

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Town Council held online via Zoom on Monday 27 July 2020 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT

Cllr M C Hilliar (Town Mayor)
Cllr R D Sherriff (Deputy Town Mayor)
Cllr Mrs L D Evans
Cllr D J Hayward
Cllr A L Jones
Cllr Mrs M P Lewis
Cllr H L Riddell
Cllr Mrs C A Sismore-Hunt
Cllr G Turner

Town Clerk: Mrs J E Vanstone

Others Present: County Cllr Mrs C Channon, District Cllr T D Wright, one member of the public and one representative of the press

20.014 Public Speaking Time

No members of the public wished to speak.

20.015 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr A F Chaplin, District Cllr A J Dent and District Cllr P M Jarvis.

20.016 Declarations of Interests in Items on the Agenda

- Town Mayor, Cllr M C Hilliar declared a personal interest in Min 20.019 (20/1317/FUL) – he lives in a neighbouring property

20.017 Minutes

The Minutes of the following Meetings were approved and will be signed at the next physical Meeting:

- the Meeting of the Town Council held on 29 June 2020
- the Special Meeting of the Town Council held on 13 July 2020
- the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 20 July 2020

20.018 Planning Applications – Amended Plans

Application No: 20/0846/FUL
Location: Lloyds TSB, 8 Fore Street, EX9 6NQ
Proposal: Construction of 1 bed cottage
Letters Received: One letter of objection at the time the observations were made
Observations: This Council is unable to support the application as it does not comply with Policy H3, sections A and C of the Budleigh Salterton Neighbourhood Plan. Members feel it is over-development for such a small site

20.019 Planning Applications

Application No: 20/1194/FUL
Location: 8 East Terrace, EX9 6PG
Proposal: Conversion and extension to existing garage to provide annexe accommodation and replacement of existing timber framed windows with uPVC framed windows
Letters Received: None at the time the observations were made
Observations: This Council supports the application

Application No: 20/1179/FUL
Location: 1 Bridge Road, EX9 6EA
Proposal: Construction of first floor rear/side extension, replacement balcony balustrade and alterations to first floor window
Letters Received: None at the time the observations were made
Observations: This Council supports the application

Application No: 20/1317/FUL
Location: 43 Moormead, EX9 6PX
Proposal: Construction of two storey front/side extension
Letters Received: None at the time the observations were made
Observations: This Council is unable to support the application for the following reasons:
1. Over-development of the site
2. The proposal is not in keeping with neighbouring properties or the surrounding area

Application No: 20/1145/LBC
Location: 40A Fore Street, EX9 6NJ
Proposal: Re-render front south elevation and side east elevation
Letters Received: None at the time the observations were made
Observations: This Council supports the application

Application No: 20/1322/FUL
Location: 2 Long Copp, EX9 6DY
Proposal: Construction of single storey side/rear extension, front porch and replacement garage
Letters Received: None at the time the observations were made
Observations: This Council supports the application

Application No: 20/1364/FUL
Location: 12 Little Knowle, EX9 6QS
Proposal: Construction of glazed link to converted shed and double garage, workshop and store to front
Letters Received: None at the time the observations were made
Observations: This Council is unable to support the application for the following reasons:
1. Over-development of the site
2. The proposal would have a detrimental effect on neighbouring properties and residents
The proposal is contrary to guidance in the Budleigh Salterton Neighbourhood Plan, particularly Policies H2, H3, B1 and B3.

Application No: 20/1439/FUL
Location: Flat 1 Heathgate, 7 Lansdowne Road, EX9 6AH
Proposal: Conversion and enlargement of existing outbuilding to form a ground floor residential annexe
Letters Received: None at the time the observations were made
Observations: This Council supports the application

20.020 East Devon District Council: Planning Decisions – Approvals

Application No: 20/0157/TRE
Location: 21 Woodlands, EX9 6AT
Proposal: T1 – holm oak: Reduce height by approximately 3m. Shorten back side branches over neighbouring property by 2 - 3m leaving a radial spread of approximately 7m, to leave as natural a form as possible. Reason - pruning to encourage better form.
T2 – sweetgum: Prune second and third order branches to a suitable pruning position to leave a natural form. Reason - to formative prune as a result of broken branches and poor form.

