

BRAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Braunton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8th June 2020 at 7:00 pm by video conference call.

	<u>Present</u>	Cllrs: E Spear in the Chair, D Spear, M Shapland, R Shapland, B Bunyard, D Relph, A Bradford, A Bryant, E Wood (part), G Bell, P Lord, J Chesters and V Cann, Officers: T Lovell, Parish Clerk & RFO. 1 member of the public.
014/2020/21	<u>Apologies</u>	None received.
015/2020/21	<u>Declarations of Interest</u>	None received.
016/2020/21	<u>Receive items for information not on the agenda, which in the opinion of the Chairman should be brought to the attention of the Council.</u>	None received.
017/2020/21	<u>Public Participation</u>	No questions had been received from the public.
018/2020/21	<u>Minutes</u>	RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 th May 2020 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record. (NC)
019/2020/21	<u>Action Sheet</u>	RESOLVED: That the updated Action Sheet attached to these minutes be noted. (NC)
020/2020/21	<u>Reports from the Devon County Councillor</u>	Members considered the Council's procedures for virtual meetings which were circulated prior to the meeting. RESOLVED: To approve the Council's procedures for holding virtual meetings.

(NC)

021/2020/21

**Reports from
the North Devon
Councillors**

Cllr Chesters informed members that North Devon Council Planning Committee would be meeting on Wednesday the 10th June.

Cllr D Spear explained that North Devon Council are part of the ambitious plans to create the UK's first clean energy powerhouse. The Great South West alliance is aiming to deliver a massive £45 billion boost to the region's economy and create 190,000 new jobs by 2035.

Cllr E Spear reported that the Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) had now been adopted and includes the effects of ammonia produced by agricultural land. The SPD will ensure that air quality is taken into account when determining future planning applications.

022/2020/21

Planning

(a) 71512

Proposal: Change of use of land together with the siting of two shepherds huts to provide two units of holiday accommodation (glamping)

Location: Snowball Cottage Fullabrook Ilfracombe Devon EX34 8NJ

Applicant: Mr Nick Tucker

It was moved by Cllr D Spear, seconded by Cllr J Chesters to recommend approval.

RESOLVED: To recommend approval subject to the holiday accommodation not to be occupied as a permanent dwelling or by any persons for a continuous period exceeding 28 days in any calendar year.

(NC)

023/2020/21

**North Devon
Council –
Planning
Decisions**

North Devon Council, the determining Authority, has APPROVED the following applications with conditions as filed:

71387 Proposal: 34 Stallards Braunton Devon EX33 1BP
Location: Extension to dwelling
Applicant: Mr & Mrs Lanyon
Decision: APPROVED
Decision Date: 27/05/2020

71462 Proposal: Notification for prior approval for larger home extension which extends 3.3m beyond the rear wall, 3.6m to the ridge and 2.2m to the eaves
Location: 12 Ralph Close Braunton Devon EX33 1DW
Applicant: Mr & Mrs L Garrity
Decision: APPROVED
Decision Date: 29/05/2020

024/2020/21	<u>Accounts due for Payment for the period 27th May 2020 to 8th June 2020.</u>	RESOLVED: That the payments totalling £891.67 be approved and paid. (NC)
025/2020/21	<u>Update Financial Projections</u>	<p>Member considered a summary of the Council's financial projections due to COVID-19 circulated prior to the meeting. The Council has potentially lost £36,000 of income since the Country went into lockdown on the 23rd March.</p> <p>The Parish Council has not received any of the Government £3.2 m funding. North Devon Council received £1,018,008 but this was not a sufficient amount to be able to pass funds on to town & parish councils. The Parish Council was not eligible for the Business Rate Support Grant as its combined premises have a rateable value which exceeds £51k. Town and parish councils are not eligible for the North Devon Council Discretionary Grant. The Council's insurance policy will not provide Business Interruption cover for costs and loss of income resulting from having to close its venues or reduce its services, as a result of Coronavirus.</p> <p>The loss of income will reduce the level of Council Reserves from 15% to 5%. These calculations are based on three months April to June 2020. It is expected that further losses to Council income will be incurred which could result in postponing Council projects or removal of Council services. Utilising the Council's Reserves will have further implications by having to increase its future revenue budgets.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Council notes the financial projections report. Council authorises expenditure of its reserves due to loss of income due to COVID-19. <p>(NC)</p>
026/2020/21	<u>Parish Council Car Parks</u>	<p>The Clerk has been in discussions with NDC since May regarding reintroducing changing in the Parish Council car parks. Originally NDC were unable to continue with cash collections as they were only accepting non cash payments using contactless card payment or RingGO. RingGO were not able to set up an account for the Parish Council as they do not provide accounts to town and parish councils. They have however offered the Parish Council to have two new parking zones under NDC's existing RingGO contract. NDC are looking into whether this would be possible due to the VAT implications.</p>

RESOLVED: That

- a. the Parish Council to look into the possibility of bringing the car park cash collections in house.
- b. the Clerk to request a copy of NDC's risk assessment and procedures for handling cash.
- c. Delegated powers be given to the Clerk and Chair to reintroduce charging in the Parish car parks subject to it being cost positive during this financial year.

(NC)

027/2020/21

**Measures to
Reopen the
Village**

Member considered the Clerk's report circulated prior to the meeting. DCC have been working towards putting in place highway measures that will address social distancing and enable people to travel more easily on foot and by bike. The Government's direction is that local authorities should be reallocating road space for active travel.

The main area of concern for Braunton is Caen Street with its narrow width pavements, two-way busy road which will see an increase in traffic during the summer months and that it is a Declared Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). NDC have confirmed that DCC have not allocated any reallocation of roadway and active travel to Braunton. The only schemes they are aware of are in Exeter, Barnstaple and Newton Abbot.

Members discussed schemes that could be introduced across the parish under the Active Travel bid, these included:

- Introduce 'Parklets' reclaim residential streets for people to be able to stop, rest and enjoy.
- Soft and hard bollards and chicanes that are car proof and create a safer environment for cyclists along the Saunton Road and Ilfracombe Road.
- Microprocessor Optimised Vehicle Actuation 'MOVA' on The Square junction to enable short bursts of traffic from each direction to improve congestion on the roads.
- Synchronise the pedestrian signal lights outside the Anchor with the lights on the The Square to reduce the number of vehicles queuing in Caen Street.
- 20 mph limit to be introduced in the centre of Braunton and eventually extended out to the development boundary.
- One-way pedestrian movement on the

- pavements in Caen Street.
- Completion of the Knowle to Willingcott cycle path
- Branton to Saunton cycle path.

RESOLVED: To request that the following measures are considered for implementation in Branton with immediate effect.

- Synchronise the pedestrian signal crossing lights on Caen Street outside Cawthrones with the lights on The Square. This would reduce the number of vehicles queuing in the narrow part of Caen Street between the pedestrian lights and the main junction lights on The Square making it easier for pedestrian to maintain social distancing. It would also slow down the traffic entering this stretch of road where there are a number of shops with narrow width pavements.
- To reduce the risk of pedestrians coming face to face with one another encourage pedestrian travel in the same direction. Pedestrians to travel from west to east on the southern pavement i.e. from the Caen Car Park to The Square and on the northern pavement east to west i.e. from the holiday letting agency to the Anchor area. Safe refuges to cross are afforded by the traffic lights at The Square and the pedestrian lights by the Anchor. Pavements to be marked with non-permanent paint reminding people to 'Keep Your Distance' and 'One Way' with directional arrow.
- Introduce a 20 mph limit in the centre of Branton including Exeter Road, The Square, Ilfracombe Road and Caen Street. The 20 mph limit should eventually be extended out to the development boundary.
- The Council to consider more permanent measures that could be introduced to promote walking and cycling in Branton to be including in the second tranche of the County's Active Travel bid later this year.

(NC)

028/2020/21

**Ratify decisions
taken during the
Covid-19
pandemic**

RESOVLED, with no votes to the contrary, to ratify the decisions taken during the COVID-19 pandemic and since 17th March 2020 which are attached to these minutes as appendix A.

(NC)

- 029/2020/21 **Draft Planning Compliance and Monitoring Plan 2020** RESOLVED: That the North Devon Council Draft Planning Compliance and Monitoring Plan 2020 be noted. (NC)
- 030/2020/21 **Ask for Jake** RESOLVED: That the Council fully supports Ask for Jake and subject to the advice from the Auditor the Council to invoice Ask for Jake for up to £2,000 hire charges during 2019/20. This be reimbursed to the Ask for Jake if the venue becomes unavailable. (NC)
- 031/2020/21 **Items to note** RESOLVED: To note the Police's newsletters for April and May 2020. (NC)

The meeting closed at 8:46 pm.

Signed by the Chair:
(Cllr E Spear)

Date: