

HATHERLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 8TH DECEMBER 2020 7.00pm by zoom

Present: Cllr.Tyson in the chair, Cllrs. Gladstone Back, Walters, Laing-Trengove
Lewis, Holland, Entwistle, Bolland (7.30pm) Dist.Cllrs.Kemp and Kimber
The Clerk

Apologies: Cllr.Laycock

**Declarations
of interest** Cllr.Tyson – employee of WDBC

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PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public in attendance
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COVID 19 UPDATE/EMERGENCY MATTERS

656a) Cllr.Tyson reported that with Devon in Tier 2 from 2nd Dec. the skatepark could open.
Thanks to Mr. Holwill for printing the posters.

656b) Cllr.Back reported that the Emergency Volunteer group had also displayed new
posters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

657. The minutes of the meeting held 10th Nov.2020 having been duly circulated were
signed by the Chair as being a true and correct record with the following amendment:-
Min.652 to read “details of the Fishleigh Cross Permaculture project” Proposed Cllr.Laing-
Trengove seconded Cllr.Tyson. All agreed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

658. New councillors (min.617 refers) declarations of interest received from Cllrs.Entwistle,
Holland and Bolland and forwarded to WDBC. Declarations of acceptance of office held by
the Clerk.

659. Zip wire (min.624 refers) Cllr.Tyson was investigating suitable stiff/flexible material for
covering the chain.

660. Pynto/website (min.626 refers) Cllr.Tyson and Pynto were discussing various ways
of improving the website. Cllr.Tyson would ask if they could upload all our documents as
and when they came in rather than herself. To check if this would be included in the new
price.

661. Runnon Moor Lane footpath (min.629 refers) ongoing matter.

662. Community Centre hire payments (min.632 refers) resolved that the Council would
pay for 10 months meetings @ £16 per month to assist with the Centre's cash flow during
covid 19.

663. Doing What Matters DCC Highways (min.633 refers) 5 Councillors had attended this
virtual meeting with Mr.D.Jagger/Mr.N.Bowles. Resolved that Cllr.Back be the Town
Council liaison officer with Highways and other councillors should report any
problems/ideas back to him. Main points to arise from meeting were:-

- aim of meeting was to establish needs and priorities for HTC as part of the “Doing

- “what matters” project. A trial project to work with all town/parish councils to better understand recurring local issues and improve the way issues are dealt with. In the past reliance has been on vehicles attached with digital monitoring equipment scanning roads and visual checks by officers. This not considered thorough enough and service can be improved using local knowledge and assessing local priorities. This would be a continuous conversation, not a one-off now or not again for 3 years approach. Suggest feedback once a month via Neighbourhood Highway Officer.
- Re-surfacing – wants to know which streets are considered by community as priorities. *Roads rated 1-5 (5 undrivable) Contract work has 12 month warranty* HTC listed Victoria Road and Higher Street
- Drain clearing – wants to know which drains cause recurring problem as amendments to their cleaning rota can be made. The DCC Report It Page – flooding/drains – this map highlights every drain and shows its cleaning frequency/ HTC listed High St, Red Lane, Sanctuary Lane, stretch from Tricity House to the industrial estate, Victoria Road
- Drains/gritting – current frequency for clearing drains on non gritted roads is 3 years (each parish has map of its major roads) Roads with infrequent drain clearance do not get gritted because if drain is blocked the grit washes away – catch 22 but have not got resources to do all the roads
- Potholes – review underway on pothole policy. Currently work sheet raised for each single pothole, payment per pothole. Criticism that holes are left in vicinity that fall short of policy measurement. Road inspector now looks at all road in vicinity. In winter inspection priority is on surface safety rather than general repair. Abbeyford Woods road is now priority for Jacobstowe parish
- Special Events – DCC request we notify as early as possible for any special events, as dates for them to avoid works
- Leftover works signage – this should be removed by contractor after works finish. Email CSC Roads with location, DCC can fine contractor for uncollected signs. Could also be utility companies – name/contact on rear of sign
- Roadside trees – priority is given to trees with ash die-back

664. Town Centre business survey (min.641d refers) all agreed with draft survey drawn up by Cllrs.Tyson/Entwistle – final amendments to be made and agreed. Resolved that Clerk print off 30 copies of the 3 page survey. Final details of distribution/collection to be decided.

665. Posts at Millennium Corner (min.645 refers) Resolved that old posts be removed and replaced with new oak posts with chains (this would prevent any trip hazard) Cllr.Tyson to obtain quotes from Mr.C.Peters and MKF Fencing.

666. New councillors information (min.654 refers) Cllr.Tyson was still awaiting photo/information from the three councillors.

PLANNING MATTERS

667. Applications to consider:-

- a) 3439/20 P.Laing-Taylor 1 dwelling Red Lane (*Cllr.Laing-Trengove declared an interest and took no part in the emailed response*)
The Town Council were split on this application. 3 councillors objected for reasons a) the site falls outside the JLP b) Red Lane is too narrow to support further development. Any increase in traffic along this land would impact of safety especially at the narrow junction with Park Road

*4 Councillors supported the application for reasons a) the plans show provision for parking and turning b) the proposed dormer bungalow structure is not dissimilar in type to a number of other properties in Red Lane and Park Road and therefore would have very little effect on the landscape
One councillor declared an interest and took no part in these comments*

668. Permissions granted:

a) 0629/20 Mr.P. Flowers – 2 dwellings Biddicombe Park Road

669. Refusals advised: None

670. Any other planning matters:-

a) Development of land adjacent to Holsworthy Road/Oaktree Cottage – communication received from Mr.Blakeman reporting that a pre application had been made to WDBC and they are looking to obtain opinions of local councils and residents. Resolved that Clerk request all information is emailed which would then be circulated and we would then arrange a zoom meeting with him in January 2021.

b) All Councillors had been forwarded a zip file resource on planning training.

