

BRAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Braunton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 8 November 2022 at 7pm in the Parish Hall, Chaloners Road, Braunton.

	<u>Present</u>	Cllrs: E Spear in the Chair, D Spear, R Shapland, M Shapland, A Bradford, V Cann, G Bell, E Wood and B Bunyard. Officers: T Lovell, Parish Clerk & RFO 4 members of the public.
	<u>Not in attendance</u>	Cllrs: D Relph
120/2022/23	<u>Apologies</u>	Received from Cllrs: P Lord – indisposed due to health reasons. J Chesters – indisposed due to health reasons. A Bryant – indisposed due to health reasons.
121/2022/23	<u>Items not on the agenda, which in the opinion of the Chairman should be brought to the attention of the Council</u>	<p>The Chair announced the sad passing of former Parish Councillor Helen Knight.</p> <p>In the Council's December newsletter there will be a public thank you to all those who took part in the Braunton Winter Big Clean Up.</p> <p>The Royal British Legion's two minutes silence will be held in Memorial Gardens this year on Friday 11 November at 11am. The Royal British Legion's Remembrance Parade will take place on Sunday 13 November, members must be at St. Brannock's Church by 10.40am.</p> <p>The proposer and seconder of the motion under agenda item 24, wishes to withdraw their motion and bring it back to Council for consideration in the new year, following further investigation.</p>
122/2022/23	<u>Declarations of Interest</u>	There were none.

123/2022/23	<u>Public Participation</u>	There were none.
124/2022/23	<u>Requests for Dispensation</u>	The Clerk confirmed that she had received a request from Cllrs E Spear, D Spear, M Shapland, G Bell, J Chesters, V Cann, B Bunyard, R Shapland and A Bradford to enable discussion of the Council's budget and precept. The recommendation from the Clerk was that the request be accepted to enable participation in the setting of the Council budget and Precept for 2023/24. This was agreed unanimously.
125/2022/23	<u>Minutes</u>	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>a. That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on the 11 October 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record. (8.0.1abs)</p> <p>b. That the Minutes of the Parks and Gardens Committee meeting held on 12 October 2022 be ratified and adopted by the Council.</p> <p>c. That the Minutes of the Property Committee meeting held on 12 October 2022 be ratified and adopted by the Council.</p> <p>d. That the Minutes of the Finance and Administration Committee meeting held on 18 October 2022 be ratified and adopted by the Council. (NC)</p>
126/2022/23	<u>Action Sheet</u>	RESOLVED: That the Action Sheet be noted. (NC)
127/2022/23	<u>Police Report</u>	There was no police report received.
128/2022/23	<u>Devon County Councillor Report</u>	The Council noted the County Cllr's report, and requested the Clerk to ask if it would be possible to have the County Cllr's report earlier for future meetings.
129/2022/23	<u>North Devon Councillor Report</u>	<p>Cllr D Spear explained that North Devon Council had broadened their criteria and would be offering council tax relief to those most vulnerable.</p> <p>Members requested the Clerk write to Cllr Barker to request her to provide a report to the Parish Council.</p>
130/2022/23	<u>Braunton Neighbourhood Plan</u>	The Chair welcomed Sue Prosper, Secretary of the Braunton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (BNPSG) to the meeting. Sue presented the revised draft plan and supporting papers for the Braunton Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 15 submission to North Devon Council. She praised the hard work of the steering group members and thanked the Clerk for assisting the group with the delivery of the plan. She explained that the draft plan is now ready to go to North Devon Council who will

complete the Regulation 16 consultation, and appoint an Independent Examiner to review the plan prior to a referendum being held.

The Council applauded members of the BNPSG, and thanked Sue Prosper, Jan Gent, Cathie Hamilton and Sean Ross for their hard work and dedication in delivering the Braunton Neighbourhood Plan.

The Clerk explained that the revised documents would be available on the Braunton Neighbourhood Plan website.

RESOLVED: That the Council

- a. approves the Braunton Neighbourhood Plan and submits it's to North Devon Council.
- b. thanks, the members of the BNPSG for their hard work in the delivery of the plan.

(NC)

131/2022/23

Planning

Cllr E Spear and D Spear in their capacity as North Devon Councillors, stated that any opinions expressed during discussions on the following planning applications represent a preliminary view and that they will naturally reconsider the application fresh when presented all the facts at principal level.

(a) 75983

Proposal: Extension to dwelling to create annex accommodation

Location: 76 South Street Braunton Devon EX33 2AS

Applicant: Mr T Davies

Moved by Cllr A Bradford, seconded by Cllr V Cann to recommend refusal.

RESOLVED: That the Council wishes to recommend refusal on the grounds, as follows:

- Over intensification of the site.
- Unacceptable loss of biodiversity, there are no recommendations for any measures which would deliver a net gain for biodiversity.
- Inadequate drainage, concerns that the existing drainage system would not cope with the added capacity required.

(6.0.3abs)

(b) 75997

Proposal: Variation of condition 5 (landscaping) attached to planning permission 58007 (Installation of a 4.6mw solar farm, associated infrastructure, including access tracks, dno & client substations, inverter/transformer units, underground cabling & security fencing) to allow for a landscaping change

Location: Photovoltaic Installation and Premises Luscott

Barton Ashford Barnstaple Devon EX31 4DE
Applicant: Luscott Barton Solar Limited

Moved by Cllr B Bunyard, seconded by Cllr R Shapland
to recommend approval.

RESOLVED: That the Council recommends approval.
(NC)

(c) 76065

Proposal: Part retrospective extension to front of
dwelling to provide a home office.

Location: 13 Manor Mill Road Knowle Braunton EX33
2LS

Applicant: Mr Scott Franklin

Moved by Cllr A Bradford, seconded by Cllr R Shapland
to recommend approval.

RESOLVED: That the Council recommends approval.
(8.1.0abs)

(d) 75944

Proposal: Demolition of existing agricultural building and
replacement with 3no dwellings with garages, parking,
access, associated infrastructure and landscaping

Location: Branch Farm Lane Past Branch Farm
Pippacott Devon EX31 4EJ

Applicant: Mr Michael Brend

Moved by Cllr V Cann, seconded by Cllr E Wood to
recommend refusals.

RESOLVED: That the Council recommends refusal on
the grounds, as follows:

- The proposed 3 x 5-bedroom houses will not support local housing needs and is therefore contrary to the Local Plan ST07(4). This is of particular concern, as the Braunton Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) identifies that the greatest housing need is one, two and three bedroom.
 - 27.0% as one bedroom,
 - 18.6% as two bedrooms,
 - 32.1% as three bedrooms,
 - 11.8% as four bedrooms, and
 - 10.5% as five or more bedrooms(Source: Braunton HNA, pg.54)
- Unacceptable loss of biodiversity, there are no recommendations for any measures which would deliver a net gain for biodiversity.
- The Council fully supports the comments made by the Sustainability Officer and Environmental Health.

(e) 76153

Proposal: Rear extension to dwelling

Location: 22 Silvan Drive Braunton Devon EX33 2EQ

Applicant: Mr & Mrs A L Green

Moved by Cllr D Spear, seconded by Cllr V Cann to recommend approval.

RESOLVED: That the Council recommends approval.
(NC)

(f) 76175

Proposal: Outline application for 2 dwellings (all matters reserved)

Location: Land behind Oak House Lower Park Road
Braunton Devon EX33 2LH

Applicant: Mr Lloyd Tooze

Moved by Cllr R Shapland, seconded by Cllr V Cann to recommend approval.

RESOLVED: That the Council recommends approval subject to the dwelling be for primary residency in accordance with Policy H1 in the emerging Braunton Neighbourhood Plan.

(NC)

(g) 75662

Proposal: Erection of dwelling

Location: The Stables Saunton Road Braunton EX33 1HG

Applicant: Grove Caravans Ltd

Appeal Ref: APP/X1118/W/22/3309682

RESOLVED: That the Council reiterates its previous reasons for objections, as follows:

- Outside of the development boundary.
- Inadequate and unsafe provision of vehicular access/egress from the site on to the highway (B3231).
- Sprawling development in the countryside which will have a detrimental impact on the environment and does not meet local economic or social needs.
- The site is at risk of flooding.
- Adverse influence on the coastal zone, Northern Devon UNESCO Biosphere and AONB which are key natural capital assets and have a value to the local community and its economy.

In addition to its previous comments made, the Parish Council would also like to make the observation that the site is within the Parish's Strategic Nature Area (SNA) and is contrary to Policy NE7 in the emerging Braunton Neighbourhood Plan. The proposal fails to demonstrate that it has no adverse impact on the habitat and biodiversity on-site and the site's setting or provide proposed mitigations on such impact. Being outside of

the development boundary the proposal should:

- i) Provide measures to prevent coastal erosion or for natural flood management;
- ii) Propose improvements to access to the countryside;
- iii) Not compromise the predominant landscape character of the proposal's location and setting;
- iv) Not harm the character or setting of designated international, national and local heritage asset

(NC)

(h) 74667

Proposal: Erection of dwelling

Location: Plot 3 The Stables Saunton Road Braunton

EX33 1HG

Applicant: Grove Caravans Ltd

Appeal Ref: APP/X1118/W/22/3300437

RESOLVED: That the Council reiterates its previous reasons for objections, as follows:

- Outside of the development boundary.
- Inadequate and unsafe provision of vehicular access/egress from the site on to the highway (B3231).
- Sprawling development in the countryside which will have a detrimental impact on the environment and does not meet local economic or social needs.
- The site is at risk of flooding.
- Adverse influence on the coastal zone, Northern Devon UNESCO Biosphere and AONB which are key natural capital assets and have a value to the local community and its economy.

