

Minutes of the Berrynarbor Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 14th March 2023 at 7pm in the Manor Hall, Berrynarbor

Present: Cllrs A Stanbury (Chairman), G Cornell, M Johns, J Latham and L Thorpe
North Devon District Cllr F Tucker

2303/01 **Apologies**

Cllr G Bacon and B Joyce. County Cllr A Davis.

2303/02 **Declarations of Interest**

None.

2303/03 **Public Participation**

Cllr Cornell reported that the organisers for the Coronation event had confirmed that the medallion for under 11s will be £3.39 each for 70 with "Berrynarbor 6th May 2023" engraved and the bouncy castle £90.

The village awareness event will be on 1st April 1 – 3pm and the Manor Hall is contacting people.

Cllr Stanbury had received concerns from a parishioner with reference to a shepherds hut at Rivensdale in relation to planning permission and sewage leaking into stream, Cllr Stanbury consulted the District Cllr who suggested the Parish Council forward the concerns onto the relevant authorities.

2303/04 **Minutes**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and two abstentions, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21st February 2023 as a correct record.

2303/05 **To receive reports from:**

- Police
The report had been circulated.
- County Cllr Miss A Davis
None.
- District Cllr J Tucker
Cllr Tucker encouraged people to report potholes via DCC's website. Cllr Tucker provided an update on Berrynarbor Park – the environment agency had been brought in, new pumps have been put in and have asked him to apply for a discharge licence. Green Lanes is profitable, and Cllr Tucker confirmed he is retiring after 20 years of being a councillor.

- **Play Area**
Members were informed that the funding had been agreed for the boulodrome and works could commence.
- **Manor Hall**
None.
- **Footpaths**
It was noted that the bollards damaged coast road can they go on next meeting agenda.
- **Dog Exercise Area**
None.
- **Grit Bins/Road**
None.
- **Meetings/Events attended by Councillors/Clerk**
None.

2303/06 **Planning & Planning Correspondence**
76452 Erection of 22 vacation lodges, associated infrastructure and environmental mitigation to include landscaping at Combe Martin Wildlife & Dinosaur Park Combe Martin
Applicant: C/O Wardell Armstrong LLP

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

2303/07 **Payments and Receipts**

PAYMENTS

106. March Salaries	£431.18
107. HMRC PAYE March	£107.80
108. Zoom Monthly Fee, March	£15.59
109. Litter picking equipment	£149.50
110. Tesco Mobile, Phone Charge March, 2023	£10.50
111. Public Toilet Cleaning, February	£100
Payments total:	£814.57

RECEIPTS

9 th March, Interest	£5.86
Receipts total:	£5.86

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

2303/08 **Annual donation towards the Sewage Plant**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve a donation of 50% of the costs £194.68.



2303/09 **Grass Cutting Contract 2023-2024**

A tender was received from the Parish Council's current contractor and circulated prior to the meeting, it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to accept the tender from Back to Your Roots.

2303/10 **To consider options for installation of swing**

Members were informed that there is the possibility of having the basket swing back from the school as it has not been installed, it was noted that it could be placed in the Recreation Field near the old shed if over 20m from the residential dwelling and now that the desire line has been fenced. The top of the wild garden area would have to be fenced from dog area down the side it might be too far from other play items and other side of track. No decision was made.

2303/11

It was **resolved** that under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of confidential information.

PART B

2303/12 **Berrynarbor Car Park & Toilets**

It was noted that the rateable value for the car park would be £3000 a year but as only asset the Parish Council would not have to pay this, however clarification had been sought on which assets are classed as rateable to ensure the Parish Council does not have to pay once it takes over the freehold of the toilets.

Signed.......... Dated: 11/4/23.....

Berrynarbor Parish Council

County Councillors Report

March 2023

New Chief Executive at Devon County Council

Donna Manson joins the County Council from her role as Chief Executive of The Highland Council, Scotland's largest rural authority.

There since 2018, Donna led the Highland Council in developing an ambitious, sustainable, and connected vision for the Highlands during a time of immense change and challenge. Prior to this, Donna was a Director of Children's Services and a Head Teacher.

Her top priority for Devon is to deliver significant improvement to Devon's Children's Services. But more broadly, Donna wants to re-energise Devon as a caring and inclusive place for young people and families, the elderly and vulnerable, and as a forward looking place to work and do business with opportunities for all to thrive and do well.