671. Hatherleigh Market – Dist.Cllr.Kimber and Cllr.Tyson had a meeting with Kingswood Homes on 7th December and reported that Kingswood would be submitting a planning application for amendments to the site. This would be done before end of December and once validated sent out for the usual consultation period.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

672. The Clerk presented the following accounts for payment:-

a) Mrs. Rewse	toilet cleaning	£ 374.96
b) Mr.C.Peters	Street caretaker hours	£ 117.72
c) PKF Littlejohns	external audit fee	£ 360.00
d) Mrs. R.Lock	wages	£ 366.43
e) WDBC	4 weeks free parking Tuesday am	£ 220.00
f) Pynto	Council donation Lockdown Book	£ 500.00
g) L & M Cole	grounds maintenance	£1298.41
h) Pynto	website upgrade	£ 160.00
i) Wicksteed	2 new cradle swing seats	<u>£ 416.64</u>
	Total	<u>£3814.16</u>

Proposed Cllr.Walters seconded Cllr.Tyson that the above accounts be paid. Cllrs. Back and Laing-Trengove signed the cheques.

673. Moneys received None

674. Any other financial matters:-

a) PKF Littlejohn external auditor – Clerk reported they had accepted our explanation as to why we could not commit specific amounts to our main projects. With regard to the AGAR forms Box 3 explanation of difference between year 19/20 of £11,686 and year 20/21 of £27,881 – explained difference down to 16% - auditor insisted on 15% - Clerk stated she was not prepared to spend any further time on the matter for 1%– hence the additional statement on external auditor's report “that Council could not explain difference of 15%.

b) Through the council website an enquiry had been made about tendering for grass

cutting/gardening work. Resolved that in view of the pandemic and any further restriction on lock down being put in place, any tendering process would not take place until 2022.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

675. Dist.Cllr.Kemp reported on WDBC proposal to set up a district wide climate change committee which would give a greater voice for local councils and people alike.

Information would be sent out by 21st February. It was resolved that Cllr.Gladstone apply to be the representative for Hatherleigh Town Council.

MAINTENANCE./TRAFFIC ISSUES

676. Cllr.Tyson – member of public had reported broken swing in Toddler Park. Mr.Peters had removed both cradle seats, new ones had been ordered from Wicksteed and been delivered now awaiting fixing.

677. Cllr.Back – bench outside school had still not been repaired. Cllr.Tyson to ask Mr.Peters to look at. Cllr.Laing-Trengove would look at the old Rotary Club survey concerning siting and repair state of the towns benches.

678. Cllr.Gladstone – received complaint about dogs not on leads in the church graveyard. This was the responsibility of the Church to manage but resolved that Cllr.Gladstone order requisite signs for the church to display in suitable position.

DOG POO BINS

679. Cllr.Laing-Trengove had been asked about dog poo bins in the Football field. Cllr.Tyson pointed out that any bins emptied by WDBC had to be on public not private property. If bin placed in the football field it would be the responsibility of the Club to monitor/empty Also reported that the Moor Management were looking at providing two bins on the moor.

XMAS CELEBRATIONS

680. Regarding xmas celebrations-

- the tree in the Square had been donated by Mr.A.Orchard. Now erected and lights were switched on
- Late night shopping – posters displayed around town, taped music supplied with shops reporting they had been busy. Cllr.Bolland considered that Hole Court could have been better advertised and sign posted
- Xmas Eve – a vote was taken as to whether the Town Council should be involved in a Xmas Eve event. 7 councillors voted no citing social distancing/bubbles would be very difficult to manage and marshalling and safety of residents was paramount. 2 voted in favour. Resolved that Cllr.Walters inform Rev.Winsbury of our decision.

MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS

681. DCC Highways – as reported elsewhere in the minutes 5 councillors had attended a meeting.

682. Cllrs.Back, Laing-Trengove and Gladstone had attended Moor Management meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

683. Letter received from D.Cudmore and N. Price (although not signed by N.Price) concerning the Moor Management Committee. This had been circulated to all councillors. Resolved that Clerk acknowledge receipt.

684. Network Rail – letter received acknowledging receipt of the Town Council's letter regarding the Dartmoor Line Service.

685. Cllr.Laing-Trengove reported on a request made to Mr.Trenaman from a local family asking for an extra burial plot to the north of an existing family plot. Council agreed to this request.

ITEMS OF INTEREST/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

686. Cllr.Walters reported that the Government had allocated money for the railway link between Okehampton and Exeter. Next big push would now be for a direct bus link between Hatherleigh and Okehampton.

687. Cllr.Tyson reminded all present about the Xmas market on Sat.12th December and thanked Dist.Cllr.Kimber for getting Hatherleigh included in WDBC free December parking scheme and asked if he could arrange for free parking to be included on this day.

688. Date of next meeting Tuesday 12th January 2021.

There being no further business the Chair thanked those present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

Dated.....2021.....signed