

FRITHELSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual Frithelstock Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 3rd September 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom.

Present: Cllrs A Heard, L Hunkin, M Baker, T Warrington and M Thomas.
Also in attendance: Mrs K Graddock - Parish Clerk, DCC A Saywell at 7.56pm, TDC Cllr P Pennington at 7.52pm and 2 members of the public

FP2040 Election of Chairman for 2020/21

RESOLVED: That Cllr Warrington be elected Chairman for 2020/21.

(NC)

*** Cllr Thomas entered the meeting at 7.38pm. ***

FP2041 Apologies

All members were present.

FP2042 Declarations of Interest

None.

FP2043 Minutes

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 6th August 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed at a later date due to Covid-19.

(NC)

FP2044 Public Participation

A member of the public would like to see a simple set of accounts published on the website. The Clerk said she has that information already and is happy to publish this online.

A member of the public mentioned that the former Chairman set up a Gmail account and the member of the public asked what was happening with that item. Members agreed for the Member of the Public to continue sending the information sheets out as it has been extremely useful and very well received by the parishioners.

FP2045 Reports from Outside Bodies

Cllr P Pennington - Torridge District Council

Cllr Pennington's Report is attached as Appendix 1. In addition he mentioned that Torridge is doing its Strategic Plan which is on your Agenda. Send comments in by 23rd September. Cllr Hunkin felt it was very vague and didn't give in depth details. The priorities are questionable and it seemed that the Council were keen to do quite a bit for themselves but wondered what amount of money is available for other things and that there was no mention of agriculture. Cllr Pennington replied that anyone with comments should submit them through the consultation but did make a point about Holsworthy Market being built which will cost £9million.

Cllr A Saywell - Devon County Council

Cllr Saywell thanked Cllr Mackie and Cllr Goldman for their support and commitment to Frithelstock Parish Council.

Covid-19 cases - DCC 1361, District, 57 Torridge, 132 North Devon and 76 West Devon (includes cases from March onwards). Source has not been tourists and has been local residents of Devon (on foreign holidays) causing a spike. Had a spike last week from residents coming back from Croatia. Picked up by Track and Trace quickly and not spread infections to the community. Still managing to contain outbreaks.

School Transport - Additional 70 buses put on in County, dedicated to pupils only which are duplicating public transport routes that would normally be used.

Work Hubs - Looking at getting one in in Torrington and Winkleigh that people can use and help people to stay in the area.

Highways - Speedwatch are due to attend Frithelstock later this month. Highways are looking to communicate to Parishes shortly with regards to what projects the pilot schemes will be looking at. Cllr Warrington gave an update on his conversation with DCC officers in relation to drains.

- FP2046** **Election of Vice Chairman**
RESOLVED: That Cllr Baker is elected Vice Chairman for 2020/21.
(NC)
- FP2047** **Co-option of Councillor**
The Clerk gave an update on the Co-option to date. The second vacancy is currently being advertised and once notification has been received from Torridge District Council, the Co-options would be advertised together.
- FP2048** **Provision of Face to Face Meetings**
Members discussed whether to hold Face to Face Meetings and in particular the Co-options meeting. The Clerk raised concerns over meeting Face to Face given the guidance from both the Society of Local Council Clerks and the Devon Association of Local Councils, Members agreed that it was not appropriate, but Cllr Hunkin felt that Co-option votes should be discreet as it could become uncomfortable, especially in a small village community. All members supported this and it was
RESOLVED: To continue with Zoom and an Extra-Ordinary meeting is to be held on 22nd October 2020 at 7.30pm to consider Co-options.
(NC)
- FP2049** **AGAR - Exemption Confirmation**
RESOLVED: That the exemption information be noted.
(NC)

FP2050**Finance and Payments**

The following payments and receipts were presented to members:

	NAME	AMOUNT	CHQ NO
12	K Graddock - Salary (August & September)	£451.10	Bacs on 4/9/20
13	HMRC - PAYE/NI	£198.80	Bacs on 7//9/20
14	K Graddock - Expenses including 3 months of Zoom account fees	£68.17	Bacs on 4/9/20
15	Harper Office - Defib Pads	£84.95	Debit Card (cleared)
16	Dartington Crystal - Tankard engraved - Decanter engraved	£146.26	Debit Card (cleared)
	Total	£949.28	

Receipts

7	Return of overpayment of grant monies	£250.00 (still to clear)
8	Interest - July	£0.01
9	Interest - August	£0.01
10	TTVS Grant	£500.00
	Total	£750.02

Bank Balances as of 3rd September 2020

Current A/C £5,170.93 (£250.00 still to clear)

Reserve A/C £668.24

RESOLVED: That the payments totalling £949.28 and receipts totalling £750.02 and account balances be approved and actioned by the Clerk.
(NC)

The Clerk presented a budget to date summary outlining the predicted spend to March 2021.

RESOLVED: That the budget summary to date be noted.

(NC)

FP2051**Planning**

RESOLVED: That the decision notices for 1/0402/2020 FUL and 1/0431/2020/LBC be noted.

(NC)

FP2052**Torrige District Council - Strategic Plan**

Members had concerns over the plan and felt that Frithelstock Parish Council should represent the Parish and submit comments as a collective but also individuals if Cllrs wish too. Concerns over viewing Torrige as a tourism spot and not necessarily agricultural. It was

RESOLVED: That all councillors submit comments to the Clerk by Monday, 14th September 2020 for the Clerk to collate a response to

send to members for approval, prior to submission to Torridge District Council.

(NC)

FP2053 Litterbin at The Playing Field

The Playing Field has suffered with littering issues recently, especially after the most recent lockdown. The Playing Fields Committee would like to see a waste and recycling litter bin in situ.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Hunkin contact Mr Haste from Torridge District Council in relation to costs and provisions of litterbins and that Clerk is given delegated authority to consider the costings and approve the purchase of a litterbin.

(NC)

FP2054 Website and Accessibility

The Clerk reported to members that the current website is out of date and the actual software would not support the changes needed to meet the new Accessibility regulations. The cost would be £399.00 to build a new website and migrate all information over and ensure that the Council would be compliant with the Accessibility Regulations. Some members felt that they would prefer to give the work to a local contractor and some members felt that the website was only recently updated. The Clerk raised her concerns about the urgency for this issue and made members aware that the Council could be liable for a fine if not completed by 23rd September. She also reported that she did not have the resources to complete this work herself and needed an external contractor to complete this.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Warrington contact a local contractor to consider quoting for the work and ask them to contact the Clerk

(NC)

FP2055 DALC AGM

RESOLVED: That no attendance is sent.

(NC)

FP2056 Part B: Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED: That under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of confidential information.

(NC)

FP2057 Staff Salary

RESOLVED: That the 2.75% increase be noted.

(NC)

Meeting ended at 9.06pm.

Signed: Dated:.....

Appendix 1

TDC report.

- 1) WWHo! slipway now fully restored. Far better access to the sands and water. Thanks to all officers involved.
- 2) TDC Full Council on the 27th July. approved a Notice of Motion(NoM) from Cllr. Mc Geough to look again at some free parking in our town centres to draw shoppers. This will now be looked at the main finance committee, Community and Resources. Any decision will only affect car parks, not on street parking as this is run by DCC
- 3) A further N o M from Cllr Hames will look further into providing better cycling routes. Discussion will include the feasibility of the old Bideford to WWHo! railway line - which runs through Abbotsham.
- 4) The Full Council also considered an excellent presentation from officers regarding the possible funding of the regeneration of Bideford town centre. This action was in response to the central govt. proposals in the Future High Street Fund. Officers put together a very complex bid in an extremely short time which must be submitted by the end of the month. The proposals were unanimously accepted by elected members
- 5) Covid update. Many staff now working from home. Majority of zoom meetings. Budgetary issues will come clearer through the year as the interaction between central and local govt. becomes more clear. There will be a significant shortfall when coming to looking at council tax setting in six months time. Now looking at new lock down measures, due to an increase in the prevalence of the virus.
- 6) Tourism - the coast is now buzzing. With the closure of Spain over the weekend even more look art staycations through the autumn. Torridge has one of the incidences of covid - hope it stays that way. Should there be any local spikes on Environmental team will be ready to put the safety of our community first.

Finally, this Council was elected into being in May 19. The have been major issues on coming to office which had to be dealt with. The covid crisis has added to the pressures. However, the direction the council is now taking, as listed above. demonstrates a strong forward direction in these very challenging times.

Kind regards

Phil Pennington
TDC elected member