

## BUCKERELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at  
Doug's Shed Splatthayes

### **Those Present**

Clare Slater - Chair (CS)  
Helen Howard - Vice Chair (HH)  
Geoff Wright (GW)  
Jo Knight (JK)  
Cllr Philip Twiss – Devon County Council (PT)  
Ian Tucker - Clerk (IT)

There were 3 members of the public present.

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Alasdair Bruce (EDDC), Sandra Money (Parish Councillor) and Penny Mear (Member of public).

### **2. Agreeing the Minutes of the Meeting Held 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were unanimously **agreed** as a correct record of that meeting.

### **3. Matters arising (not on agenda)**

- a) The lack of dog access at the new stile opposite Treaslake had been raised with the Footpaths Officer but a substantive reply is awaited. The Clerk will chase. IT
- b) The plaque for the tree planted at the Old Rectory had been passed to the owners of the property.
- c) An email will be sent to the village reminding everybody of the need to pick up dog waste and double bag it for disposal in landfill waste or in the village waste bins. IT
- d) Jurassic Fibre have removed the blue rope that had come adrift in the lane toward Fenny Bridges.
- e) A plaque for the Jubilee Memorial Oak is still awaited. The Clerk will chase. IT

#### **4. Declarations of interest**

Personal declarations of interest were received from –  
Geoff (Jenirens Farm Bungalow)  
Jo (Gym at The Workshops)  
Clare (Plants at War Memorial)

#### **5. Co-option of councillor**

The Parish Council unanimously **agreed** the co-option of Jo Knight as Parish Councillor. Jo passed a completed Register of Interests form and a Declaration of Acceptance of Office to the Clerk.

#### **6. Public questions**

- a) Mr Bowen asked about horse manure being left on the public roads, and noted that it seemed unfair to make dog owners clear up after their animals if horse riders were not. Councillor Twiss offered to do some research on the law and report back.
- b) An enquiry had been received about the wheelchair used by villagers and stored in The Shed needing repair. The BCA is actively involved and further information is awaited.

PT

#### **7. Finance and Governance**

Balance at bank £7273.39 at 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2022.

- a) Payments below were approved unanimously -

Ian Tucker – Clerk quarterly pay April to June	£84.35
Ian Tucker – Bottle of wine for auditor	£7.50
Clare Slater – Plants for War Memorial	£83.09
Doug Cowan – Venue hire	£20.00

- b) The request from TRIP for funding was discussed. It was **agreed** that councillors would visit the premises in Honiton and find out more about the organisation.

CS

- c) The question of further financial support for Ukraine was discussed. Phil agreed to provide an update on the position in East Devon to assist councillors in making decisions.

PT

## **8. Councillor Philip Twiss – Report**

### **Covid update**

The unwanted ‘gift that keeps on giving’ is still very much in our local communities in Devon where numbers continue to rise. The increase is being attributed to the new faster-spreading BA.4 and BA.5 sub variants of Omicron, which make up more than half of new infections in England, and more people mixing socially.

While the new sub variants are more transmissible, it is not having the same health impact. So while we are seeing a slight increase in the number of people in hospital with COVID-19, we are fortunately not seeing an increase in those patients in High Dependency Units.

National advice has not changed. If you have symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as COVID-19, and you have a high temperature or do not feel well, try to stay at home and avoid contact with others.

Face coverings are no longer mandatory in health settings, such as GP surgeries or hospitals, but there are situations where people should consider wearing them e.g. when visiting the GP or hospital, where you are more likely to be in contact with vulnerable people.

The government’s spring booster vaccinations are still available for the moment, and there will be vaccination clinics available over the summer. An autumn booster for vulnerable groups will also become available.

Testing is no longer expected for most people, although it is required for people who are clinically vulnerable in order to access other treatments. However, if people still have any test kits, they could use them ahead of situations where they know they’ll be in close contact with vulnerable people.

Simple hand hygiene is also still important, not just to protect from coronavirus, but also for fighting other infectious illnesses. It’s a simple precaution, but still highly effective.

### **Shop Local**

The results of a Devon wide consumer survey reveals that 88 per cent of local people try to buy Devon-sourced goods whenever possible, which presents a huge opportunity for local businesses.

While still relatively early days, The ‘Made in Devon’ scheme, see <https://www.madeindevon.org.uk/> is beginning to get up a ‘head of steam’, where businesses can advertise that they are a trustworthy business supplying Devon sourced products whenever possible, and that those claims have been vetted by trading standards. Membership is also available to Devon-based companies in other sectors including retail, arts, and other services.

The idea of ‘Made in Devon’ is to encourage consumers to keep buying quality local products and services, to bring long-term, sustainable prosperity to the region and to help in the region’s economic recovery, which is being done by encouraging sales and consumption of the incredible range of quality products and services which we have in Devon, supporting local

businesses, and establishing Devon as a source of quality local products and services.

The benefits of supporting local are huge. It helps keep money in the community as local businesses have lower overheads like transportation, which, in turn is better for the environment.

It could be the Farm shop down the road, the local producer of skincare and bath products, who lives next door etc; buying local helps them and their businesses survive, but it also helps avoid the supply issues that have been experienced by many national retailers.

Maintaining local supply lines between producers, restaurants, schools, and hospitals for instance, it creates jobs and if businesses can demonstrate that its goods are local it will give confidence to the consumer, this will help ensure that Devon's economy continues to recover following the worst of the pandemic.

### Jobs in Devon

There remains a shortage of people to work in all sectors in Devon, and the Devon Jobs website, see <https://www.devonjobs.gov.uk/> shows a wide range of opportunities in full time and part time employment. Much of the shortfall in people available to work is due to people taking planned or early retirement.

Many posts in the health and social care sectors remain unfilled, in some part due to the lack of affordable housing, and Devon County Council are working with district Councils to try and address this problem.

### Integrated Care System

The very recent launch of the 'One Devon' integrated care system, see <https://www.icsdevon.co.uk/> is sure to have passed by many people, but is the biggest shake up of health and care systems in my lifetime. The Integrated Care System for Devon (ICSD) is a partnership of health and social care organisations working together with local communities across Devon, Plymouth and Torbay to improve people's health, wellbeing and care, where put simply it is a more joined up approach to improving how people are cared for from G.P. to acute hospital services, to help at Home.

Phil also reported that the proposal to extend the 30mph limit to Summerhayes is to be considered at the HATOC meeting on Friday. If the proposal goes ahead then Phil can finance the work from his locality budget.

The matter of cars being parked at Weston crossroads was discussed. Phil felt that little could be done as this constituted a rural road. (*Post meeting note: Phil has now corrected this and stated that the junction is within a 30mph limit bubble and may therefore need some better form of parking control. He will raise it with his opposite number for Awliscombe to see if a solution can be found.*)

PT

## **9. Councillor Alasdair Bruce – Report**

Well, it's been a quiet month at District with no substantial meetings held since the last Parish meeting.

I have been involved in a number of planning applications and appeals in the ward, with the few that apply to Buckerell I've had mixed results. To summarise, I have not heard from enforcement regarding the excess noise from the garage workshops, so will chase that up, nor from planning regarding the potential stepping out of planning application by the other property mentioned at the last meeting, again I will chase them up. On the good news front, the gym application and any enforcement action on the applicant is to be heard in early August. I have seen the officers report and am encouraged at the quality of his work, but cannot say anymore as it's confidential.

Around the district.

The street scene staff, off their own back, have designed the flower beds in Exmouth's Manor Gardens into a summer long Ukrainian flag complete with the national flower, the sunflower. A great effort, and one I'm sure many will appreciate.

Don't forget to claim your council tax energy rebate. So far 6.2 million has been paid out in East Devon by the government to help offset the spiralling energy costs.

It is with sadness I have to report that a spate of vandalism and graffiti has hit a number of our coastal towns. Sidmouth has seen damage to public toilets, and Exmouth has seen a skate park defaced plus excessive litter on its beaches. It is to be hoped these are isolated events but as is always the case, there is a financial cost to be borne by the district and eventually us all.

In an ironic twist of fate, there has been a large increase in sightings of migrating Red Kites into our district just as we are preparing to export some chicks to Spain. Along with the growing success of the reintroduction of the magnificent White-Tailed Eagle, the return to our skies of these fabulous raptors is a welcome site. Although, of course, not everyone appreciates these birds as was so fatally demonstrated by the possible deliberate poisoning of two eagles in Dorset last year. However, with proper information and education, the potential impact of these birds on our farming and hunting communities can be managed.

## 10. Planning

- a) 21/0039/FUL Sunningdale – the receipt of an interim reply from Enforcements was noted. The Clerk will chase for a substantive reply. IT
- b) 22/0935/Treaslake – the submission of comments by the Parish Council linking the application to the Certificate of Lawfulness was noted.
- c) 22/1367/AGR – Sowton Farm (Willowbrook). It was noted that the Parish Council had submitted a “No objection” comment to Planning.
- d) 22/1068/FUL – Owl Cottage. There was an extended discussion about this proposal. It was **agreed** that Council had “No objections” but did have some concerns. Clare will draft an appropriate form of words to add to the Consultee Comments on the planning record. CS
- e) 22/1504/FUL – Jenirens Farm Bungalow. It was **agreed** that the Parish Council has no objection to this application.
- f) 21/2553/FUL – Gym at “The Workshops”. Noted awaiting decision of Planning. (*Post meeting note – this application has been refused by Planning*).
- g) HP-WORX – Curscombe Lane. As several residents have raised the issue of excessive noise the Clerk was asked to contact Planning Enforcement. IT

## 11. Roads Report

The junction between the end of Cabbage Lane and the Byway Open To All Traffic up to the church is very unstable on that corner. It needs some hard core.

There is also an apparent problem with a drain at the top of the Byway (BOAT).

The Clerk will report both these issues to Devon County Council for action. IT

## 12. Trees, Footpaths, Hedgerows and Drains

No report for this meeting

## 13. Climate Emergency

This was deferred to the next meeting.

## **14. Portfolios**

It was **agreed** that Councillors would be responsible for the following areas of work –

Planning – Clare

Roads – Helen

Ditches and Drains – Geoff

Footpaths and Hedgerows – Jo

Police Advocacy – Sandra

## **15. Matters for next meeting**

- a) Climate Emergency
- b) Update on Parish Pump conservation
- c) Support for Ukraine

## **16. Date of next Meeting**

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022 7pm