

BRAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Braunton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 12 December 2023 at 7pm in the Parish Hall, Chaloners Road, Braunton.

	<u>Present</u>	Cllrs: M Shapland in the Chair, E Spear (part), D Spear (part), R Shapland, T Kirby, G Bell, V Cann, E Blackmore and M Cann (part).
	<u>In attendance</u>	Officers: T Lovell, Parish Clerk & RFO Cllr Pru Maskell – Devon County Councillor and North Devon Councillor
188/2023/24	<u>Apologies</u>	Received from: Cllr Mark Cann – away from Braunton. Cllr David Relph – away from Braunton. Cllr Adrain Bryant – indisposed Cllr Lorna Childs – indisposed Cllr Roger Byrom – prior commitment with Braunton Caen Rotary.
189/2023/24	<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 Chairman proposed and it was unanimously agreed to move agenda item 19 - Draft Budget and Precept 2024/25 forward to be considered after agenda item 14 – Representatives on Outside Bodies. To allow Cllr D Spear and Cllr E Spear to take part in discussions as they need to leave the meeting early due to family commitments.</p> <p>The Chairman invited all members to stay after the meeting for a festive mince pie and glass of wine to thank everyone for their support during 2023/24. As many staff were unable to attend, she would be organising a staff and councillor lunch in the new year, date to be confirmed.</p> <p>She wished everyone a merry and peaceful Christmas.</p>
190/2023/24	<u>Declarations of Interest</u>	There were none
191/2023/24	<u>Public Participation</u>	There was no public present.
192/2023/24	<u>Request for Dispensation</u>	None received.

193/2023/24	<u>Minutes</u>	RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 14 November 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record, subject to page 4 being amended as Cllr Bryant had seen Zippcar in London not Zipp Mobility. (NC)
194/2023/24	<u>Action Sheet</u>	<p>Cllr D Spear commented that the update provided by Matt Collins regarding the Tarka Trail extension between Knowle and Willingcott was really useful.</p> <p>Cllr G Bell updated members that the E-Scooters had now extended to the Chivenor Business Park. As far he knew no complaints have been received regarding the E-Scooters on the Tarka Trail.</p> <p>Cllr G Bell offered to contact the Election Office to obtain an update on polling station provisions in Knowle.</p> <p>Cllr R Shapland explained that the pharmacy service in Braunton had improved and was now offering a great service to residents. He raised concerns that they are still now accepting cash payments which is causing inconvenience to many users. The Clerk to contact the Pharmacy provider and request an update regarding when they will be reintroducing cash payments.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the action sheet be noted.</p>
195/2023/24	<u>Police Representation</u>	<p>Members requested if the police could be asked to provide annual figures to compare the level of crime with previous years.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. police's newsletter for December be noted. b. Clerk to request annual crime figures for Braunton and comparisons with previous years.
196/2023/24	<u>Report from Devon County Cllr.</u>	The Devon County Cllr's Pru Maskell's report was circulated prior to the meeting attached as – appendix one. (NC)
197/2023/24	<u>Report from North Devon District Councillors</u>	<p>North Devon Cllr's Liz Spear's report was circulated prior to the meeting attached as – appendix two.</p> <p>North Devon Cllr's Graham Bell's report was circulated prior to the meeting attached as – appendix three.</p> <p>North Devon Cllr's Pru Maskell's report was circulated prior to the meeting attached as – appendix one.</p>
198/2023/24	<u>Planning</u>	<i>Cllrs E Spear in her capacity as North Devon Councillors, stated that any opinions expressed during discussions on the following planning application represent a preliminary view and that she will naturally reconsider the application fresh when presented all the facts at principal level.</i>

(a) 77902

Proposed: Application for a non-material amendment to planning permission 73769 (erection of 5 dwellings) in respect of updated draining plan

Location: Land off Church Hill Lane Knowle Braunton Devon EX33 2ND

Applicant: Pearce Construction (Barnstaple) Ltd (for information)

Note for information only,

(b) 77904

Proposed: Prior notification by telecommunications code system operator for the removal of the existing 14.4m monopole with 4no. antennas and 1no. microwave dish and replacement with a 16m monopole with 6no. antennas, 1no. 0.2m relocated dish, 1no. 0.6m dish and ancillary equipment and development ancillary thereto

Location: CS13177222 (VF71856) Home Hardware Velator Industrial Estate Braunton Devon EX33 2DX

Applicant: Cornerstone (for information)

Note for information only.

(c) 77953

Proposed: Single storey extension to dwelling and associated works

Location: 32 North Street Braunton Devon EX33 1AP

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Paul & Jane Knight

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

RESOLVED: That the Council recommends approval.

(NC)

(d) 77970

Proposed: Single storey side extension to dwelling together with installation of bi-fold doors and velux windows

Location: 4 Sage Park Road Braunton Devon EX33 1HH

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Lloyd Hendry

Moved by Cllr V Cann, seconded by Cllr G Bell to recommend approval.

RESOLVED: That the Council recommends approval.

(NC)

(e) 77968

Proposed: Erection of replacement dwelling and garage

Location: Inanda Lower Park Road Braunton Devon EX33 2LQ

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Holder

Moved by Cllr D Spear, seconded by Cllr T Kirby to

recommend approval.

RESOLVED: That the Council recommends approval as the proposed dwelling is in the same footprint as the existing dwelling and there will be no loss of biodiversity on site. The Council also welcomes the environmental provisions such as solar PV panels and installation of bat/bird boxes on the property.

