

PETROCKSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Baxter Hall
on Thursday 29th September 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs M Busby (Chair), I Fisher (Vice-Chair), M Thompson, J Brasier, A Hunkin, J Harris

In attendance: CCllr A Saywell, DCllr R Wiseman, DCllr D Hurley, Parish Clerk - F Lowe,
6 members of the public

Public Question Time Public Bodies (admissions to meetings) Act 1960 s1 extended by the LG Act 1972 s100.

A parishioner enquired as to whether it would be possible for the Clerk to contact the owner of No 4 The Square in relation to selling the property. Previously the owner had expressed that this was their intention but nothing further has been heard from them. The thatch (which was in a poor state of repair) has been replaced and it is hoped that this is all that was holding them up from proceeding. **Clerk to contact owner**

A parishioner raised a concern with parking on The Square and road. Many houses in this vicinity do not have off street parking and it is beginning to become congested. This item is already on the agenda and Cllr Busby was able to advise that he proposes to send a letter to all the affected households asking for consideration while parking. The Parish Council have no jurisdiction over the road, Highways is responsible for this. **All cllrs agreed to this proposal and the Clerk was instructed to write a letter to affected properties.**

CCllr Andrew Saywell and DCllrs Richard Wiseman and David Hurley provided reports.

Cllr Saywell – report attached as an appendix.

Cllr Wiseman – TDC have observed a period of mourning for HRH Queen Elizabeth II and he attended the proclamation of King Charles III. TDC are issuing cost of living grants and more funding has been made available. Within their budget, TDC must find ½ million pounds in saving which is proving difficult with rising inflation, homelessness (and the risk of being homeless), and wages increasing. As the rates are determined by Government, at a maximum rate of 3% increase, other services will suffer – car parking charges will rise and the leisure centres review is due next month. Zero business rates on village halls is to be removed and will be 20% from next April.

Cllr Hurley –report attached as an appendix.

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record to be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Parish Clerk as it is usual for the grounds upon which apologies are tendered also to be recorded. Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are accepted. **Resolved:** Cllr Richards is on vacation and PCSO Baker sent her apologies due to work commitments.

2. Declarations of interest. Members to declare any interest they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the relevant authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulation 2012 (SI 2012/1464) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

Resolved: none given

3. Approval of Minutes. To receive and sign the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 19th July 2022. LGA 1972 Sch 12 para 41(1). **Resolved:** that they were a true record of the meetings decisions and signed as such.

Initials of chair

4. **Planning**

Council is asked to discuss the below planning application/s and inform the Clerk of its comments to forward to Torridge District Council. Any planning applications received after the distribution of this agenda will also be considered.

- a. **Application:** Application: Ref: 1/0865/2022/FUL, Date: 22nd September 2022, Proposal: Proposed additional roof areas to front yard, dung store and middle yard, Location: Heanton Barton Farm, Petrockstowe, Devon. **The Clerk was instructed to send comments:** *This application seems sensible, and Petrockstowe Parish Council have no objections.*

Council is asked to receive planning application decisions made by Torridge District Council. Council is asked to note the below decisions:

- b. **none**

5. **Correspondence.** Cllrs agreed that they had received the correspondence as listed in the agenda from 13th July to 23rd September 2022 inclusive, and had no comments

6. **Matters arising from previous minutes.**

- a. **Virtual attendance** – Cllr Saywell attended in person so this is c/f
- b. **North Devon Clay Work sign at Petrockstowe Station** – While investigating, Highways officers found the sign in the undergrown and reattached it to the pole.
- c. **North Devon Clay Work sign on Merton Mile** – Highways inspected the sign and advised that it had not slipped on the poles, but that it was not positioned at the top. The undergrowth has been cut and the sign is visible.
- d. **Voluntary one-way system for clay lorries** – Both the quarry manager and supervisor have been off work sick so have been unable to progress further – c/f

7. **Current Business.**

- a. **Parking on The Square** – Covered in Public Session
- b. **Internal Auditor for 2022/23** – The Clerk provided 2 quotes and following a brief discussion it was resolved to appoint Rachel Avery. **Clerk to contact and advise.**
- c. **Dream A Way request for grant** - Following a discussion, it was resolved to not support this charity. The PC will support local charities
- d. **Report on proclamation** – The Chairman had read out the proclamation of King Charles III on 24th September in front of an audience of villagers. The proclamation will be framed and put up in Baxter Hall.
- e. **Purchase of lamppost poppies** – Cllr Busby has purchased 6 lamppost poppies to use in November at a cost of £18. He requested reimbursement from the PC or Chairman’s Allowance. **Resolved: to reimburse him.** He will provide the Clerk with the documentation to support the purchase.
- f. **Laurels Appeal** – Cllr Busby was able to advise that this has been accepted as a valid appeal. Cllr Hurley advised that it related to the conversion of the Almshouses.

8. **Clerk/Parish Councillors Reports.**

- a. **Police Report** – PCSO Baker provided a report comparing incidents and crimes from July/August 2021 to the same period in 2022.

9. **Finance** – as at 13/07/2022

Receipts: To note receipt of income

none

Expenditure: Previously approved expenditure

none

Previous Account Balance £971.54

Receipts none

Payments none

New Balance £971.54

Continuation of minutes 29th September 2022

Date of next meeting The next Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 15th November 2022 in Baxter Hall at 7.30pm with a Planning meeting on Tuesday 18th October 2022 if required.

The meeting went into Part 2 at 8.37 for 5 minutes

With no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.42pm

Chairman Date

Initials of chair