

BUCKERELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 15th 2021 at
Doug's Shed Splatthayes

Those Present

Clare Slater – Chair (CS)
Geoff Wright – Vice Chair (GW)
Helen Howard (HH)
Sandra Money (SM)
Kindy Mann (KM)
Cllr Philip Twiss – Devon County Council (PT)
Cllr Alasdair Bruce - East Devon District Council (AB)
Ian Tucker - Clerk (IT)

There were 2 members of the public present.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Agreeing the Minutes of the Meeting Held 14th July 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th July 2021 were **agreed** as a correct record of that meeting. Proposed by Helen and seconded by Geoff.

3. Matters arising (not on agenda)

- a) Ian apologised for not including a climate item on the agenda. It was **agreed** that this will be followed up outside the meeting. (See item 13).
- b) Clare reported that she and Geoff had conducted an annual appraisal for Ian. This highlighted the need to put a job description in place for the clerk.
- c) Clare noted that on advice it had been decided not to clean the War Memorial until the wording became illegible.

4. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Public questions

No questions had been received.

6. Finance and Governance

Balance at bank £8230.15 at 14th September 2021

a) Payments approved -

Jim Causley – Festival musician (previously approved)	£300.00
Steve Triner – village maintenance and PPE (previously approved)	£116.25
Clare Slater – Leaving gift of flowers for S. Bond (previously approved)	£30.00
Hire of Shed for July and September (Proposed by Clare and seconded by Sandra)	£40.00
Hire of Shed for Festival event (Proposed by Clare and seconded by Helen).	£20.00

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b) The receipt of £1585.00 from EDDC as the second part of the annual precept was noted.

7. Councillor Philip Twiss – Report

Highways updates

The road from Splatthayes to Hembury Fort Hill will be closed during the daytime between the 8th and 12th of November for patching works prior to resurfacing once they have bedded in; both of which are subject to the weather, so fingers crossed and please tell your friends and neighbours about this work.

I have today had verbal confirmation that it has been agreed by DCC Highways to extend the 30mph speed limit out of the village to begin beyond Hillside, but as with all these things the devil is in the detail and I want to see this in black and white, together with the time scale for the re-siting work to be done. This will include consultations and advertising of the proposals to vary the traffic order as it currently is; so likely to be months rather than weeks and I will update the PC as this progresses.

Devon – Covid numbers, booster jabs etc

Coronavirus Vaccination in Devon

- Booster vaccinations have now begun for those who are most vulnerable to Covid-19. The programme is being rolled out to the same priority groups as previously.

People are being urged not to contact the NHS to book their appointment until they have received an invitation.

- Frontline Health and Social Care workers can now book a booster appointment via the National Booking Service or by contacting 119, provided that 6 months have passed since the date of their second vaccination.
- Vaccinations has begun this week in schools for 12-15 year olds. Parents, guardians or carers of children in this group are being contacted for consent.
- Clinics offering second doses of the Astra Zeneca vaccine are being held across Devon.
- 6 in 10 18-24 year olds are fully vaccinated.
- Between 8 December 2020 and 19 September 2021 **931,329** first doses have been given in Devon while **862,391** second doses have been given; a total of **1,793,720** doses.
- Details of walk-in clinics are being regularly shared on NHS Devon CCG's social media pages. You can find your nearest walk-in clinic on NHS England's site finder [here](#).
- You can book an appointment online or by calling 119

Where can I have my second Astra Zeneca dose?

- More than thirteen thousand people across Devon are not fully vaccinated more than twelve weeks after their first dose. They include over seven and a half thousand people who initially had a first dose of the Astra Zeneca vaccine.
- A study funded by Public Health England found that having only one dose of the Covid-19 vaccine gives around 30% protection against the predominant Delta variant but protection rises substantially after a second dose.
- First doses being given at vaccine sites across Devon are of Moderna or Pfizer, in line with national guidelines on the most appropriate vaccine for different age groups, however there are still plenty of places where people can have their second dose of the Astra Zeneca vaccine.

As you will see from the graphic below our nearest major vaccination centre remains Greendale near Exeter, but where I am pressing for more local centres to be set up, particularly for the Booster jab as many in rural areas have little or no transport, are often elderly. Others with disabilities that find it hard to go that far to receive the booster and I do not want anyone feeling they will 'Chance it' and not bother because it is too complicated or simply impractical.

AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccinations

Second doses must be at least eight weeks after the first



1	Barnstaple	North Devon Leisure Centre, EX31 2AP	Monday 27 September - booked appointments only via www.nhs.uk/coronavirusvaccine
2	Cullompton	Culm Valley Integrated Centre For Health, EX15 1FE	Booked appointments via GP
3	Dawlish	Dawlish Community Hospital, EX7 9QH	Booked appointments via GP
4	Exeter	Greendale Vaccination Centre, EX5 1EW	Daily walk-ins from 8.30am - 7.00pm
5	Newton Abbot	Newton Abbot Racecourse, TQ12 3AF	Booked appointments via GP
6	Plymouth	Frankfort Gate, PL1 1QD	Thursday 23 and 30 September from 4.30pm - 5.30pm
7	Seaton	Seaton Community Hospital, EX12 2UU	Booked appointments via GP
8	Torquay	English Riviera Centre, TQ2 5LZ	Booked appointments via GP
9	Totnes	Follaton House, TQ9 5NE	Booked appointments via GP

Devon funding news

COVID-19 Outbreak Management Grant (Self-Isolation)

This grant is now available to voluntary and community groups/organisations and social enterprises that help people by providing practical, social, and emotional support when they have to self-isolate due to COVID-19.

