

## BICKLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL (MID DEVON)

Clerk: John Vanderwolfe FSLCC Chartered MCIPD

[johnvw@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:johnvw@tiscali.co.uk) Mobile: 07715234959

### Minutes of the Council Meeting held virtually (Zoom) on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020 commencing at 6pm.

**Present:** Cllr's M Turner (Chairperson), C Williams, A Somerwill, R Deed and M Wright

**In Attendance:** Mr J Vanderwolfe (Clerk) and Cllr M Squires (Devon County Council) and Mr Somerwill

<b>114</b>	<b>Apologies</b> No apologies were received
<b>115</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> No Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct were made.
<b>116</b>	<b>Minutes</b> The Minutes of the meeting held on the 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2020, having been previously circulated, were adopted as a true record.
<b>117</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b> Cllr Williams informed the meeting that a decision needed to be made regarding the defibrillator that was situated outside the village hall. The present arrangement will expire on the 1 <sup>st</sup> September. A new contract with the ambulance service would cost £1,800 for three years. Cllr M Squires asked if we had investigated getting a defibrillator via the British Hear Foundation. Agreed that the clerk would investigate this and report back with a view to a decision be made fairly soon as to the new provider.
<b>118</b>	<b>County Council Report</b> A report had been circulated prior to the meeting which was noted. Cllr Squires was thanked for providing the bus timetables.
<b>119</b>	<b>District Council Report</b> Cllr B Deed informed the meeting that the Mid Devon Local Plan was to go before the full council on the 29 <sup>th</sup> July. This had taken seven years to complete and had included some 55 amendments by the Inspector. He then spoke about the Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP), which is a number of principle councils working together. One of their roles is to look at large planning applications. He also stated that the Government was looking at the simplification of the planning procedure in the future, which might involve less input from parish and town councils. There would be free car parking in the car park nearest the centre of the three Mid Devon towns for two hours during the day time in August and September. The chairman wished thanks to be placed on record for all the hard work of the town and district council in opening up the high street during these difficult times.

<b>120</b>	<b>Democratic Period</b> No requests had been made to join the meeting or to ask questions.
<b>121</b>	<b>Planning</b> 20/00895/Full Jenny's Potion, Silverton: Agricultural access. Members agreed to support this application as it would improve access.
<b>122</b>	<b>Determinations</b> 19/00304/Full Cleve Barton: Removal of conditions. MDDC had refused this application.
<b>123</b>	<b>Accounts for Payment</b> The following accounts were agreed for payment: Mr Maynard £120.00
<b>124</b>	<b>Repairs and renewals</b> Due to Covid-19 there had been further delays in the repairs to the former telephone box.
<b>125</b>	<b>Highway Matters</b> Our Lengthsman had undertaken a number of highway works within the parish including extensive drain work in Bickleigh Hill. Other highway drainage works required had been forwarded to highways for their attention.
<b>126</b>	<b>Cycle and walkway on Former Tiverton to Exeter Railway Track Bed</b> The proposal was to open up the former railway track bed between Tiverton and the outskirts of Exeter to cyclist and walkers. The idea was to open up the route in stages, the first being the section between Tiverton and Bickleigh, the second being between Bickleigh and Upexe. The point was made that this would be good for day to day use as well as being a tourist attraction. Other former railway routes that had opened up as cycle and walking routes had seen a big increase in the local economy. A similar scheme a number of years ago had not succeeded partly due to some land ownership problems. All members agreed that this was a super idea and that it should be pursued. Cllr Squires agreed to pass the information on to the relevant officer on Devon County Council and the clerk would set a meeting up with Tiverton Town Council. Cllr Wright said it would need the backing of Mid Devon District Council, establishments on the route and landowners. He went on to say he would be willing to liaise with landowners regarding this scheme. It was felt that it would also be useful to discuss the scheme with other organisations who had successfully implemented similar routes.
<b>127</b>	<b>Matters of Urgency</b> Nil
<b>128</b>	<b>Closing of Meeting</b> The meeting was closed at 7pm
<b>129</b>	<b>Next Meeting Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm</b>

Item for Next Meeting: Wells in the Parish.

Chair -----

Date -----