a number of accidents recently. Further consideration needs to be made to make Iron Letters Cross safer, as this is a dangerous junction which was being addressed under previous Scheme. Parishioners are concerned about the rerouting of large vehicles away from their current route of choice, particularly Tescos and straightening may encourage speeding. An option would be to keep the existing road open to Two Potts.

**RESOLVED:** That it would be better to widen the existing road and that a full consultation with residents is needed before the Council can firmly respond to this.

(NC)

\*\*\* Cllr Latham returned to the meeting. \*\*\*

\*\*\* Cllr Coppin out at 8.10pm. \*\*\*

\*\*\* Cllr Copping in at 8.11pm. \*\*\*

121107

## Reports

### a) Police

Members were circulated the Newsletter, which is appended to these minutes as Appendix 1.

### b) County Councillor A Davis

Cllr Davis reported that the A399 will continue to be shut until end of November. The work was going okay but the weather has hampered work a little. The road works at Kentisbury ford are on schedule. There will be a road closure on Muddiford Road, which will happen next year. Members thanked Cllr Davis for her reports and her work with Berrydown and Lynton Cross.

### c) District Councillor: J Tucker

Cllr Tucker reported that Airband did not need to put in a formal planning consultation. He had had a meeting with them to discuss the concerns. He encouraged members to read the report by Citizens Advice. S106 monies had come in for Berrynarbor. The Planning team at NDC are short staffed and hopefully will be addressed in the very near future. The new Leisure Centre contracts had been signed and the 4G pitch was being used well, although there are parking issues at present. The new Museum was up and running – he encouraged members to go and take a look. There was due to be a Parish Forum on 3<sup>rd</sup> December at Brynsworthy which will focus purely on planning – he informed members that this was the first time for this event and encouraged members to attend. He further reported that there was council grants available for vulnerable people in communities. He suggested that anyone who would like further information, contact him so he can pass any details onto the relevant department.

### d) Play Area Inspections

The Clerk reported that a new swing had been purchased. Cllr Coppin volunteered to fit this and to remove the broken bench.

### e) Manor Hall

Cllr Johns reported that the Ladies Night was very successful.

### f) Footpaths

Cllr Bacon reported that Footpath 15 was still blocked. The Clerk said she would investigate what has happened and will report back.

### g) Dog Exercise Area

Cllr Wright reported that the hedge needs cutting back at Pitt Hill.

### h) Meetings events

Some members felt the Remembrance Service was poorly represented by the Parish Council but also would like to encourage the School to take part.

Cllr Wright requested for a Roads/Gritbins report to be on each meeting, especially during the Winter months. Cllr Coppin encouraged people to report low grit bins and blocked drains via the DCC website.

**RESOLVED:**

1. That a Roads/Gritbins report be placed on the Agenda with the reports above.

(NC)

2. That the Clerk write to the School encouraging them to take part in the Remembrance day activities or organise activities in the lead up to the day in 2020.

(5.2)

The Chairman reminded members that if you are invited or requested to attend a meeting on behalf of the Parish Council, please let the Clerk know, who can they ensure the Council are happy and in a position to attend.

**121108**

**Berrynarbor Car Park**

Members were given correspondence from residents in relation to the Berrynarbor Car Park Regulations, as requested to be considered by North Devon Council. The majority of residents submitting comments were in favour of staying for 24 hours. Therefore, it was

**RESOLVED:** That Berrynarbor Parish Council recommend that the Regulations remain the same.

(NC)

\*\*\* Cllr Stanbury declared a DPI interest and left the meeting. \*\*\*

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr Bacon chair the next item.

(NC)

**121109**

**Planning Applications**

70616. Lower Buddicombe, Berrynarbor, Ilfracombe.

Erection of building for stable barn and agricultural purposes together with the creation of open air sand school/arena.

**RESOLVED:** That it is recommended for approval.

(NC)

\*\*\* Cllr Stanbury returned to the meeting.

**121110**

**Payments and Receipts**

**PAYMENTS**

Salaries (October)	£431.22
HMRC (October)	£206.80
Clerk's Expenses	£26.10
Toilet Cleaning	£100.00
South West Water (Toilet)	£167.62
British Gas (Electricity)	£23.52
Fremington Parish Council (Printing)	£11.56
Royal British Legion (Wreath)	£22.50
Festive Lights (Christmas Lights)	£262.28
Citizens Advice Donation	£50.00
Total	£1301.40

## RECEIPTS

Interest £0.56

**RESOLVED:** That the payments totalling £1301.40 and receipts totalling £0.56 be approved and actioned by the Clerk.

(NC)

121111

### Maintenance of Village Assets

The following matters were identified:

- Claudes Garden: Pruning of Apple tree/Holly tree. Members requested that the Apple tree is tidied up and 50% pruning is completed on the Holly tree.  
**RESOLVED:** That Berry Arb be asked to complete the above.

(NC)

- Pitt Hill -Hedgerow -The Clerk reported that the contractor said he had planned for this work in December. Members asked if this could be completed before then due to the overgrowth.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk ask if Berry Arb could complete this as soon as possible.

(NC)

- Recreation Field – the Ash tree in the Recreation field has been identified as having stage 2 ash dieback and would potentially need felling by Spring 2020. Members were disappointed to hear of this however, understood that it now needed to be actioned.

**RESOLVED:** That Berry Arb be asked to fell the Ash Tree that is marked.

(6.1abs)

- Pitt Hill – Replacement litterbin was needed. The Clerk obtained quotations for 3 different styles of litterbins and it was

**RESOLVED:** That a Cast Iron litterbin be purchased at a cost of £689.00 ex VAT plus delivery and fixing kit from Broxap.

(NC)

- Water Fountain – Cllr Bacon asked if this could be looked at as it had not been working for sometime.

**RESOLVED:** That Clerk contact a plumber to look at the fountain and quote for fixing.

(NC)

121112

### Devon County Council (Traffic Management) Permit Scheme Order

**RESOLVED:** That the information be received and noted.

(NC)

121113

### Berrynarbor Car Park – Possible Transfer

Cllr Coppin gave a report on the situation to date with the possible transfer of the Berrynarbor Car Park and Toilets.

He reported that the Council were offering a sum of £7500 for the toilets and £4500 for the car park as a one of payment. The Council would be eligible for Small Business rate relief. At present the two assets are listed as one on the Business rate index meaning that if the Council took the two together, full relief

would be offered on both. He further reported that the Council were offering a 20 year lease for the car park and freehold of the toilets, with no additional works to be carried out on either, this included resurfacing.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council transfer the toilets from North Devon Council to Berrynarbor Parish Council.

(NC)

Members felt that they needed to consult the community before they made a final decision on the car park although in principle, they felt it would be a great asset for Berrynarbor.

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr Coppin asked North Devon Council if there could be a shorter lease period of 10 years, the Clerk draft a poster for residents views and the item is discussed at the next meeting.

(NC)

121114

**Budgets 20/21**

The Clerk asked members for any additions for the budget, as she was currently working on this. Members felt that the Car Park and Toilets should be included in the budget and a nominal amount to be included for resurfacing works for the future.

121115

**Councillor Questions and Requests**

The following items were raised for inclusion on the next Agenda:

- Provision of a Housing Needs Survey with Devon Communities Together
- Neighbourhood Plan
- Airband

Cllr Johns asked the Clerk what the procedure is for the 106 monies. The Clerk explained that the Council has been allocated a sum of money which has been identified for 3 areas. She would need to submit an expression of interest form for each project with quotations. She encouraged members to start thinking about the items and to bring quotations for discussion at the next meeting.

Meeting ended at 9.20pm.

Signed..... Dated.....