

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Town Council held online via Zoom on Monday 11 May 2020 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT

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

Town Clerk: Mrs J E Vanstone

Others Present: District Cllr A J Dent, District Cllr P M Jarvis, District Cllr T D Wright and one member of the public

19.511 Public Speaking Time

No members of the public wished to speak.

19.512 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from County Cllr Mrs C Channon.

19.513 Declarations of Interests in Items on the Agenda

No interests were declared.

19.514 Minutes

The Minutes of the following Meetings had been circulated prior to the Meeting. It was unanimously agreed they be signed as a true record at the next physical meeting:

- (i) the Town Council held online via Zoom on 27 April 2020
- (ii) the Planning Committee held online via Zoom on 27 April 2020

19.515 Planning Applications

Application No: 20/0538/FUL
Location: Flat 1 Heathgate, 7 Lansdowne Road, EX9 6AH
Proposal: Insertion of French doors to the existing rear bay windows
Letters Received: None at the time the observations were made
Observations: This Council supports the application

Application No: 20/0876/FUL
Location: 16 Greenway Gardens, EX9 6SW
Proposal: Construction of single storey side and rear extension
Letters Received: None at the time the observations were made
Observations: This Council supports the application

Application No: 20/0886/FUL
Location: 8 Fountain Hill, EX9 6BX
Proposal: Construction of single storey rear extension, dormer window, veranda, detached car port and store with alterations to associated hardstanding
Letters Received: None at the time the observations were made
Observations: This Council supports the application

Application No: 20/0846/FUL
Location: Lloyds TSB Bank, 8 Fore Street, EX9 6NQ
Proposal: Construction of 1 bed cottage
Letters Received: None at the time the observations were made
Observations: This Council is unable to support the application. Members feel this is over-development of a very small space and is contrary to Policy H3 of the Budleigh Salterton Neighbourhood Plan

19.516 East Devon District Council: Planning Decisions – Approvals

Application No: 19/2149/TRE
Location: 4 Fountain Hill, EX9 6BX
Proposal: T1: Copper Beech – reduce and reshape by approximately 1m to leave a natural form. Reason to prune away from power lines and over the road.

Application No: 19/2370/TRE
Location: Elvestone, Fore Street Hill, EX9 6HD
Proposal: T10: Holm Oak – Reduce height by approximately 1m from existing 9m, maximum diameter of cuts 100mm
T11: Monterey Pine – Fell
T20: Holly – Fell
T23: Pine – Reduce spread on 3 sub-dominant limbs by approximately 3m, maximum diameter cuts of 150mm. Remove lowest easterly branch. Maximum diameter cut of 100mm
T29: Holm Oak – Repollard back to previous pollard point
T30: Holm Oak – Fell

Application No: 20/0112/LBC
Location: The Old Clink, 38 Fore Street, EX9 6NJ
Proposal: Internal works include:
Ground floor: remove side hall & main hall/bathroom wall; remove bathroom to create utility room; install new wall to inner hall/new utility; align existing small kitchen/bathroom wall; remove wall between large kitchen/utility.
First Floor: create doorway and new en-suite to proposed bedroom 1 from existing kitchen; match all new skirting, architrave & cornice to existing.
External works to include: rebuild and repair all existing chimney stacks. Ground floor: replace (courtyard) east elevation & south (rear) elevation upvc sliding doors with French doors; replace & enlarge 2no. windows to south (rear) & west elevations; repair & repaint external render; repair rear wall; repair slates to main roof; replace upvc rainwater goods; new timber side gate

Application No: 20/0261/FUL
Location: Land off East Terrace, EX9 6PQ
Proposal: Renovation and development of existing outbuilding to provide a hobby room and construction of new steps

Application No: 20/0554/TRE
Location: Watch Hill, Cricket Field Lane, EX9 6PB
Proposal: T101: English Oak – Reduce lowest limb on south side by 3m MDC 50mm and crown raise remaining foliage to height of said limb, tidy old cuts and remove deadwood
T102: English Oak – Fell suppressed partially dead tree
T103: English Oak – Reduce or remove branches accordingly after aerial inspection
T104: Holm Oak – Reduce via thinning as per report. Northern stem - reduce each of four primary limbs arising from 3m via thinning by removing one to two 6-8m vertical branches from each major limb MDC 150mm. Southern stem - remove southern most of two major upright branches at 10m above ground level MDC 250mm, reduce the one remaining vertical branch at 10m by 2-3m MDC 75mm. Summarising above works - overall 25% maximum foliar removal.
T105: Holm Oak – Remove decayed stem
T1: Monterey Pine – Remove 3 low partially dead branches MDC 150mm, remove broken/split branches and dead wood. Reduce area on south aspect mid-crown by 1-2m MDC 50mm
T2: Holm Oak – Reduce lowest limb to the south overhanging drive via thinning by 2m MDC 50mm.
G4: Holm Oak – Crown raise to 3m removing one large limb MDC 150mm and minor pruning on 2 other trees in group MDC 50mm

Application No: 20/0588/TRE
Location: Hafod, Cricket Field Lane, EX9 6PB
Proposal: T1: Lime – Dismantle to near ground level
R2: Lime – Reduce southern aspect by 1-2m MDC 25mm, remove 1 small limb arising at 5m that is growing towards adjacent Holm Oak (R4) MDC 100mm
R8: Lime – Thin southerly stem by approximately 30% MDC 100mm, remove old cable bracing system and install new Cobra brace

19.517 Reports

Chairman

The Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs C A Sismore-Hunt said she hoped everyone had been able to enjoy the VE Day commemorations – she was pleased to report that Tidwell Close had won a certificate for “best decorated street in the town”.

Town Clerk

Mrs J E Vanstone reported that it would appear there was a reoccurrence of dry rot in the Public Hall foyer. She had contacted Mr Stokes at Damp Proof & Timber Preservation and as soon as he was able, he would visit the Hall to survey the area.

Cllr R D Sherriff left the meeting

District and County Councillors

District Cllr T D Wright reported that a fairly large Zoom meeting had been held to discuss the budgets. He said that it was anticipated there would be a £5.3m deficit; suggestions to raise income and make savings would be discussed at the next Full Council meeting.

The first public Zoom meeting would be held next week and it was hoped to convene as many meetings as possible thereafter.

District Cllr A J Dent reported that there were concerns with the security of Zoom meetings but only time would tell if these concerns were proven to be correct. Green waste collections were restarting in the District on 11 May and in the town on 18 May. He understood the recycling centre had also reopened on 11 May. The local economy was a real concern and balancing the need to keep businesses thriving with keeping people safe was difficult. There was also concern about the number of people who may be tempted to visit the town following the easing of restrictions.

- Mrs J E Vanstone asked if the District Council could assist residents if they were aware of second-home owners visiting their homes in the town. Cllr Dent said this was something the Police could deal with via the 101 service.

District Cllr P M Jarvis reported that the Licensing Committee was working hard to assist the District's taxi drivers and publicans who were attempting to continue operating within the law. He reminded Members that if licenced premises had an off-licence they were permitted to sell alcohol for consumption away from the premises. He added that both planning and licensing were classed as essential services, so officers in those departments had not been furloughed.

- Cllr G Turner asked if it was possible to increase enforcement in car parks as it seemed people thought it was OK to park without paying for a ticket! Money from fines could help with the loss in income.

Cllr Wright said he had spoken to the officer in charge of car parks. The problem was that the cost of employing enforcement officers outweighed the amount that could be raised from fines.

Cllr Jarvis agreed with Cllr Wright, adding that closing car parks had been discussed but some residents were using them to park safely without the need to keep moving their car.

Cllr Turner added that following the lift in restrictions, more visitors might be tempted to come to the area and maybe now was the time to un-furlough some staff.

- Cllr Mrs M P Lewis said there were more people cycling and skateboarding along the seafront. She had spoken to a group of cyclists about the restriction on cycling who had responded that they were "feeling naughty". She wondered how the bylaw could be reinforced.
- Cllr D J Hayward commented that children were climbing over the railings to get in to the skate park; he was unsure how they could be stopped from doing this.

Cllr Mrs M L Kenneally-Stone said that the Community Safety Officer might be able to assist if it were reported to him.

Council Representatives on Other Bodies

- Cllr Mrs L D Evans advised that the Exmouth & District Community Transport Group was still operating with patients being taken to hospital appointments etc. She was pleased to report that the new bus had been ordered but was unsure of the delivery date.
- Cllr Mrs M P Lewis reported that the Budleigh Salterton Covid-19 Support group was working well. A second information leaflet had been delivered to all homes in the town. There had been some confusion regarding applications for funding, but this had been cleared up. She advised that the Budleigh Salterton Relief in Need Charity was in complete control of the finances and its Trustees met regularly to discuss applications. The group was mindful that the assistance should be for all residents and not just families.

19.518 Any other Business at the Chairman’s Discretion

- Cllr H L Riddell asked if some discussion could take place on councillors’ emails which had been circulating recently regarding the safety of pedestrians using the High Street. He said that residents were queueing along the pavement to access shops, meaning pedestrians were walking in the road. He was concerned there may be an accident and felt it was important that a solution be sorted out soon.

The Town Mayor, Cllr Mrs C A Sismore-Hunt said she had spoken to County Cllr Mrs C Channon who advised that a letter be sent to Highways, who would then send an officer to look at the problem.

Cllr D J Hayward suggested that signs be put up in the road, at either end of the High Street. He reiterated that these were extraordinary times and his suggestion was a temporary solution.

Cllr Mrs M L Kenneally-Stone said the problem affected the whole community and not just the more elderly residents (one of whom had fallen in the High Street the previous week).

Cllr A L Jones said he wanted the newer councillors to understand that this subject had been discussed many times over the years he had been on the Town Council and no sensible solution could be agreed.

Mrs J E Vanstone suggested that as well as a letter from the Council, councillors should write individually, and she would forward the name of the person to write to.

Cllr Mrs M P Lewis said the Budleigh Salterton Traffic Group had been due to meet before lockdown and wondered if this issue could be flagged up for the next meeting.

Mrs Vanstone said she would speak to Cllr Jones and arrange a meeting of the Traffic Group as soon as she could.

- Cllr M C Hilliar wished to pass on condolences to District Cllr P M Jarvis who had recently suffered a family bereavement.

19.519 Dates of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 1 June 2020 at 7.00pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 7.43pm.

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Chairman

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Date