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- i) Provide measures to prevent coastal erosion or for natural flood management;
- ii) Propose improvements to access to the countryside;
- iii) Not compromise the predominant landscape character of the proposal's location and setting;
- iv) Not harm the character or setting of designated international, national and local heritage asset

(NC)

(i) 74668

Proposal: Erection of dwelling

Location: Plot 4 The Stables Saunton Road Braunton

EX33 1HG

Applicant: Grove Caravans Ltd

Appeal Ref: APP/X1118/W/22/3300526

RESOLVED: That the Council reiterates its previous reasons for objections, as follows:

- Outside of the development boundary.
- Inadequate and unsafe provision of vehicular access/egress from the site on to the highway (B3231).
- Sprawling development in the countryside which will have a detrimental impact on the environment and does not meet local economic or social needs.
- The site is at risk of flooding.
- Adverse influence on the coastal zone, Northern Devon UNESCO Biosphere and AONB which are key natural capital assets and have a value to the local community and its economy.

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- v) Provide measures to prevent coastal erosion or for natural flood management;
- vi) Propose improvements to access to the countryside;
- vii) Not compromise the predominant landscape character of the proposal's location and setting;
- viii) Not harm the character or setting of designated international, national and local heritage asset

(NC)

(j) 74675

Proposal: Erection of dwelling

Location: Land at The Stables Saunton Road Braunton EX33 1HG

Applicant: Grove Caravans Ltd

Appeal Ref: APP/X1118/W/22/3300528

RESOLVED: That the Council reiterates its previous reasons for objections, as follows:

- Outside of the development boundary.
- Inadequate and unsafe provision of vehicular access/egress from the site on to the highway (B3231).
- Sprawling development in the countryside which will have a detrimental impact on the environment and does not meet local economic or social needs.
- The site is at risk of flooding.
- Adverse influence on the coastal zone, Northern Devon UNESCO Biosphere and AONB which are key natural capital assets and have a value to the local community and its economy.

In addition to its previous comments made, the Parish Council would also like to make the observation that the site is within the Parish's Strategic Nature Area (SNA) and is contrary to Policy NE7 in the emerging Braunton Neighbourhood Plan. The proposal fails to demonstrate that it has no adverse impact on the habitat and biodiversity on-site and the site's setting or provide proposed mitigations on such impact. Being outside of the development boundary the proposal should:

- ix) Provide measures to prevent coastal erosion or for natural flood management;
- x) Propose improvements to access to the countryside;
- xi) Not compromise the predominant landscape character of the proposal's location and setting;
- xii) Not harm the character or setting of designated international, national and local heritage asset (NC)

132/2022/23	<u>North Devon Council Planning Decisions</u>	There were none.
133/2022/23	<u>Finance</u>	<p>(a) RESOLVED: That the cheques on the schedule from 12th October to 7th November 2022 were approved and drawn in the total sum of £8,728.01, attached.</p> <p>(b) RESOLVED: That the credits on the attached schedule from 12th October to 7th November 2022 were received in the total sum of £111.10, attached</p> <p>(c) RESOLVED: That the PAYE, NI and pension contributions for November 2022 be approve, attached.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(NC)</p>
134/2022/23	<u>Financial Risk Assessment 2022/23</u>	<p>The Clerk, prior to the meeting, circulated the Council's Financial Risk Assessment 2022/23.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Council's Financial Risk Assessment 2022/23 be approved, attached as Appendix A.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(NC)</p>
135/2022/23	<u>Effectiveness of Internal Controls 2022/23</u>	<p>The Clerk, prior to the meeting, circulated the Council's Review of Effectiveness of Internal Controls 2022/23.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Council's Review of Effectiveness of Internal Controls 2022/23 be approved, attached as Appendix B.</p>
136/2022/23	<u>Parish Christmas Tree 2022</u>	Members considered a report, circulated prior to the meeting, regarding costs to install/remove the lights on the Parish Christmas tree. The Clerk informed members that one of the contractors approached, JDR Maintenance, had not yet provided a quotation.

It was noted that one of the contractors who had quoted were sponsors of the North Devon Christmas Market and they should be approached regarding providing a discount.

RESOLVED: That the delegated power be given to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, to appoint a contractor to install/remove the lights on the Parish Christmas tree.

(NC)

137/2022/23

**Tariff Review
2023/24**

Members considered the recommendations from the Finance and Administration Committee regarding proposed tariffs for Council services 2023/24.

RESOLVED: That the Council adopts the recommendations effective from 1st April 2023, as follows:

- a. parish hall charges be increased by 10% and rounded to the nearest 50 pence or pound.
- b. work hub rents be increased by 25%.
- c. parking permits be increased from £210 to £240 per annum.

(NC)

138/2022/23

**Draft Budget
and Precept
2023/24**

The Council considered its draft budget proposal for 2023/24, circulated prior to the meeting. Further to the Finance and Administration Committee meeting held on 18 October, the Council accepts the recommendation that it increases its precept by 11%. Based on the 2022/23 Council Tax Base (3056) this would equate to an increase in the Band D Equivalent of 12 pence per week.

RESOLVED: That the

- a. Council's budget for 2023/24 be set at £438,460 as detailed in Appendix C.
- b. Council's precept be set at £182,572.

(7.0.2abs)

139/2022/23

Aid for Ukraine

Members considered a request to provide funding towards a humanitarian trip to the Ukraine and Hungary border, leaving on the 12th December.

Following discussion, the Council felt that it could not provide further funding towards aid in Ukraine at present due to the current financial pressures, and grants to local organisation had not been provided this year. It was also noted that the Council does not have powers to provide grants to individuals. Members were grateful to the amazing efforts by individuals to deliver aid to Ukraine.

RESOLVED: That the Council does not provide a grant towards the humanitarian trip to the Ukraine and Hungary boarder, leaving on the 12th December.

(NC)

140/2022/23	<u>To ratify decision taken under delegated powers from 11th October to 8th November 2022</u>	RESOLVED: That the decisions taken under delegated powers from the 11 th October to 8 th November 2022 be ratified and adopted, attached as Appendix D. (NC)
141/2022/23	<u>Annual Governance and Accountability Return – External Auditor Report</u>	RESOLVED: That it be noted that Section 3 – External Auditor Report and Certificate 2021/22 had been signed and approved by the External Auditor PKF Littlejohns LLP. (NC)
142/2022/23	<u>Devon Health and Wellbeing Board Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment</u>	Cllr Graham Bell updated members that further to the Health and Adult Scrutiny Committee that he and his wife attended on the 28 th September. The Devon Health and Wellbeing Board had agreed to undertake a full review of pharmacy provision in rural Devon. Since this meeting services in the Braunton Lloyds Pharmacy had improved but unfortunately, they remain the same or worse in other communities. The Chair thanked Cllr Bell for his update.
143/2022/23	<u>Motion avoiding the use by coffee machines of single use plastic</u>	The proposer Cllr E Wood and seconder Cllr V Cann wish to withdraw their motion to allow for further investigation to be carried out.
144/2022/23	<u>Devon County Council Consultation: Braunton Academy Proposal to Expand</u>	Members considered a Devon County Council Consultation on proposal to expand Braunton Academy School. The proposal is to increase student capacity from 750 to 850 places from September 2023. With the increased growth in the area members were aware of the need to increase the capacity of local schools. RESOLVED: That the Council fully supports Devon County Council’s proposal to expand Braunton Academy School. (NC)
145/2022/23	<u>North Devon Christmas Market</u>	Members considered a request from the organiser of the North Devon Christmas Market regarding a reduction in the fee to hire Caen Street Car Park on the 3 rd December. RESOLVED: That the Council agrees to a one of fee of £250 to hire the Caen Street Car Park on the 3 rd December. (NC)
146/2022/23	<u>Braunton Recreational</u>	a. RESOLVED: - That the Council grants permission for the Braunton Caen Rotary and the North Devon

Ground

Forum for Autistic Spectrum Conditions and ADHD to hire the Recreational Ground on Saturday 15th April 2023 to hold the North Devon Health Fest.

- b. RESOLVED: That the Council grants permission for the Braunton Caen Rotary to hire the Recreational Ground on Monday 29th May 2023 for their annual Village Fair.
- c. RESOLVED: That the Council grants permission for the Braunton Caen Rotary Club to hire the Recreational Ground on Sunday 30th July 2023 for their annual Wheels Event.
- d. RESOLVED: That the Council grants permission for the North Devon Young Performers to hire the Recreational Ground weekdays after school to provide a children’s football club.

(NC)

147/2022/23

Community Shared Space (CSS)

- a. RESOLVED: That the Council grants permission for the Braunton Caen Rotary to use the CSS on Saturday 22nd and 29th July 2023 to promote their annual Wheels Event.
- b. RESOLVED: That the Council grants permission for the RNLI to use the CSS on Thursday 17th November and Monday 5th December from 09:45 until 16:15 to carry out face-to-face fundraising.

(NC)

The meeting closed at 8.52pm.

Signed by the Chair:
 (Cllr E Spear)
 Date: