

DRAFT
Minutes for Roborough Parish Council Meeting to be held on Thursday
18th November 2020 via Zoom at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Councillor Yvonne Isaac Chairman

Councillor Lorna Pincombe Vice Chair

Councillor Michael Folland

Councillor Tracey Stevens

Councillor Martyn Hookway

Councillor Derrick Challacombe

County Councillor Andrew Saywell

District Councillor Rosemary Lock

District Councillor Michael Clarke

Councillor Derrick Challacombe - Absent

Any resident from the Parish of Roborough may attend the meeting and under item 3 raise matters of concern, they will also be able to speak briefly on any agenda item.

Item 1 Apologies for absence: Cllr Ewan Huggons

Item 2 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 17th September, 2020 and Extraordinary General Meeting held on 1st October 2020 were taken as read and signed as correct.

Item 3 Members of the public present to raise any matters of concern.
In attendance Chris Hoole to raise matters under Item 9

Item 4 Declaration of Interests.
None

Action Points from previous meeting. 1 – 5

- It was agreed to request Burrington Parish Council apply for full planning meeting in respect of Eaglescott Airfield (AP1)
- It was agreed Cllrs review Eaglescott planning application and submit their response to the Clerk (AP2)
- Clerk to file final return for Covid-19 expenses (AP3)
- It was agreed to contact Kings Nympton Parish Clerk regarding their recent installation of Community Fibre Broadband (AP4)
- It was agreed the Parish Council would support a Register of Interest application in respect of Community Fibre Broadband (AP5)

Action point from previous meeting 1 – 5 discharged

Reports from Councillors.

- TAG representative Councillor Isaac
Nothing to report
- Planning Subcommittee Councillors' Lorna Pincombe, Michael Folland and Tracey Stevens.
Planning permission has been granted at Alford Villavin
Application 1/0859/220/full (Conversion of Piggery) was discussed and no objections were received. District Councillor Lock reported the Parish Council had not responded as Consultee. Clerk to advise TDC (AP1)

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- Snow Warden Councillor- Martyn Hookway
It was reported there are two bags of salt for the bins. Cllr Hookway to collect spare bin from Mr Rob Brown. (AP2)
- Web Master Councillor -Ewan Huggons
No report available
- Highways Councillor - Derrick Challacombe
No report available
- Village Hall Committee representative – Councillor Tracey Stevens
Nothing to report
- Defibrillator management-Councillor Ewan Huggons
No report available

County Councillor Saywell

Coronavirus – 19

It was reported as of 18th November DCC area of Devon now up to 6,838 coronavirus infections since the start of the pandemic. Since the 16th November that is a weekly increase of 860 infections. By way of comparison... in Torrridge there were 67 new infections in the last 7 days, North Devon 155 in the last 7 days, West Devon 53 cases in the last 7 days.

Data in Torrridge have confirmed numbers are low in general, mostly single or household cases with a few in workplaces, others from primary schools or picked up in care-homes. The advice is to keep distance, wash hands and wear face masks.

Covid-19 Grants

Devon County Council has temporarily re-opened the COVID-19 Fund to provide flexible funding resources to organisations working with communities who are disproportionately impacted by coronavirus. This includes those who are clinically extremely vulnerable, and the fund is designed to help mitigate for the social and economic consequences of the second National Lockdown.

North Devon Link Road Upgrade

The Government has confirmed it is awarding DCC £60 million to upgrade the North Devon Link Road between South Molton and Barnstaple. Sections of the road will be widened to provide better overtaking opportunities and improve journey time reliability, and eight junctions will be upgraded to improve safety. Junction improvements also include improvements to Westleigh Junction, Haywood Rd Roundabout and Buckleigh Junction on the A39 in Bideford.

Highways

Please do arrange a follow up meeting with Highways, if you haven't already to discuss the Parish priorities for the forthcoming year... Parish meetings we have had so far have worked well.

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Waste Disposal

Deepmore Waste is open but will be closed for resurfacing work on Saturday 21st November 2020

Cycle Path link from Puffing Bill to Torrington

There is a consultation out to use the 'Rolle Rd' route to Mill St and the preferred 'link' between the Trail and the Town. You can respond here

- <https://www.torringtoncommons.org/2020/10/taddiport-cycle-path-proposal-2020/>

School and School Transport

It is now mandatory for pupils to wear face coverings on school transport. The County Council will operate a 'three strikes' policy. If a student is found not wearing a face covering by the school or transport operator on two occasions, and there is no record of them being exempt from using one, they will be refused travel for a period of time.

Support for Families

The Government have awarded DCC more than £2 million to support vulnerable people, children and families over Winter. School Holiday Activities and Food Programme will be expanded covering Easter, Summer and Christmas in 2021. Councils will distribute the funds rather than Schools as they are best placed to directly help the hardest hit families and individuals, as well as provide food for children who need it over the holiday.

Healthy Start Scheme

The Healthy Start scheme payments are set to increase – they support pregnant women or those with children under four who have low income and are in receipt of benefits to buy fresh fruit and vegetables.

It was reported there is additional funding for food distribution organisations.

District Councillor Lock

It was reported Torrington District Council have Covid-19 support packages and there are grants available

The refurbishment of Torrington swimming pool will be delayed due to asbestos contamination.

District Councillor Clarke

It was reported Climate Change meeting has been cancelled and there is no report available. Councillor Clarke attended Remembrance Day at the Cenotaph as the representative for the Armed Forces Covenant.

Item 6 Financial Report (Clerk)

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Nat West Current Account | £10439.39 |
| Nat West Reserve Account | £ 380.38 |

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NS&I

£ 1725.70

It was reported the VAT reclaim for the installation of the Devon Air Ambulance night light has been applied for but has not been refunded to date.

M J Baker quotation for grass cutting around kiosk and village signs commencing 2021 is £150.00 with no increase from last year – It was agreed to use the services of M J Baker for 2021 for the sum of £150.00 (AP3)

Item 7 Eaglescott Managers Accommodation Planning application

The application was refused and an extensive Planning Officer's report is available online.

Item 8 Devon Air Ambulance night landing site

All works have been completed and the night light is now operational. A Press release will be organised at a later date but thanks must go to DAAT, RCPAL, Roborough Parish Council, County Councillor Saywell, District Councillor Lock and District Councillor Clarke for their support on this project.

Item 9 Helicopter noise nuisance east of the village

It was reported that Sir Geoffrey Cox had received an update from NDDC which reads *'The Environmental Officer has completed her investigation into the matter and has identified potential Breach of Planning Control. The current position is that her report has been passed to the Planning Officer for a decision as to whether a notice should be issued. They hope to have a decision as to whether to proceed within the next couple of weeks'*

NDDC have reopened their investigation and we await their conclusion however they state *'at the time of writing they see no evidence of illegal activity'*

Chris Hoole made representation and thanked the Committee for their quick response regarding another helicopter training company using Eaglescott airfield. Helioperations contacted NDDC and withdrew their operations but leaves questions open how they allow Cobham Helicopters to operate. NDDC are deliberating their investigation and residents have written to the Council with some receiving specific responses or automated.

The MOD, although given permission from Eaglescott to use the airfield 24/7, will accept evidence the airfield is not for this purpose

It was agreed to keep the matter on the Agenda and await NDDC investigation

Item 10 Community Fibre Broadband

It is reported 40 residents have signed up for the Community Fibre Broadband and a leaflet drop is underway. RCPAL have kindly provided initial funding.

Item 11 Zoom subscription

It was agreed an annual subscription for Zoom at a cost of £119.90 which can be utilised by various Parish Groups and the cost absorbed by Covid-19 grant. (AP4)

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Item 12 Correspondence

Mr Gordon Wilmott has requested the PC look into the state of repairs at The New Inn PH. It was reported the property has been tagged as LET and the new tenant suggests he will be re-opening in December – subject to Government lockdown conditions. It was agreed with Mr Wilmott to take a ‘wait and see’ approach to see if improvements are made to the property and the matter will be put on the Agenda at the next meeting. (AP5)

Trading Standards have advised of a breakout of Bird Flue and advice poster has been put on the notice board. (AP6)

Item 13 Cheques for signature

Cheques signed since last Parish Council Meeting: -

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|----------------|
| M J Baker | £150.00 | Cheque No. 494 |
| TDC Clerks Salary | £766.21 | Cheque No. 495 |
| MAT Electrics | £6315.50 | Cheque No. 496 |

Cheques for signature at the meeting – none

It was agreed two signatories to sign two blank cheques and the third signatory will sign once cheques are completed during Covid-19 pandemic

Item 14 Any Other Business

Mr Rob Brown has reported there is a spare salt bin located at Beres House (Item covered under Councillors Reports)
Councillors wished everyone a Merry Christmas

Date of next meeting

20th January 2021

Meeting Closed

8.10 p.m.