Organised by local councils or voluntary and community groups, this could include support with:

- accessing food and other supplies.
- caring responsibilities
- practical tasks such as dog walking
- mental health and wellbeing, including loneliness and boredom
- communications to improve awareness of when people need to self-isolate
- maintaining a contingency support offer, even when demand is low
- identifying gaps and opportunities for further COVID-19 self-isolation-related support and funding

See <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/keeping-safe-well/covid-19-outbreak-management-grant-self-isolation-guidance/> and application form at <https://tinyurl.com/4p86kk5m>

Phil also referred to a problem at present with GPs reluctant to offer booster vaccinations without increased payment.

Mr Bowen (a member of public) asked why the hospital wards next to the surgery are

not used for vaccinations. Phil pointed out the complexity of discrete NHS organisations, and separate ownership of the buildings. Helen pointed out that flu jabs for the over 50s were available from Boots/Lloyds.

8. Councillor Alasdair Bruce – Report

I have to start by saying that access to council staff has proven problematic over the last few months. A situation occurred prior to my election which saw alleged interference from the ruling party with the execution of their duties. As such a work to rule has been in place. Despite assertions that all is well from other Cllrs, this is not the case, and I have been hampered in delivering the level of service I expect to bring to my parishes. I am sure this will improve as apologies and promises have been made to rectify the situation.

Although not directly targeted at Buckerell, the ongoing public consultation on public toilet provision comes to an end on Oct 1st. I would urge everyone to engage with this issue. For example, at present in Honiton, only one public toilet is open' and those of a certain generation may find this situation a challenge.

The local plan continues to grind its way through the council machinery. However, a revised version is due to go out to public consultation in March next year. This important body of work is going to fundamentally shape the future of our villages and towns and the provision of open space and recreation facilities for our communities. In particular, focus will be on the elements that parish councils can influence such as transport, planning, development and environment.

I have recently been involved in communication regarding flooding with our two MP's and County Cllrs. As a result of a number of conversations with local farmers and my own personal experience, there is a clear disconnect with what farmer's feel they are responsible for and what the council expect them to do regarding drainage. I'm sure this is not a new observation to you all, but before any sustainable and costed plan is launched regarding local flooding issues (or for that matter national), it has to work at the very point where it starts. My experience suggests this is currently broken but is fixable.

A recent full council meeting debated the merits of the purchase of a parcel of land adjacent to a nature reserve near Seaton by EDDC. Whilst the council were ultimately unsuccessful in the purchase due in part to sensitise information leaking out, and a price tag that had many questioning its value for money including myself, the principle is one to support. Some may justifiably argue that all areas should see a fair share of council money spent across the district, one off purchases like this can help to enriched our environment, whilst not being right on the doorstep but nonetheless accessible to most of us.

Clare asked all councillors to respond to the EDDC consultation on public toilets.

ALL

Helen asked if the Parish Council should have a Flood Plan, and mentioned the Byway Open to All Traffic (Cabbage Lane). Geoff volunteered to speak to the farmer.

GW

There was a discussion about the drainage outside Splatthayes, and Ian was asked to let Phil have further details.

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9 .Planning

- a) Sunningdale 21/0039/FUL – Councillors noted that this is now a case with the EDDC planning team.
- b) Hackhams 21/2112/FUL – Councillors noted the withdrawal of this application.
- c) Sowton Farm 21/2185/FUL – Councillors noted the change of siting and the submission of no further comments as consultee.
- d) Deer Park Farm Units 21/1654/VAR – Councillors noted the receipt of anonymous comments forwarded to planning. Some councillors had not seen the revised application, and Clare asked all councillors to let the clerk have any comments the next day. (*Post meeting note: agreed by email that councillors were confident that the conservation team would be active, and did not wish to make any further comment. Ian has informed planning.*)
- e) Hackhams 21/2287/FUL – Councillors discussed the application, and agreed that there are no objections. Ian will inform planning.

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In relation to the on-going problems that the clerk is experiencing with adding consultee comments to the EDDC planning database, Phil asked to be informed so that he could take the matter up with the software suppliers.

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10. Roads Report

- a) Complaints received from local residents about poorly signed diversions around the village at various times were noted. There was a discussion about responsibility for placing these signs, and Mr Bowen (member of public) made representations about the problems on behalf of residents. Phil suggested that if there is any difficulty he should be informed so that he can tackle the problem(s). Phil also drew attention to the one.network database showing works and road closures across the region. This has the facility to set local “alerts”.
- b) As mentioned in Phil’s report at item 7, the road past Hillside and Summerhayes is due to be patched in November (weather permitting). Ian was asked to let Phil know that councillors are happy with the grit bin in its current position.

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11. Trees, Footpaths, Hedgerows and Drains

a) Helen reported problems with FP15 and Ian was asked to report again the footpath which leads down to the river. The area around the stile gets very muddy and churned up, and probably needs a boardwalk to help users get to the stile. IT

12. Village Maintenance

a) Clare pointed out that the 30mph sign opposite Buckerell House had disappeared.

b) Helen reported that the Parish Council owned bench at the war memorial had been pressure washed and would be varnished in due course. HH

13. Matters for next meeting

a) It was **agreed** that discussion about a climate plan should take place before the next meeting and should include Cllr Bruce to help put something together for discussion at the next meeting.

b) It was **agreed** that hiring a contractor to clear ditches should be discussed at the next meeting.

c) Clare encouraged all councillors to look at training being offered by DALC and attend relevant courses. The Parish Council would pay for attendance. ALL

d) Clare offered Kindy a tour of Buckerell to help her to better understand the location of roads and buildings around the parish. CS/KM

16. Date of Next Meetings

The next meeting will take place on **Wednesday 17th November at 7pm in the Shed.**