(NC)

(f) 77966

Proposed: Application for a lawful development certificate for completed works to driveway subject to planning consent 73919 condition 8 (plan T256 21 04E)

Location: Little Orchard Higher Park Road Braunton Devon EX33 2LG

Applicant: Geunor Taverner (for information)

The Council has no knowledge regarding this application for a lawful development certificate, it wishes to make no comment.

199/2023/24

**North Devon
Council
Planning
Decisions**

76319

Description: Extension & alterations to dwelling (amended plans)

Site Address: 15 Barton Avenue Braunton Devon EX33 2BA

Applicant: Mr Adam Berry

Decision: APPROVED

Decision Date: 07/11/2023

76455

Description: Notice of an application to modify a planning obligation under regulation 3 of the T & CP (modification & discharge of planning obligations) Regulations 1992 in respect of removal of all obligations in relation to the provision of 2 affordable dwellings (application 58133)

Site Address: Land at Whitestone Lane Knowle Braunton Devon EX33 2ND

Applicant: Mark & Sally Pine

Decision: WITHDRAWN

Decision Date: 07/11/2023

76973

Description: Conversion of existing workshop into single unit living accommodation

Site Address: LPG Storage Yard Sandy Lane Braunton Devon EX33 2NU

Applicant: Mr Sampson

Decision: APPROVED

Decision Date: 16/11/2023

77778

Description: Application for a lawful development certificate for existing works carried out under planning consent 70312 (extension and alterations to the Lorna

Doone building to provide additional accommodation (Renewal of planning consent 60948) to ensure the permission remains extant
 Site Address: Saunton Sands Hotel Saunton Braunton Devon
 EX33 1LQ
 Applicant: P R Brend & Sons (Hoteliers) Ltd
 Decision: APPROVED
 Decision Date: 20/11/2023

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| 200/2023/24 | <u>Finance Matters</u> | <p>(a) RESOLVED: That the supplier payments on the schedule from 15 November – 12 December 2023 were approved and drawn in the total sum of £11,207.47. (NC)</p> <p>(b) RESOLVED: That the Council’s October 2023 direct debits and standing orders for the sum of £11,190.98 be retrospectively approved.</p> <p>(c) RESOLVED: That the PAYE, NI and pension contributions for October 2023 were approved and drawn in the total sum of £18,061.75. (NC)</p> |
| 201/2023/24 | <u>Representatives on Outside Bodies</u> | <p>(a) RESOLVED: To approve the rota for members on outside bodies to report to Council, attached as – appendix four. (NC)</p> <p>(b) The Council noted report provided by Cllr D Spear and Cllr T Kirby regarding the North Devon Environmental Trust, attached as – appendix five.</p> <p>(c) The Council noted report provided by Cllr L Childs regarding Friends of Braunton Library, attached as – appendix six.</p> |
| 202/2023/24 | <u>Revised Draft Budget 2024/25</u> | <p>The Clerk, prior to the meeting, circulated a revised budget 2024/25. The proposed amendments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing inflation from 10% to 5% across all budget headings as the UK inflation in November had dropped to 4.6%. • Removing the £15k Reserves. The Council’s reserves have recovered since Covid, remove from next year’s budget but increase reserves in 2025/26, as there will be a surplus in the budget from projects delivered during 2024/25. • Remove £2.5k replacement Memorial Garden hedgerow. The Council have not discussed this and have not obtained any estimates to replace the hedgerow which could leave the Council vulnerable to challenge. This could be included in the 2025/26 budget which will provide time for the Council to explore options. |

Following discussion, the Council agreed to increase its precept by 53%. Based on the 2023/24 Council Tax Base (3091) this would equate to an increase in the Band D Equivalent of 64 pence per week.

RESOLVED: That the

- a. Council's budget for 2024/25 be set at £546,733 as detailed in – **appendix seven**.
- b. Council's precept to be set at £292,190.

(NC)

Cllr E Spear and Cllr D Spear left the meeting.

Cllr M Cann joined the meeting.

203/2023/24

DCC's Proposed Introduction of On-Street Parking Scheme, Exeter Road

Members considered DCC's proposed on-street parking scheme on Exeter Road. The Council objects to the introduction of pay and display meters on Exeter Road as this would be detrimental to the local businesses. DCC have not provided any evidence to justify that it will improve turnover, reduce congestion, improve safety of pedestrians and cyclists or improve access to premises. Nor have they provided any evidence to support extending the taxi rank.

RESOLVED: That the

- a. Clerk to respond to the consultation strongly objecting to the proposed on-street parking scheme on Exeter.
- b. Council to request clarification regarding the other amended restrictions included in the Order.

(NC)

204/2023/24

Community Emergency Plan (CEP)

RESOLVED: That the amendments to the CEP be approved. The revised CEP be circulated to the Community Emergency Response Team.

(NC)

205/2023/24

Braunton Parish Council Community Drop-in Surgery

The Chairman reported that although the Council's Drop-in Surgery was poorly attended by the public, those that did attend brought to the Council's attention some valid issues in the community. The Chairman advised that future Surgeries need to be better advertised as there was not time to publish the date in the EX33 on this occasion.

RESOLVED: That the Council holds its next community drop-in surgery on Monday 12 February 2024 from 7.30pm to 8.30pm in the Parish Hall.

(NC)

The meeting closed at 9.16pm.

Signed by the Chair:
(Cllr M Shapland)

Date: