

# BUCKFASTLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held in Room 3 at the Town Hall on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.30 pm.**

**Present:** Councillors: Andy Stokes, John Bailey, Pamela Forbes, Ron Fox, Darren Greep, Gwena Harman, David Patrick, Sylvee Phillips and Judith Hart (Town Clerk).

**In attendance:** 2 members of the public

**Press:** No Press in attendance

**19/98. Apologies:** Cllrs Pam Barrett, Huw Cox, Kate Kayley and Sue Clarke

**19/99. Councillors invited to declare any interests:** None

**19/100. To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 and review of actions from this meeting:**

Signed by Cllr Andy Stokes

**Actions from this meeting:**

- Open Spaces statement of intent deferred
- Still waiting for clarification on costs of the 3 new defibrillators

**19/101. Questions and comments from the public:**

Member of the public requested an update on the repair of the pavements in Fore Street which had been scheduled by Devon County Council (DCC) to take place in the autumn.

Cllr Patrick reiterated that DCC have a dedicated “Report a Problem” page for issues with highways.

**Action:** Clerk to request an update from the contractor.

Member of the public highlighted an abandoned car on Church Hill.

**Action:** Town Ranger to check and report

**19/102. Questions to District and County Councillors:** No Councillors present at this meeting.

**19/103. To resolve from 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Council that, having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 to adopt the General Power of Competence:**

Resolved.

**19/103. To receive the Interim Audit Report 2019/20:**

Noted.

The Clerk confirmed that the Financial Regulations will be reviewed as scheduled at the December Council Matters meeting, the review of the Risk Register in February and the Council’s insurance cover when the new schedule is received from the insurer in May.

**19/104. To resolve recommendations from the Council Matters meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019:**

19/72. To review new draft Terms of Reference for the Buckfastleigh Matters and Council Matters Committees pending resolution to adopt by full Council.

Proposed by Cllr Patrick, seconded by Cllr Forbes with all Members in agreement.

19/78. Items requiring Urgent Attention: To ratify the appointment of Cllr Sue Clarke as the Chair of the Buckfastleigh Matters Committee

Unanimously resolved.

**19/105. Planning application 19/02065/FUL. Proposed: Erection of two storey three-bedroom house at Bridge House, Old Totnes Road, Buckfastleigh:**

Cllr Patrick has drafted a response and summarised as follows:

- The Town Council welcomes the Biodiversity Officer asking for Natural England input.
- The bat survey was carried out during the day. The location is an important bat corridor and may isolate existing bats due to new lighting.
- What mitigation will be in place regarding construction traffic?
- Has permission been sought regarding the discharge of surface water from the development?
- What flood mitigation plans will be put in place and the design of a sustainable drainage system?
- What options are being made for making the property more climate efficient and meeting the criteria set by Teignbridge District Council?

It was agreed that the Town Council will not support this application until these questions are addressed by the planning authority.

**Decision:** Response supported by all Members. Clerk to submit on 28 November 2019.

**19/106. Chair's Announcements:**

Following the kind offer of hosting the Christmas Community Lunch this will now take place at the Rill Estate, Colston Road, Buckfastleigh. A meeting has been held with some of the volunteers.

**19/107. Councillor updates relevant to this meeting:**

Cllr Phillips attended the Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA) Forum Meeting which included a presentation about butterfly monitoring and a presentation by the police detailing accident hotspots on the Moor and crime statistics.

Following the decision taken by Teignbridge District Council for a trial period to allow parish councils to call-in planning applications provided that the request is for material considerations, DNPA now been asked to do this too.

Cllr Patrick – FROG camera update at Station Road Bridge. A quote from the contractor for £778 (exc VAT) has been received to carry out a site visit to assess why the camera has failed and if required to replace the battery.

**Decision:** Members agreed that further information is required to determine ownership and clarify licence responsibilities.

It was noted that BT have removed the red telephone box from The Globe car park. The Town Council during the consultation period had submitted an objection to the removal of the kiosk but had not been made aware of the subsequent decision to remove and therefore did not have the opportunity to adopt.

**19/108. Items requiring Urgent Attention:** None

Members of the public left the meeting at 8.13pm and the Chair moved the meeting into a Part II session under Agenda Item No. 12.

**19/109. Part II (Private Session) Minutes of the Personnel Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> November and to resolve the following recommendations:**

19/25. To review new draft Terms of Reference for the Personnel Committee.

**Decision:** Subject to one small amendment to Item 1.3 Members unanimously adopted the new Terms of Reference.

19/28. To review new draft Training and Development Policy

**Decision:** Adopted unanimously.

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.