Application No: 20/0889/FUL
Location: Winwood Court, 4b Cricket Field Lane, EX9 6SY
Proposal: T1 – lime: Crown raise southern side of Lime to give 3m clearance over garden of 1 Crabpots, making 4 pruning cuts up to 70mm in diameter and 5 or 6 cuts approx. 25mm in diameter. Reduce the lower half of the southern aspect of the canopy by 1 to 1.5m in spread as per photograph (to reduce encroachment of neighbouring tree canopy over garden)

20.021 Reports

Chairman

Town Mayor, Cllr M C Hilliar said he had very little to report. He wanted to thank all the businesses who had been able to stay open during lockdown and those who had adapted to help the town's residents and he had asked the Clerk to write to them all.

Town Clerk

Mrs J E Vanstone reported:

- Work had started to treat the dry rot and damp in the foyer, toilets and bar; the contractors had removed most of the floor. Whilst taking up the floor in the gents' toilet, the contractors had discovered a gas leak, which had subsequently been repaired.
- She had contacted East Devon District Council (EDDC) regarding the maintenance contract for Brook Road public conveniences. She had been assured that the account would be charged pro rata to take into consideration the number of months the conveniences had been closed due to Covid-19.
- She had emailed all Members a list of Correspondence received since March and advised she would happily forward a copy if any Member wished to see any item.
- She had contacted the office of HM Lord-Lieutenant of Devon regarding HM The Queen's Birthday Honours who had advised there was no formal closing date for submissions. She said if any Members had a suggestion for a recipient, they should forward the information and citation to her for submission.
- She had reported the vandalism at the rear of the Public Hall to the Police and had received a Crime Reference. The Caretaker was in the process of painting over it and would complete the work when the weather permitted.

Council Representatives on Other Bodies

- Cllr G Turner reported he had attended a recent meeting of the Devon Association of Local Councils Larger Councils Sub Committee. He said many councils had experienced a huge drop in income due to Covid-19 and he appreciated that this Council was in a good financial position. He also reported that many Councils were being cautious when re-opening their premises and said that most were starting with lets to small groups.
- Cllr M C Hilliar reported that Exmouth & District Community Transport Group had received a much-needed grant from EDDC. Trustees hoped that they would be able to celebrate the Group's 30th Anniversary in November.

County and District Councillors

County Cllr Mrs C Channon reported:

- Devon County Council (DCC) had been designated by the government as one of England's eleven Beacon Councils to lead the implementation of the new Local Outbreak Management Plan and to share good practice.
 - The Local Outbreak Engagement Board (Team Devon) will monitor how the Plan is delivered within the community and will liaise directly with Government Ministers. Team Devon is also responsible for communicating and engaging with residents, businesses and communities. It will be chaired by DCC Leader, Cllr John Hart. Membership includes several partner agencies.
 - An outbreak is generally defined as two or more cases connected in time to a specific place, such as a care home, school, factory or workplace – not a household. The precise action taken will depend on the complexity of the outbreak and an Outbreak Control Team had been set up to identify and agree early intervention measures to stop the spread before it escalates further into the community.
 - Local Members have a fundamental role to play in helping stop the spread of infection, in keeping communities informed and reporting back any intelligence to the Public Health Team
- The impact of Covid-19 on the Budleigh Hub and the local communities had been immense. The Hub had had to cease all normal operations but the Nursery had now re-opened and the Café had set up outdoor marquees so it could provide meals on-site. Chimes were now seeing patients at the Hub and it was hoped that the gym and the physiotherapy units could re-open in August. During the lockdown, volunteers working from the Hub had been very busy supporting residents in the Woodbury, Exmouth and Budleigh Salterton areas delivering over 2000 meals, collecting 976 prescriptions and 468 shopping trips as well as checking the welfare of over 200 people. They had recruited 180 new volunteers, who had delivered 8000 leaflets, walked four dogs and delivered one kitten to its new owner! They could not have done this without the invaluable help of their volunteers.
- Those who had had to self-isolate owed a great deal to the local volunteers, shops and healthcare providers and she expressed her thanks to all who had been involved and given so generously of their time and expertise. She felt the local community 'had done us proud'.
- She and the Town Clerk had each followed up several Highway matters with Emma Stamp (DCC Neighbourhood Highways Officer) such as the repairs to the highway in West Hill, the broken railings by the brook in Fore Street and the erection of two extra bollards in the High Street. No response had been received to date.

District Cllr T D Wright advised that the 'no cycling' signage on the lane between Station Road and The Lawn was faded and needed replacing. Cllr Mrs Channon said she would follow that up with Emma Stamp. She added that she was concerned about the number of cyclists who were now using the footways in the town.

District Cllr T D Wright reported:

- EDDC had previously reported that there may be a deficit of £5.6m following Covid-19 but this had been restated and the deficit was now estimated to be £2m.
- The Licensing Committee had met to discuss Pavement Licences in pedestrian areas. This used to be under DCC control but had been passed over to EDDC. He did not think there were any premises in Budleigh Salterton which had sufficient outside space for a Pavement Licence.
- The ruts on the beach, caused by the beach hut delivery vehicles, were not so deep this year – this was because a different vehicle had been used.
- He was pleased to report that all play parks were now open.

Cllr Mrs L D Evans asked if that included those at Lime Kiln Car Park which she understood were waiting for repairs to be undertaken.

20.022 Finance Inspection

- (i) Payments for the month of July 2020, in accordance with Appendix A, were approved.
- (ii) It was noted that the former Chairman of the Finance Committee had carried out the internal finance inspection for June 2020.

20.023 Committee Membership

- Community Gardens Committee – It was noted that Cllr Mrs C A Sismore-Hunt no longer wished to sit on this Committee and that Cllr A L Jones had agreed to take her place.
- Climate Change Group – The following Members agreed to serve on this Group:
 - Cllr Mrs M P Lewis
 - Cllr H L Riddell
 - Cllr G Turner

20.024 Committee Chairmanship

Chairman of the following Committees were elected:

- Planning Cllr R D Sherriff
- Public Hall Cllr Mrs L D Evans
- Finance Cllr D J Hayward
- Foreshore & Footpaths Cllr R D Sherriff
- Community Gardens Cllr A F Chaplin

20.025 Representatives on Outside Bodies

- Cllr Mrs M P Lewis agreed to sit on the Budleigh Salterton Covid-19 Support Group.
- Cllr Mrs M P Lewis agreed to sit on the EDDC Arts and Culture Forum. District Cllr T D Wright will act as her deputy and report to the Town Council if Cllr Mrs Lewis is unable to attend any meetings.

20.026 High Street – Social Distancing Measures

- (i) The report of the meeting of the Working Party held on 15 July 2020 and the Operational Risk Assessment undertaken by EDDC were received.
- (ii) The recommendations contained in the Working Party report were considered:
 1. The recommendations were supported.
 2. The recommendations were supported.
 3. The recommendations were supported.
 4. The recommendations were supported.
 5. It was agreed that the Town Council will write to all businesses in the High Street/Fore Street to encourage them to keep the footways clear and to ascertain what (if any) further support the Town Council can give them. Cllr Mrs M P Lewis offered to work with the Clerk to draft the letter.
 6. Covered by Item 5.
 7. It was agreed that a banner was not needed at this time.
 8. It was agreed that additional signposting was not required at this time. District Cllr T D Wright pointed out that there were already maps of the town in all the town's car parks.
 9. It was agreed that a survey should be undertaken but this must be a community effort.
 10. This is covered in Item (iii).
 11. This will be carried out as and when appropriate.

12. County Cllr Mrs C Channon had already agreed to fund the installation of two additional bollards from her Locality Budget. Cllr Mrs Channon agreed to chase this with the Neighbourhood Highways Officer.
- (iii) Consideration was given to taking out annual subscription to Survey Monkey. It was agreed that the Clerk should subscribe to the Single User option at a cost of £384 per annum.

20.027 Any Other Business at the Chairman's Discretion

- Cllr Mrs C A Sismore-Hunt advised that, following a successful appeal for volunteers, the Tourist Information Centre would be re-opening on Monday 3 August; opening times would be Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm but weekend opening times were still to be arranged.

20.028 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting would be held on Monday 17 August 2020 at 7.00pm via Zoom.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 8.32pm.

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Chairman

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Date

Approved