

**Minutes of the Berrynabor Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup>  
December 2021 at 7.00pm at Monks Path, Barton Lane Berrynabor**

Present: Cllrs A Stanbury (Chairman), G Bacon, A Coppin and A Burch  
North Devon Cllr F Tucker

Mrs V Woodhouse (remotely)

2112/01 **Apologies**  
Cllrs S Barten, J Beer, M Johns, B Joyce and J Latham. County Cllr A Davis

2112/02 **Declarations of Interest**  
Cllr Stanbury declared a Personal Interest in Item 2112/06 Application 74461 as a neighbour.

Cllr Bacon declared a Personal Interest in Item 2112/06 Application 74338.

2112/03 **Public Participation**  
None.

2112/04 **Minutes**  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 as a correct record.

2112/05 **To receive reports from:**

- Police  
It was noted that the report had been circulated.
- County Cllr Miss A Davis  
The report is attached as Appendix A.
- District Cllr J Tucker  
Cllr Tucker reported that he had spoken to enforcement about Berrynabor Park and they are progressing towards a conclusion. If the Parish Council would like a copy of the register of electors it now has to be requested from NDC. There will be a meeting in relation to litter picking in January it was noted that Cllr Coppin is attending. Cllr Tucker confirmed that he has around £300 left in his Community Cllr Grant fund which would need to be allocated by the end of January it was agreed to use the funds to replace a broken bench in the Manor Hall Play Area.
- Play Area  
Nothing new to report.
- Manor Hall



Members were asked if the remaining funds in the S106 allocation could be used towards the water heater in the kitchen, members did not have any objections.

- Footpaths  
None.
- Dog Exercise Area  
Looks ok but road side hedge requires cutting.
- Grit Bins/Road  
It was reported that the wrong grit bin had been moved, Cllr Bacon had informed the County Cllr.
- Meetings/Events attended by Councillors/Clerk  
Cllrs Coppin and Barten had attended the recent workshops hosted by DCC and the videos had been circulated.

#### 2112/06 **Planning & Planning Correspondence**

**74284** Change of use of land to allow siting of 2 shepherd huts for holiday accommodation at Maytree Cottage 1 Cross Park Berrynarbor  
Applicant: Mr and Mrs Boxall

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL.

**74338** Conversion of barn to ancillary accommodation at Top Shippen at Home Barton Farm Top Shippen Barton Lane Berrynarbor  
Applicant: Mr Browne

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to submit the following comment:

The Parish Council notes that there have been several applications submitted recently and is concerned that the piecemeal approach is circumventing Section 106 contributions. The Parish Council would appreciate a reply from the Case Officer and some clarity.

**74418** Erection of detached sustainable dwelling on garden plot, including minor landscaping works at Wood Barton Wood Lane Combe Martin  
Applicant: Sue Donnellan

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL.

**74461** Erection of a single storey accessible sensory bathroom and side canopy structure for cover to the house and to the hydrotherapy pool at Wheel Farmhouse Combe Martin  
Applicant: Hughes

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL.

Cllr Tucker left the meeting.

2112/07 **Payments and Receipts**

### **PAYMENTS**

79. December Salaries	£414.65
80. HMRC PAYE December	£103.60
81. Toilet Cleaning, November	£100
82. Zoom Monthly Fee, December	£14.39
83. Tesco Mobile, November bill	£10.50
84. British Gas, Toilets Electricity	£54.40
85. M Johns, Microphone & Associated Equipment	£94.67
86. A Stanbury, Padlock, Rec Field	£22.49
87. Manor Hall, Hall Hire Defib training January 22	£45
88. Manor Hall, Hall Hire Jan, Feb & March 22	£45
89. Manor Hall, S106 Heating upgrades	£375.98
90. Back to Your Roots, Grass Cutting 2021/22	£3,535

**Payments total: £4,815.68**

### **RECEIPTS**

Lloyds, Interest 9 <sup>th</sup> November	0.10
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North Devon Council, S106 Manor Hall	£3,286.98
Young, Tree Works	£79.16
Denham, Tree Works	£79.16
Kitchin, Tree Works	£162.50
Devon County Council, Festive Lights Grant	£450

**Receipts total: £4,058**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the payments and receipts.

2112/08 **To consider draft budgets and precept for 2022-2023**

Members considered the draft budgets and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to:

- Place £500 in the bus shelter budget.
- Remove the Jubilee Fountain budget.
- Reduce the budget for the newsletter to £250
- Place £2,000 in play equipment repairs.
- Change the name miscellaneous to street furniture.

Following consideration of the budgets for 2022/2023 it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to increase the precept to £23,356.43 which is reflective of the current rate of inflation.



- 2112/09      **To consider draft policy for Pre-Planning Application Meetings with Developers**  
 Members discussed the draft policy and it was agreed for a policy to be drafted based on a proactive approach allowing a session of 15 minutes at a Parish Council meeting including a question-and-answer session with Cllrs, a brief account of which will be included in the minutes. The draft will be presented for discussion at a future meeting.
- 2112/10      **To consider Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service - draft Community Risk Management Consultation**  
 It was resolved, with no votes to the contrary, to note the information.
- 2112/11      **To consider repeat order for Annual Play Inspections**  
 It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to submit the repeat order form.
- 2112/12      **To consider recommendations and quotation for works to play areas Following the Annual Inspection**  
 The recommendations were circulated prior to the meeting. It was **resolved** with no votes to the contrary, for Cllr Bacon to meet with the contractor on site in early January to discuss further and a quotation is to be submitted to Council following the meeting.
- 2112/13      **Tree Works in Claude's Garden**  
 It was agreed to follow up the funding of the tree for the Queen's Green Canopy with Cllr Davis. Cllr Bacon explained that a request had been received to drastically trim a tree in Claude's Garden to a height of approximately 6ft which, upon inspection, would have resulted in the loss of the entire tree. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to decline the request.
- 2112/14      **Berrynarbor Car Park**  
 It was noted that no further information was available.

Meeting ended at 9pm.

Signed.......... Dated: 11/11/22.....  




## **Berrynarbor Parish Council**

### **County Councillors report**

**December 2021**

#### **Coronavirus updates from Devon County Council**

The link below may be of interest to residents with the situation changing and many interested in what is happening locally this link is a useful starting point for questions and the current situation in Devon.

The link takes you to the Covid-19 pages on the Devon County Council Website, it has daily updated information as to positive cases within the area, information about testing and track and trace.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/coronavirus-data/>

#### **Devon County Council budget**

A brief 'hi-level' update on the finance part of DCC operations.

We are rapidly approaching the 'business end' of the financial year where month 6 and 7 figures show no slowdown in demand as we move in to winter, not least where Higher needs in Education requirements are increasing pressures. Winter is the traditional time for a peak surge of demand on services across DCC, but frankly currently every day is 'winter' before we get to Christmas.

One of the key factors in setting our budget for the following year, as well as informing future years setting is the settlement we receive from central Government. This is largely based on a formula which enables the DCC finance team to predict the amount we are likely to receive and set the budget, together with any additional support as 'one offs' e.g. Covid support money is temporary, and not something we can (or frankly would want to given the reason for it) depend on in future years.

The settlement figure or at least a strong idea of the amount for DCC should be known at the back end of December, early January. A bit more levelling up here recognising deprivation in large parts of our largely rural county would be appreciated.

Devon is not the land of milk and honey for many of our residents that many outside of the South West would think, not least in the amount per pupil our school pupils receive compared to other local Authorities.

The various service areas are now putting into the finance team what they think they will need for 2022/23 with plenty of opportunity for County Councillors to have a view on budget proposals culminate in in the rounds of scrutiny meetings at the end of January and final budget setting at Full Council on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February 2022 where we set the legally required balanced budget within the resources available to us. Ongoing pressures, largely as a result of the impact of the COVID-19



Pandemic are likely to have a significant impact on DCC in the same way they are everywhere else in our society.

## **Waste and Recycling**

The 2020/21 performance statistics have recently been published and Devon's recycling rate reduced to 55.3% from the previous year's 56.6%. The reduction can be linked to the provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) which closed for seven weeks during the first lockdown commencing end March 2020. Subsequent social distancing measures reduced site capacities, closure of resale shops and the introduction of booking systems also impacted on the amount of waste processed leading to a reduction in recycling performance.

East Devon once again achieved the highest recycling rate amongst Devon's Waste Collection Authorities (WCAs) with 60% marginally down from previous years 60.5%.

The other seven WCA figures as follows:

- Teignbridge (55.9%);
- Torridge & West Devon (55.2%);
- South Hams (54.7%);
- Mid Devon (53.7%);
- North Devon (49.5%)
- Exeter (27.8%).

While our recycling centres recycling performance remains high at 72%, 2020/21 saw a small reduction from previous year (75%). Reductions across all streams were noted for Devon's HWRCs, notably organic material down 22%. The closure and restrictions to HWRC re-use shops last year resulted in a 64% reduction in sales, equating to 666 tonnes less material resold to members of the public – all HWRC re-use shops have now re-opened.

## **Families on Free School Meals- Christmas arrangements**

Over the past year Devon County Council have provided supermarket vouchers worth £15 per child per week of the school holidays to families who qualify for free school meals, so their children don't go hungry.

For Christmas, this is being doubled, with an extra one-off £30 supermarket voucher, so families will receive a £60 voucher per child for the two-weeks to help with the additional financial pressure the festive period can bring.

[You can find out more about the free school meals holiday voucher scheme on our website.](#)



Children currently receiving benefits-related free school meals and their families can also take part in our Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) scheme for free over the Christmas break.

You can find out more about the Holiday Activity and Food scheme on our website.

Part of a £5 million pound programme the Council has organised with money from the government's new Household Support Fund to help people who are struggling this winter.

Help with food and utility costs is also available via the government's Household Support Fund, with applications being made through local district councils. The scheme, which runs until Thursday 31 March 2022, can also be used for things like emergency boiler and heating repairs and housing costs. For more information please visit the Household Support Fund page on our website.

DCC have also partnered with Citizens Advice Devon to help eligible households using pre-paid meters who are struggling to meet their fuel bills. For more information please visit the Citizens Advice Devon website.

## **Highway Items**

### **Improvements to the Pothole Repair Process**

The Highway Network Response Team have just gone live on the new process for Highway Safety Inspections. This change is the culmination of approximately 18 months work and will provide a platform for improvements in both efficiency and quality of repairs. By investing more time in the data collected by the inspectors the repair gangs will be better informed on the scope and scale of work they will be required to carry out. All repair gangs will be re-briefed on the expected quality standards and an improved auditing process will be implemented to address concerns with workmanship.

The team are moving on to look at improving the automated responses that are sent to the public once they have logged an enquiry through the 'report-a-problem' website. The aim of this work will be to help manage the expectations of the public.

### **Capital Budget Settlement**

The UK Roads Liaison Group have shared a document with highway authorities that was produced on behalf of the DfT to support their discussions with the Treasury in advance of the Comprehensive Spending Review. The paper laid out five annual investment scenarios ranging from Accelerated Improvement (£1.9bn) through to Decline (£1.25bn). Disappointingly, the Treasury have chosen to set the funding levels for the next three years at 'Decline'. The impact of this decision will undoubtedly mean further deterioration of the network and an increase in the number of defects and a more reactive strategy. The Service is preparing a briefing note with more information that will be shared with Devon MPs.

### **Vegetation Management Trials**

In response to the high number of overgrown vegetation defects that have been recorded this year the Service is carrying out two trials to look at alternative ways of managing the issue. By drawing on support from local arboriculturists residents are being encouraged to support residents to ensure

their hedges and trees are cut back to remove current problems and provide information about appropriate maintenance of boundary vegetation. These trials will reshape our processes for the future.

### **Berrynarbor issues**

I've been over to see the lovely Christmas lights, the village is looking very festive.

The grit bin has been moved just in time for the winter!

### **Reminder about reporting a highway problem:**

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

[telephone: 0345 155 1004](tel:03451551004)

**One network**, shows future roadworks in each place; <https://one.network/>

### **Drains locators and frequency of inspection (cleaning);**

<https://apps1.wdm.co.uk/Live/Devon/PBLC/PIP/map.aspx?cg=kaarb>

**Location of and faulty street lights**, <https://www.lightsonindevon.co.uk/Public/ReportFault.aspx>

*Merry Christmas*

*And a Happy and Healthy 2022*

*Andrea Davis*

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