£2 Bus fare until June 2023

Please try and use the bus, even for a few journeys a month, encourage others to try it out. At only £2 a trip this is substantially cheaper than taking a car into Barnstaple and no car parking charges.

Bus passengers in Devon can take advantage of a cap on single bus fares as part of the Department for Transport's new fares initiative, through the Government's Help for Households campaign.

Bus users will pay no more than £2 for a single journey when boarding the bus anytime in February, March, April, May and June.

A recent report by Stagecoach found that motorists replacing some journeys by bus and active travel could save consumers up to £6,000 a year. In addition, the report found that having the right measures in place to encourage people to make the switch, including cheaper fares, could help remove one billion miles of car journeys each week and cut CO2 by nearly 400,000 tonnes per week.

For more information on the £2 single fares scheme, terms and conditions and exclusions, visit the [Travel Devon website](#).



DCC Council tax 2023-2024

DCC council members have agreed a 4.99 per cent increase in council tax for the coming financial year.

It comprises 2.99 per cent for general services with an extra two per cent for adult care.

It means an extra £1.49 a week for the average Band D householder.

There will be increases of 18.4 per cent in spending on children's services and 8.8 per cent on adult services to keep up with a rocketing rise in demand.

Councillors also agreed an extra £2 million for roads and drainage since the target budget was set last month to tackle the increase in potholes caused by this winter's icy spells and torrential rainfall.

The revenue spending on services will increase from £629 million to £696 million in 2023/24. That's an overall rise of 10.5 per cent in spending. In addition, councillors approved a capital budget of £172.5 million for investment in infrastructure such as schools and roads.

The council tax for an average Band D home will rise by £77.67 to £1,634.13 – an extra £1.49 a week.

The budget includes savings, alternative funding and additional income of £47.5 million.

Community emergency plan funding opportunities

Independent charity [Devon Communities Together](#) is working with Devon County Council (DCC) and the [Environment Agency](#) to provide the funding opportunities.

This latest programme is financed by DCC and the South West Regional Flood & Coastal Committee local levy funding, and is administered by Devon Communities Together as part of its role in the [Devon Community Resilience Forum](#) (DCRF), whose core mission to help communities prepare for, and respond to, emergencies.

Scheme 1 – up to £250 for communities that wish to develop their own Community Emergency Plan

The Devon Community Resilience Board (DCRB) wants to encourage more communities to produce a Community Emergency Plan (CEP).

A CEP is a document which helps guide a community to organise a response to a local emergency; from flooding or snow to the completely unexpected. They ideally need to be updated every three years, however some communities in Devon either don't have a plan in place or are not sure how to put together a support document for their community. The aim is that by providing this funding, many more communities across the county will be able to put plans in place to ensure their resilience in case anything happens within their community.



Once approved and completed, the DCRB will upload a completed CEP to a secure government gateway. This enables emergency responders to combine local knowledge with their expertise, allowing an effective place-based, joined-up response.

Devon's communities can bid for this fund to help form their own Community Emergency Planning group.

Further guidance and support on creating the group can also be provided from the DCRF with in-person attendance from a Devon Communities Together Resilience Project Officer. <https://www.devoncommunities.org.uk/grant-funding-emergency-flood-resilience>

Scheme 2 – up to £1,500 for small scale works and resilience equipment (once a CEP is in place)

Experience has shown that a wide range of small resilience measures can make a real difference to communities. This funding is available to communities to improve their own resilience with equipment and small scale works, and may range from the provision of sandbag stores and other flood protection equipment, road signs, tools and personal protective equipment, to one off small scale works to reduce risk.

DCRF recommends that a Community Emergency Response Team defines its own shopping list to meet local requirements. Examples of resilience measures can be provided by the DCRF, other communities, or Devon County Council to help a Community Emergency Planning Group consider what might be best for a particular area.

Reminder of how to report a Highway issue;

[Report a problem - Roads and transport \(devon.gov.uk\)](https://www.devon.gov.uk)

0345 155 1004

Live chat is available on the Highways website Monday to Friday 9.30 am to 12 pm and 2 pm to 4.30 pm (4 pm on Fridays). To report a problem with road maintenance, traffic management and parking, streetlights and signs and public rights of way



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