

PLASTERDOWN GROUPED PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting of **PLASTERDOWN PARISH COUNCIL** held in
Whitchurch Community Hall
On **WEDNESDAY 19th JUNE 2023** at **7.30 pm**

Present: Cllr R Phillips (Chair of the Council), Cllr I Walton, Cllr E Cole, Cllr A Davies, Cllr S Ware, Cllr. Sturmer and Cllr. R Pearson-Bunt

In Attendance: Caroline Metcalf (Clerk) and Cllr. P. Sanders

161/24. Apologies

Cllr. K. Warnes had given her resignation to the Council.

162/24. Declarations of Interest

Cllr I Walton declared an interest in planning application DOC/0439/233468 – Hecklake House, Sampford Spiney, Yelverton, Devon, PL20 6LG.

163/24. Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

164/24. Receive updates from the Borough and County Councillor

The Borough Councillor was not present at the meeting.

Cllr. Philip Sanders, Devon County Councillor gave his report:

There has been issues with the Dartmoor National Planning department sending their weekly list of planning/notifications to Parish Councils and this is currently being looked into. The Dartmoor National Park, Head of Planning, Dean Kinsella, has been in the position since the beginning of the year, but the Department is currently short of Planning Officers. Cllr. Sanders also updated the Council on the Parks' budget.

The new Leader of Devon County Council is James McInnes, and the Deputy Leader is Andrea Davis. Cllr. McInnes will not stand again in May 2025, and the new Leader will depend on the outcome of the election. Cllr. Sanders also updated the Council on the County's budget.

Cllr. Sturmer proposed going into Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Phillips.

Cllr. Sturmer proposed coming out of into Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Phillips.

Cllr. Sanders to follow up on discussions under Part 2 and report back to the Council.

165/24. Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15th May 2024

It was AGREED by all that the minutes be formally adopted.

166/24. To elect a vice-chair of the Council and receive the Vice-Chair's declaration of acceptance of office.

Cllr. Sturmer agreed to become the Vice-Chair of the Council.

PLASTERDOWN GROUPED PARISH COUNCIL

167/24. Previous matters arising from the minutes not listed as separate items on this agenda.

a) **Bus Shelter** - the shelter has been repainted, with paint kindly donated by Jewson. The Clerk to write to Jewsons to thank them. Cllr. Phillips also thanked Cllr. Sanders for the donation towards the roof repairs. The next action is to install a bench and purchase a noticeboard (purchased already agreed at a previous meeting). Cllr. Sturmer to send details of noticeboard to purchase to the Clerk. Cllr. Davies will donate the wood required to make the bench. Once completed the Council will showcase the repairs/improvements on social media.

b) **Updates on issues raised to Devon Highways** – With regards to the Signpost at Brook Crossroads, the Clerk has chased the Devon Neighbourhood Highways Officer for an update but has not received a reply. Cllr. Sanders to follow up. The sign at Moorshop is missing. The Clerk to report.

Cllr. Bunt-Pearson report that DALC hosted the first of a series of Connect Event with the Highways Team of Devon County Council, the aim of the series being to foster a stronger relationship between local councils and the highways team. The event was recorded, and Clerk will forward the link to all Councillors and details of the five more sessions planned over the next 10 months.

c) **Update on adding Bank signatories** – in progress and changing of the bank address to the new Clerk has been completed.

d) **New Boundary stones** – Cllr. Sturmer highlighted where the current stones are located and proposed at least two more stones be placed around the boundary. It was agreed to defer this action till later in the year.

e) **Tree Guard at Warren Cross** – replacing the tree guard is in process. It was discussed that plaque on the millennium tree at Caseytown cross is missing. Agreed to add to the next agenda for further discussion.

168/24. To receive the internal Audit Report

All agreed to accept the report.

169/24. To approve and sign the Certificate of Exemption

All agreed to approve and sign.

170/24. To approve and sign the 2023-24 Annual Governance Statement

All agreed to approve and sign.

171/24. To approve and sign the Accounting Statements 2023/24

All agreed to approve and sign.

172/24. To approve and sign the Bank Reconciliation

All agreed to approve and sign.

PLASTERDOWN GROUPED PARISH COUNCIL

173/24. To note the dates of the Exercise public rights as Friday 21st June 2024 to Thursday 1st August 2024.

The dates of the exercise public rights to view the accounts was noted.

174/24. To note the Statement of Variances for 2023-24

The Clerk explained any variances between 2022-23 and 2023-24. All accepted.

175/24. To consider the following planning applications

Cllr. Philips reminded all present that that Councillors should come to meetings with no preconceived ideas on planning applications.

1. West Devon – 1203/24/OPA – Development Site at Sx 482 725, Tavistock

It was discussed that the application is part of the Joint Local Plan, and the land has already been allocated for housing.

After discussions it was agreed to OBJECT to the planning applications for the following reasons:

- It will be a major visual impact from Dartmoor National Park.
 - The development is very dense, and it seems there would be inadequate parking for residents. This means that there is very little green space and the overall the lived experience on the site for residents would be poor.
 - Lack of infrastructure concerns, in particular primary schools and health care.
 - The access to the development adds yet another two accesses points onto an already busy A386, creating safety concerns and further flow on a very heavily congested road at busy periods.
 - Lack of pavements for pedestrians and none on the development site of the A386, thus no safe route to the schools.
 - The Parish Council would request contributions from the Developers, under Section 106, to help improve the access roads around the Parish, which are used by residents, when the A386 is congested.
- ### **2. Dartmoor - 0216/24 - Resumption of approved Repairs and Reinstatement of existing building for existing use, incorporating Bat Mitigation Measures at Magpie Mill, Horrabridge, PL20 7SD.**

After discussions the Council agreed on No Comment for this application.

3. Dartmoor - 0233/24 - Extension of residential curtilage and installation of Tennis Court at Caseytown House, Whitchurch, Tavistock, PL19 9LE

After discussions the Council all agreed on No Comment for this application.

4. Dartmoor - DOC/0439/23 3 4 5 7 8 - Replacement of Front porch with new disability ramp and re-rendering of external house walls at Hecklake House, Sampford Spiney, Yelverton, Devon, PL20 6LG.

After discussions the Council agreed on No Comment for this application. Cllr. Walton did not engage in the discussion or cast a vote.

176/24. Approve Accounts for Payment

- a) Clerk June) Salary and additional hours - £190.75
- b) HMRC - £41.20
- c) DALC online training course attended by the Clerk - £36

All payments were approved.

177/24. Update on Broadband FTTP

The Clerk read out an update from the Positive Impact and Community Liaison Manager Wildanet: 'Wildanet has temporarily paused its build in Devon, so there is nothing to update at the moment. The company is currently focussing its resources on contractual obligations in Cornwall. When the situation changes, I will be in touch.'

The Clerk then read out an update from David Boocock, Projects Officer, Conservation and Communities Dartmoor National Park Authority:

'There is unfortunately not very much to update at the moment, but up until recently, I am aware that discussions with the Ministry and BDUK, the delivery body, were looking promising. It was certainly looking like they were agreeing without request to take Dartmoor out of the Type C contract and place us in an A-type contract. At the moment, with the election looming, we are now in purdah, so we wouldn't expect to hear anything for a little while.'

178/24. Agenda items for next meeting to be held on Thursday 18th July 2024, 7.30 pm at Sampford Spiney Church

Items for the next meeting had been agreed on, throughout the meeting. The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

Signed by the Chair of the Council