

# St GILES IN THE WOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held.  
\_\_\_\_\_ on the June 22nd 2022

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Present: Mrs L Herniman took the chair, Cllr Chamings Mr G Hookway Mr N Hopkins Mr B King Mr R Petherbridge Mr P Middleton, and Mrs A Snell (Clerk)  
Apologies Mr J Ayre Mrs G Hookway Cllr A Saywell (County Councillor) and PCSO Brown  
In Attendance Cllr R Clarke Cllr R Lock (District Councillors) 3 members of the public

## Time for Public Participation

As raised at the March meeting the issue is still ongoing, regarding the noise from the dogs at the hunt kennels, a meeting was held with residents and Mr Jack Rowles and Mr Steve Craddock kennelman, the residents looked at the CCTV showing the hounds enclosure and the front of the kennels. The time zone was set incorrectly, so the times were all an hour out. Also, the CCTV doesn't have sound, so not effective at all in identifying noise problems. After much discussion about the persistent barking in the early mornings Mr Rowles and Mr Craddock think it may be a hound puppy (1 year old) called Limerick. They were going to move him to see if it resolved the problem. It appears that Mr Rowles doesn't hear it so doesn't look out of his bedroom window to check which hound it is. Mr Rowles was still reluctant to accept there is a problem, stating that it is not noisy compared to other kennels and the residents should accept it. He had no answer to why the residents have never experienced the noise before with previous kennel managers.

Cllr Lock said she would contact Mr Matt Mitichet TDC Environmental Health to ask him to do a noise assessment, which may have a charge attached, residents said they have had meetings with Mr Todd Marshman the Chairman of TFH but to no avail and committee members seem to say they are not responsible, Cllr Lock will also speak to Mr Marshman in an effort to get this ongoing situation resolved.

Declaration of Interests – Councillors are invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting. They are also reminded to consider whether in the light of recent activities any items within their Register of Interests should be updated.

1. The minutes of the meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> May were agreed and signed.

2. Clerk's report i. Seat in St Giles, the seat has been placed at the entrance to Sunnyside on a concrete plinth and chained, the situation will give an excellent view. The seat has been given by Mr James Morrish and Mrs Sally Morrish in memory of Mr Henry Morrish, it is made of recycled plastic and looks excellent, the seat will be added to the Parish Council asset list. A note will go in the Church magazine.

ii. The TFH kennels have been covered under public participation

3. Chairman's report i. The Jubilee celebrations were a great success it was felt it brought all the parish together, the Thursday evening was excellent with a bonfire, BBQ (300 burgers and 100 sausages were purchased with virtually all going showing how well supported the evening was) and fireworks (fireworks organised by Cllr King with an excellent display seen at a great distance). The well attended Sunday Church service and tea was also very well supported and very successful. A huge thank you goes to everyone who helped or contributed in any way to the community celebrations.

ii. The plaque to be placed on the Commemorative jubilee tree this is to be organised, the bunting is with Cllr Herniman, it was raised did everyone see the Devon flag being waved in the Mall.

4. Highways i. There has been a road closure from Stoney Ford to Beara to do pot hole repairs

5). County and District Councillors items.

Cllr Saywell reported the main developments this month: **Cost of Living Help** – DCC have set up a dedicated webpage with advice and details of support to help deal with the Cost of Living Crisis online here - [www.devon.gov.uk/cost-of-living/](http://www.devon.gov.uk/cost-of-living/) The County Council have been awarded £5m of funding from the Government to support vulnerable people and families during the crisis. Lower-income households have been invited to apply for free energy efficiency improvements to their homes. If you have a household income of less than £30,000 a year and live in Devon or Torbay, you may be eligible for free energy efficiency improvements to your home worth thousands of pounds. Members of the public can check their eligibility and apply through the 'Cosy Devon' website - [www.cosydevon.com](http://www.cosydevon.com)

**Highways 'Customer Experience' Project** – The Customer Relations, Digital and Organisational Change Teams that work under my Cabinet Remit will be working with the Highways Department for the next year on a major project looking at improving the 'customer experience' and interaction with the public. I think we all know that it hasn't always been as good as it should be, hopefully this project will lead to better communications and relations with members of the public reporting highways issues etc.

Local Highways Matters: I am aware that there has been dissatisfaction that the roads around Kingscott and from St Giles to High Bullen have seen further patching work, while the road by Wooleigh Bridge continues to deteriorate. I have had extensive and ongoing discussions with the Highways Service as the communications about this was poor. However, although preparatory patching was completed in 2019/20, neither of the patched roads made it into the 2021 surface dressing programme as the budget didn't allow the Council to complete all the roads they would have wished. However, they have had subsequent top-up patching this year ready for surface dressing next year. This is still the most cost effective way to treat these roads and is why they remain in the programme. In maintaining the highway asset across both the Parish and the County of Devon, the Council are also trying to strike a balance between extending the lifespan of roads that are already in reasonable condition and repairing some of those where deterioration is greater. By applying sound asset management principles and adopting early intervention treatments such as surface dressing, micro asphalt and footway slurry sealing they try to make the most effective use of the limited budget and are able to keep the maximum percentage of Devon's roads in good condition. If we solely adopted a solely worst first approach, we would ultimately reduce the overall amount of roads that are in good condition – because more money would be spent on resurfacing smaller sections of bad roads, and with no preventative maintenance the rest of the network, that would in turn deteriorate and need more money spent on it on repairs, etc. I am very disappointed that we have not yet seen the improvements to the road at Wooleigh Bridge that we would like to see. I have put it forward for dragon patching and safety defect patching – but the budget for Highways, and DCC overall remains very, very tight.

Cllr Lock reminded everyone who is in a Council Tax band A- D if they are not on direct debit to apply to claim there £150 rebate. Cllr Lock raised the barn on application 1/0499/ 2022/AGMB but as no action was taken in the past and there has been along time lapse the application has been passed, comparisons with the Dodscott situation were made. It was raised to Cllr Clarke the problem of homeless drunks in Barnstaple, the problem is more in Barnstaple than Bideford, the congregation point is in the Old Cattle Market at the back of M&S. But just recently in the TDC area 60 people have been made homeless through no fault of their own.

## I. Approve and sign the following cheques: -General Account.

575	Sports Club for BBQ etc	£457.15
576	Clerk's salary	£528.50
577	Defibrillator pads	£102.30
578	Plandscape	£127.20
579	Mr B Ward Auditor	£36.00
580	Tamar Trading	£134.36
581	Jubilee tea expenses	£148.33
582	Fireworks	£400.00

- i. Contributions were given by councillors and some parishioners towards the excellent firework display, thank you very much to all who contributed.
- ii. Agree and sign the Annual Governance Statement.
- iii. Agree and sign the Accounting Statement.
- iv. Agree and sign the Exemption form, it was proposed by Cllr Middleton seconded by Cllr King to accept all three, all in favour.
- v. The internal auditor has picked up an error with the VAT claim this will be sorted. Mr Ward is unable to audit the accounts in future so a new auditor has to be found.

7. Planning P C recommendations TDC

1/1372/2021/OUT	Outline application with all matters reserved for permanent agricultural workers supervisory dwelling Beara Farm	Being considered
1/0446/2022/FUL	Extension to dwelling and associated works, Petitor, Kingscott.	Passed
1/0449/2022/AGMB	Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 1 no. dwellinghouse and associated building operations under Class Q. Agricultural Building At Grid Reference 255531 120377, St Giles In The Wood	Passed
1/0578 /2022/FUL	Removal of condition 3 of planning approval 1/1190/2018/FUL (time restrictions) Shepherds View, St Giles in the Wood	The Parish Council discussed this application at length but would like to refer this proposal to TDC and remain neutral.

8. Police Report i. There have been two crimes, one violence without injury and one stalking and harassment, in the same 30day period there has been 6 calls where logs were created, 4 public safety and 2 transport related. Speedwatch has carried out two sessions at High Bullen, in the first session 100 vehicles were logged a quarter were speeding the highest recorded was 48mph, the second session was quieter but still a quarter were speeding with the highest recorded at 49 mph. It is hoped to carry out an early morning session starting at 6.30am

9. Recreation Field, the jubilee bonfire went well, the turf was lifted then replaced so very little damage to the grass.

10. Correspondence i. DALC Newsletter

ii. The Torridge and District Police and Crime report has been circulated.

Date of next meeting-:

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022 8.00pm in the Parish Hall** Parish Council meeting.

..... Chairman.....Date

Forthcoming meetings: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 start at 8.00pm.