

MINUTES
OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 7.30PM MONDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2024
AT BISHOPSTEIGNTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, SHUTE HILL



2409.01 MEETING GOVERNANCE

- .01 **Attendance:** Cllr. H. Merritt (Chair) Cllr. R. Gill Cllr. E. Harris
 Cllr. R. Gateshill Cllr. J. Grimble Cllr. J. Head
 Cllr. D. Robbins Cllr. A. Keohane Cllr. W. Vooght (9/11)
 Clerk: Mrs. K. Ford, & up to 2 members of the public at varying times.
- Apologies:** Cllrs. K. Benham, & J. Hooper. (2/11).
 District Cllr. A. MacGregor, County Cllr. R. Peart. PCSO. S. Bunce.

.02 **Declaration of Interests:** None declared.

.03 **Order of Business:** No changes required.

.04 **Ratification of Minutes:** Draft minutes of the Full Council meeting, held at Bishopsteignton Community Centre on 29.07.24, were considered. It was proposed and seconded that these be approved as a true and correct record. Agreed unanimously therefore **resolved to approve** and to be signed by the Chair.

2409.02 OFFICIAL REPORTS

- .01 **Police Report:** A report had been provided, for crimes during July & August 2024. PCSO. Bunce shared the opportunity for owners of adult bicycles to have the selecta DNA personal marking kit added to their bikes providing access to the national Bike Register. Further details can be found here <https://www.bikeregister.com/>
He has 100 kits to provide for free and will be visiting Haldon Forst cycling areas on Saturday 28 September, from 12.00. Any left-over kits can be provided to parishioners at the next PACT meeting on Monday 30 September, at The Cockhaven Arms. PCSO. Bunce will affix the kit and register the bike taking approximately 5-10 minutes each. A frame number must be provided.
- .02 **District Councillors Report:** Cllr. MacGregor provided the following report.
- Despite promises to make increased capacity available for women only spaces, the officers at TDC have decided to allow self ID access for males into the women's changing area and toilets at Broadmeadow.
 - Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) are about to increase with the submission of the Local Plan to the Planning Inspectorate.
 - Flash flooding is a topic that has arisen recently. Whilst the changes in climate have increased the potential for flash floods, this is exacerbated somewhat by increasing development on slopes around the district or even infill development in villages such as Bishopsteignton. There may be merit in planning ahead should the worst happen in the village and a flash flood occurs. Here is an animation by the Environment Agency. https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=-mRPC9_y6d0&feature=youtu.be
 - The Govt are reviewing all infrastructure projects and requests for funding. What impact that has on unallocated future projects is unclear at this stage. Whether that has implications for the TET is also unclear.
 - On wider district matters, an application to construct 23 social rent apartments in the centre of Newton Abbot has been approved.
 - Also on a wider district basis, the go-ahead was given to allocate funds from the Future High Street Funds towards demolition costs for parts of the Vicary Mill complex at Bradley Lane.

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Cllr. Gateshill and Cllr. Keohane both raised concerns about the first point raised in the report above. It was felt that under no circumstances should female changing facilities be accessed by self I.D. male's this increases risk to females and could discourage women from using this facility. It was proposed by Cllr. Gateshill, seconded by Cllr. Merritt, unanimously agreed and therefore RESOLVED to send a letter to TDC and the portfolio holder for this facility stating our concerns on behalf of parishioners.

.03 **County Councillors Report:** Cllr. Peart was not present and did not provide a report.

2409.03 PLANNING:

The following application were considered fully, and it was resolved to for the comments below to be submitted to Teignbridge District Council as the Local Planning Authority:

.01	App Ref:	24/01324/HOU – 2 Rydon Gardens, Newton Road, TQ14 9PP
	Proposal:	Demolish existing outbuilding and construct annexe building.
	BPC Comments:	No objection.

This comment was proposed by Cllr. Gateshill, seconded by Cllr. Merritt, and agreed unanimously by members present.

.02	App Ref:	24/01317/FUL - Cockhaven Arms 12 Cockhaven Road TQ14 9RF
	Proposal:	Stationing of three shepherd huts and the erection of a linen and cycle store
	BPC Comments:	No objection in principle to the proposals, provided open communications between the applicant, their agent and neighbouring residents is ongoing.

This comment was proposed by Cllr. Merritt, seconded by Cllr. Gateshill. FOR: 5, AGAINST: 4, therefore the proposal was carried, and the comment above shall be submitted.

2409.04 FINANCE

.01 **Payments:** Following several queries, all explained by the Clerk/RFO, it was proposed and seconded, agreed unanimously, and therefore RESOLVED that payments transacted by the clerk across the period 24.07.24 to 30.08.24, be approved retrospectively.

.02 **Financial Statement:**

- a. A financial statement for the period ending 31.07.24 was NOTED by members and signed by the Chair. Clerk to publish these on the BPC website.
- b. A financial statement for the period ending 31.08.24 was NOTED by members and signed by the Chair. Clerk to publish these on the BPC website.
- c. A 2024-25 Precept Statement showing balances after payments and receipts in the first quarter was NOTED by members.

.03 **Allocation of CIL:**

Members consider the clerks report provide prior to the meeting and discussed possible uses for CIL in the future.

Cllr. Merritt proposed that a contribution to the Teign Estuary Trail project (TET) be agreed as an allocation from Bishopsteignton CIL. This was seconded and unanimously agreed.

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Cllr. Harris proposed that this be £5k, to be held by BPC until required by the project leaders and that use of this contribution be documented and justified.

Cllr. Gateshill proposed an amendment; that the amount be at least £5k, subject to any further CIL income from any development within the parish. The amendment was seconded by Cllr. Vooght, agreed unanimously and therefore RESOLVED. Clerk to advise Estelle Skinner, Green Infrastructure Officer, who is responsible for the TET business plan for TDC.

2409.05 COUNCIL STRATEGY & GOVERNANCE:

.01 **Standing Orders:** Members considered the amendments suggested by the clerk. These will allow the use of a common seal on future official papers, such as leases. It was proposed by Cllr. Merritt, seconded by Cllr. Harris, unanimously agreed and therefore RESOLVED to adopt the new version of BPC standing orders to include the amendment for use with immediate effect. Clerk to revise website published version.

.02 **Traveler Eviction Reassurance:** Members consider the opportunity to register with Devon Investigations who use Common Law, as opposed to lengthy court procedures, to remove travelling communities when trespassing occurs. This would apply to the car park at The Lawns, as this is the only one of our open spaces which has no protection from unwelcome incursion. There is cost implication in the form of an annual fee, signs will be displayed at the site and removal can be as quick as 3 hours.

Cllr. Gateshill questioned whether somewhere like the Lawns would be on the radar of travelling communities, or if it would be an ideal location for them, so would this expense be necessary. It was unanimously agreed that further information was required before members could make a resolution about this service. Such as if this is feasible for this site and what the cost would be for eviction if the retainer was not paid up front; perhaps this amount could be kept in an earmarked fund, in case required.

Clerk to investigate further and provide information to a future meeting.

2409.06 TEIGN ESTUARY CONSULTATIVE BODY

Cllr. Head offered to be the BPC representative on the consultative body. This was unanimously agreed and Cllr. Head was thanked.

2409.07 MEMBERS REPORTS

.01 **EV Charging:** Cllr. Robbins reported on an EV charging zoom meeting attended recently and what this could mean for Bishopsteignton. The pros and cons of installing charging spaces at Bishops Avenue car parks was discussed at length. Members were worried over the lack of parking; an existing problem which will be exacerbated by taking away regular parking spaces for electric cars that may not move after charging is complete.

It was proposed by Cllr. Gateshill, seconded by Cllr. Keohane, unanimously agreed and therefore RESOLVED that at this time no further consideration will be given to the installation of EV charging facilities in the village. Later, when electric vehicles are more common maybe the matter can be reviewed by a future council membership.

There were no further members reports.

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2409.08 CLERKS REPORT: The report of all ongoing BPC business and activity was provided to members and the public prior to this meeting. The following further matters were raised by the clerk and members:

- .01 **Quiet Space at St Johns Churchyard:** It has been brought to the clerk's attention that several congregation members have arranged furniture and flowerpots in the churchyard to create a quiet space for reflection. As BPC have a responsibility for Health & Safety issues within the churchyard it seems prudent to be aware of this, although no permission has been sought, or any communication made regarding this addition. The clerk has liaised with the garden maintenance team to ensure they are aware and content to work around the additional furniture as this will add time to their schedule. BGS are content. The clerk suggested she write to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) to acknowledge the additional activity in the churchyard and to absolve the council from and liability associated with the furniture and layout; this would be their responsibility. This was agreed unanimously.
- .02 **Defibrillator at Michaels Field:** The clerk raised concerns and frustration that despite the license agreement being signed earlier in the year and the equipment being ready to install, with an electrician on standby, there was still no response from officers at Teignbridge to provide access to the pavilion install the new defibrillator. This is very disappointing and more importantly potentially fatal, now that the football season has commenced. Clerk to continue chasing TDC, and support from Cllr. MacGregor.
- .03 **Bishopsteignton Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP):** The clerk thanked Cllrs. Harris, Merritt & Grimble for offering to review and complete the BAP and will arrange a meeting in due course. The following points were raised by members and briefly discussed:
- .04 **Railings at Bishops Avenue Car Park:** The clerk confirmed this work should begin late September but reported the contractor is currently inundated with work, with emergencies taking priority.

2409.08 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 21.05