

BRAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Braunton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 14 January 2025 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Chaloners Road, Braunton.

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| | <u>Present</u> | Cllrs: M Shapland in the Chair, R Shapland, V Cann, E Blackmore, M Cann, L Childs, T Kirby and R Bryrom. |
| | <u>In attendance</u> | Officers: T Lovell, Parish Clerk & RFO County and District Cllr Pru Maskell District Cllr Simon Maddocks 1 members of the public. |
| 234/2024/25 | <u>Apologies</u> | Received from: Cllr Derrick Spear – personal reasons Cllr Liz Spear – personal reasons Cllr Graham Bell – Suspected Flu Cllr David Relph – no reason given Cllr Adrain Braynt – no reason given |
| 235/2024/25 | <u>Items not on the agenda, which in the opinion of the Chairman should be brought to the attention of the Council</u> | The Chairman informed members that the Parish Council had been consulted again regarding the White Cross Offshore Wind Farm (Onshore Project). The Advisory Discussion online meeting scheduled to take place on Monday 27 January 2025 at 7pm would now be a meeting in person. The meeting will start at 7pm in the Council Chamber and move to the Parish Hall at 7.45pm to consider the White Cross Offshore Wind Farm (Onshore Project) planning application. It is likely that there will be a large number of public in attendance and it is not possible to accommodate them in the Council Chamber due to the venue's size. |
| 236/2024/25 | <u>Declarations of Interest</u> | Cllr M Shapland declared an Other Registrable Interest (ORI), in Minute Ref: 245/2024/25(b), as her husband is the applicant. Cllr R Shapland declared an ORI in Minute Ref: 245/2024/25(b), as he is the applicant. Cllr V Cann declared an Non Registrable Interest (NRI) in Minute Ref: , as she is the Council's representative on the Museum of British Surfing. |

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| | | Cllr L Childs declared an NRI in Minute Ref: , as she is a member on Live Well in Braunton. |
| 237/2024/25 | <u>Public Participation</u> | A resident requested if the Parish Council would consider tarmacking the grassed area adjacent to the road leading from Station Close to Hordens Bridge. Pedestrians currently have to walk in the road or over muddy grass. It was noted that this land belonged to Devon County Council the Parish Council would refer the matter to its County Councillor for action. |
| 238/2024/25 | <u>Request for Dispensation</u> | None received. |
| 239/2024/25 | <u>Minutes</u> | RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 10 December 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record, subject to Cllr G Bell being added to 'present'. (NC) |
| 240/2024/25 | <u>Action Sheet</u> | Cllr V Can reported that she had contacted the Devon County Neighbourhood Highway Officer requesting if there was anywhere in Wrafton Road where the Vehicle Activated Speed sign could be installed. She is still waiting for a response Val agreed to chase this up and copy in the County Councillor. RESOLVED: That the action sheet be noted. (NC) |
| 241/2024/25 | <u>Police Representation</u> | There was no police report received. It was noted that the Deputy Police Crime Commissioner had resigned and would no longer be attending a Council meeting to speak with members. RESOLVED: That the Parish Clerk to contact the Police and Crime Commissioner to request if anyone would be available to attend in their place. (NC) |
| 242/2024/25 | <u>North Devon Christmas Market</u> | The Clerk explained that the Organiser of the ND Christmas Market had sent their apologies due to work commitments. RESOLVED: That this item be deferred until the next Council meeting on Tuesday 11 February 2025. (NC) |
| 243/2024/25 | <u>Report from Devon County Cllr</u> | The County Cllr's report was circulated prior to the meeting attached as – appendix one . Members commented that it was excellent news regarding the funding allocated towards making the A361 a safer road for motorists. |

It was noted that the Saunton Road crossing had been repainted and is now more visible to motorists. The Council thanked Cllr Maskell for help to get this completed.

Cllr Maskell reported that she is continuing to chase Devon County Council for a date when the pothole in Caen Street will be repaired.

There appears to still be issues with the street lighting along the Tarka Trail the County Cllr would also chase this up.

The County Cllr had put in a request to the County Council to scrap off the debris caused by surface water run off to enlarge the pavements in Knowle on both sides of the road.

244/2024/25

**Report from
North Devon
District
Councillors**

North Devon Cllr Graham Bell's report was circulated prior to the meeting attached as – **appendix two**.

North Devon Cllr Simon Maddocks reported that enforcement action had been taken regarding the land at Gallowell Lane. They had been made to remove one building and the horse box which was being used as storage.

Cllr Maddocks expressed his concerns regarding Devolution which may result in losing less representation for the local area and loss of community expertise. Town and parish councils may be required to take on more which is unfair as they are unpaid volunteers. There are also concerns that North Devon and Torridge could end up as the poor relation to larger and more affluent areas in Devon.

245/2024/25

Planning

(a) 79609

Proposed: Redevelopment of existing dwelling including extensions, alterations and erection of a balcony

Location: Bella Vista First Field Lane Braunton Devon EX33 1ES

Applicant: Mr and Mrs Yeo

RESOLVED: That the Council wishes to make the following comments:

Although members felt that the proposed development was a good use of space it was unable to consider if the design was in keeping with the area as surrounding properties all had different designs.

Would have liked to see use of renewable Solar PV Panels as per Policy BE3(2vi).

Concerns regarding the amount of additional glazing

proposed and the impact that it might have on bats particularly being in close proximity to the Great Field. The Council were disappointed that the applicant had not considered policies NE2 and BE13.

(6.0.2abs)

Cllr M Shapland and Cllr R Shapland declared an ORI.

Cllr V Cann took the Chair.

The Council did not consider the following application as it would support the decision made by the North Devon Council Countryside and Landscape Officer.

(b) 79599

Proposed: Notification of works to trees in a conservation area in respect of removal of 2x Ash trees (T1 and T2) and 3x Spruce xmas trees (T4, T5 and T6) and crown lifting of 1x Beech tree (T3)

Location: 21 Church Street, Braunton, Devon, EX33 2EL

Applicant: Mr Ray Shapland

246/2024/25

**North Devon
Council
Planning
Decisions**

79227

Description: Lawful Development Certificate for existing use of land and buildings for camping purposes together with establishing the use of C3 dwelling in breach of agricultural tie imposed on application 34755

Site Address: Moor Lane Nursery Saunton Road Braunton Devon EX33 1HG

Applicant: Mr Stephen Thomas

Decision: APPROVED

Decision Date: 16/12/2024

78997

Description: Outline application for the erection of residential dwelling with landscaping reserved

Site Address: Wildae Restorations Knowle Industrial Estate Knowle Braunton Devon EX33 2NA

Applicant: Wildae Restorations Ltd

Decision: WITHDRAWN

Decision Date: 17/12/2024

247/2024/25

Finance Matters

- (a) RESOLVED: That the supplier payments on the schedule from 11 December 2024 to 14 January 2025 were approved and drawn in the total sum of £8,998.22.
- (b) RESOLVED: That the Council's December 2024 direct debits and standing orders for the sum of £6,410.03 be retrospectively approved.
- (c) RESOLVED: That the PAYE, NI and pension contributions for January 2024 were approved and drawn in the total sum of £18,910.05.

(NC)

248/2024/25

**Representatives
on Outside
Bodies**

Members considered and noted Cllr Val Cann’s report as the Council’s representatives on the Museum of British Surfing (MOBS) attached as – **appendix three.**

The MOBS had looked into providing a brown tourist sign but the cost was approximately £10,000 from Devon County Council. The Museum requested if the Parish Council had any land where they could install signage. It was noted that the Council already provide directional finger post signs in the village.

The MOBS had extended an invitation to all councillors to visit the MOBS for a tour. It was suggested that the Council arranges this to take place later in the year when the weather improves.

The MOBS had not applied for a grant next year as they had been successful in obtaining a grant this year and didn’t want to appear greedy. Cllr V Cann had encouraged them to apply for a grant if they had a worthy community project regardless of previous grants awarded to them.

RESOLVED: That the Braunton Action Plan working party to look at provision of signage for tourist attractions and commercial premises in the village.

249/2024/25

**North Devon
Community
Governance
Review**

Members considered the North Devon Community Governance Review for parish boundaries. It was suggested that the Parish Council explores extending its boundary to the south to incorporate part of Wrafton. The Clerk explained that any changes to the boundary would need the agreement of both councils affected.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk to explore this matter further and report back to the next Council meeting.

(NC)

250/2024/25

**Beacon Steps
Remedial Works**

The Council considered the Clerk’s report regarding the condition of the Beacon steps. It was noted that the steps were in a bad state of repair and could potentially cause injury to users if remedial works are not carried out. Due to the difficulty with getting machinery on site only one contractor had provided a quote.

| Stage 1 | |
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| Description of Work | Cost |
| To carry out vegetation clearance to allow access for path realignment and replacement of collapsed step way. | £1,150 |

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| This needs to be carried out prior to bird nesting season which starts on the 1 March. | |
| Stage 2 | |
| Description of work | Cost |
| To carry out installation of approx. 50 steps using Douglas Fir boards and 16mm metal pins driven into the ground. Steps to be backed in with subbase and top soil. | Labour: £3,302.85 |
| Plant required: 1.5 ton digger, tracked barrow. | Plant: £723.00 |
| Materials required: | Materials: £586.96 |
| 50 x 8" x 2" @ 900mm | |
| 110 x 16mm x 400mm steel pins | |
| 5 ton of 20 mm subbase | |
| Total | £4,612.81 |

RESOLVED: That the Council accepts the quotation for the above works and instructs its contractor to carry out the works at a cost of £4,612.81 excluding VAT. (GPC, Localism Act 2011).

(NC)

251/2024/25 **Parish Council Chainsaw**

RESOLVED: That the Council purchases a replacement battery Stihl MSA 300 16" chainsaw and two Stihl AP500S batteries at a cost of £1,305.83 excluding VAT. (GPC, Localism Act 2011).

(NC)

252/2024/25 **Hire of Parish Hall**

RESOLVED: That the Council approves:

- a. Hire of the Parish Hall on Saturday 15 February 2025 from 6pm to 11pm for a 60th Birthday Party, DJ and bring your own alcohol.
- b. Hire of the Parish Hall on Saturday 22 February 2025 from 2.30pm to 6.30pm to hold a ceilidh bring your own alcohol.
- c. Hire of the Parish Hall on Saturday 8 March 2025 from 2pm to 6pm for a 100th Birthday Party, cream tea with Champagne toast.
- d. Hire of the Parish Hall on Saturday 22 March 2025 from 7pm to 11.45pm to hold a ceilidh to raise funds for Amigos, will provide own bar. The Council will not consent to using outside space for the purpose of a BBQ.

(NC)

253/2024/25 **Hire of
Community
Shared Space** RESOLVED: That the Council grants consent for the RNLI to use the CSS on 18 January 2025 to raise funds and awareness for the RNLI. (NC)

254/2024/25 **Exclusion of
Press and
Public** RESOLVED that, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the following matters be taken in the absence of press and public (Public (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960) as the items contain exempt information as defined by the Local Government Act 1972 Sch. 12a Pt. (3).

255/2024/25 **Land Adjoining
Velator
Roundabout** The Clerk had prior to the meeting sent the Council's solicitor's report regarding the leasing of Devon County Council's land for the purpose of a community Orchard. It was intended that the land would be sub-leased to a community group to manage the Orchard but at the time of the meeting no community group had committed to take on the sub-lease. The Council were concerned regarding theirs and the County's (which the Parish Council are liable to pay) growing solicitor fees and agreed to not proceed with this project until it had commitment from a community group to take on the land under a sub-lease.

The Clerk explained the Perrigo's offer to clear the land was still open but no date could be set until the lease had been signed by both parties as the County Council had prohibited access to the land until the lease is signed.

The boundary fence is in a poor state of repair and would need replacing Love Braunton had offered £1,800 Co-Opt community funding towards this, if needed.

RESOLVED: That the Council to write to Live Well in Braunton and request if they are interested in taking on the sub-lease, this to be brought back to a future meeting. (NC)

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Signed by the Chair:
(Cllr M Shapland)

Date: