

## Minutes from Templeton Parish Council meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> July

### **Attended:**

Chair- Councillor Mrs Laurel O'Brien  
Vice Chair- Councillor Mr David Leeming  
Councillor Mrs Julie Dent  
Councillor Mr Joe O'Brien  
Councillor Mrs Sara Stone  
County Councillor Richard Chesterton  
Mrs L Wilson- Parish Clerk

1. **Apologies:** District Councillor Claudette Harrower, District Councillor David Broom, District Councillor Jamie Frost

### **2. Declarations of Interest-**

Councillors Mrs Dent and Mrs Stone declared personal interest in matters relating to Templeton village hall. Councillors Mrs Dent and Mrs O'Brien declared personal interest in matters relating to St Margarets Church

### **3. The Public-**

Carol attended and raised concerns regarding the reserved matters planning application. Carol cited a similar application in Halberton was turned down as next to slurry pit. Also raised concerns about further access being created in hedgerows and if planning needed. **Action** D Leeming to discuss with planning regarding if hedgerows are protected and if need an application to create openings.

4. **Minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June** to be approved.

## **5.Planning**

### **5.1 Reports and outcomes**

- [23/00892/ARM | Reserved Matters for the erection of an agricultural workers dwelling and garage following outline approval 21/01215/OUT | Land at MGR 286542 114651 \(Cross Park\) Nomansland Devon \(middevon.gov.uk\)](#)

Concerns raised regarding proximity to slurry pit and the use of property. Proposal to reject on grounds of proximity to slurry pit and health concern grounds.

J. Dent clarified that planning issues and regulations not followed, failed to cover slurry pit. EH and PH have investigated, and no evidential case has been found. R. Chesterton pointed out importance of raising with District councillors so that they are aware of the long background/history of ongoing issues and be able to make case. Minutes of parish council and Mid Devon Council will reflect history. District Councillors to be invited to a special meeting to discuss.

As consultation deadline was extended due to no clerk in post comments are needed by planning 27<sup>th</sup> July latest. Consultee response to be written saying oppose planning on two grounds—scale of building for agricultural dwelling and proximity to slurry pit. **Action- clerk by 27.07.23**

- Planning Inspectorate Appeal - APP/X1118/W/23/3317058 Land at Stonelands Cross, Rackenford, Tiverton, EX16 8DL (application in neighbouring parish - *interested party comment submitted*)  
<https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?caseid=3317058>

Clerk submitted comment to planning appeal. Highways originally objected to planning, this was then withdrawn. This meant planning could not use safety as objection to application. [Clerk to liaise with Rackenford Parish Clerk to ascertain their position.](#)

## 5.2 Correspondence

- Public consultation on a Meeting Housing Needs Supplementary Planning Document- <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/residents/planning-policy/supplementary-planning-documents/meeting-housing-needs/>

J Dent confirmed parish councillors will need to fully understand the implications of this consultation document. and will consider this if approved as new document.

## 6. Reports-

### 6.1 County and District Council

**County Council report- County Councillor R Chesterton attended and summarised the report as detailed below.**

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#### **RURAL GIVE WAY MARKING PROJECT**

*This project is aiming to remark all the rural Give-Way and Stop markings across the whole of the County. In addition to simply remarking them we are using a more robust product that will improve the life-expectancy and lead to a lower whole life cost and reduced carbon cost. There are approximately 6,000 rural Give-Way markings that will be treated. For your information there is another 1,500 in our market and coastal towns. The project is estimated to take 4-5 years to complete. Lining works to include: To remove existing markings and refresh • single dashed white lines • double dashed white lines • stop lines • give way triangles • up to 5 centre lines from the junction The approach to manage these works is to divide the county into grids. There are 85 grids covering the county. The grids are then sent to our Framework Contractor (QMS) in batches. They will then work through the grids reporting the locations completed on a weekly basis. Productivity will be subject to various factors (including road surface condition, weather etc.), but it is hoped that at least one grid will be completed every two weeks. This will be monitored throughout the project. The project will include Stop lines as well as Give-Way markings but only across the rural network. Markings in our market and coastal towns listed below will be picked up through the normal programme of parish remarking and will also be subject to the normal safety inspection process.*

*Axminster Exeter Seaton Barnstaple Exmouth Sidmouth Bideford Great Torrington South Molton Braunton Honiton Tavistock Budleigh Salterton Ilfracombe Teignmouth Cranbrook Ivybridge **Tiverton** Crediton Kingsbridge Totnes Cullompton Newton Abbot Dartmouth Okehampton Dawlish Ottery St Mary.*

*The first grids have been sent to QMS. The South Hams and Teignmouth areas will be started first steadily working east and north. Any Parishes that have been recently remarked (last two years) will be held until towards the end of the project so we don't remark lines we have just refreshed.*

## **POTHoles**

*Around 26,500 potholes (up to the end of June) have been identified and passed to our contractor, Milestone, since January – this is around 8,000 or 30% more than for the same period last year. January alone saw almost 7,400 potholes identified, the most of any month in over 3 years. Similarly, our inspection team have assessed almost 35,000 reports of potholes from members of the public since January, compared to just over 14,000 last year. To tackle this backlog, teams across the Devon Highways partnership have worked very closely to enable re-prioritisation of resource so that safety critical defects on our highway network could be identified and repaired as effectively as possible. In order to achieve this some of our works programmes required adjusting, with schemes postponed or re-planned to free up available resource. We also had to make the difficult decision to temporarily cease identification and repair of serviceability (i.e., those that don't meet the intervention requirements of our Highway Safety Policy) highway defects, so that the focus could remain on those defects that represented the biggest risk to users of our network. At times, we have had over 40 pothole repair gangs working across the County, along with repairs and inspections taking place during evenings and at weekends. Following concerted efforts, the number of potholes currently with Milestone for repair has now stabilised, sitting at around 800 (down from 3000 at its peak in February) and is much more in-line with the sort of volume we'd typically expect for this time of year. On this basis a number of the additionally resourced gangs have now returned to programmed works and we have very recently re-introduced the identification of non safety defects, as we fully recognise the benefit of acting proactively and repairing these before they worsen and require attention at a later date. Aside from traditional pothole repairs, we're also making the most of the longer days to ensure our dragon patchers are double shifting. We also have an additional 5th vehicle operating in the County this summer.*

## **TIVERTON CANAL**

*Grand Western Canal staff granted powers to tackle anti-social behaviour. Our Canal Rangers Team and our Community Patrol Boat volunteers who work on Grand Western Canal in Tiverton and its country park have been given limited police powers. In what has been hailed as a significant milestone in community policing both the rangers and the volunteers have been accredited with limited police powers under the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS) and the Accredited Police Volunteer (APV) scheme respectively. The rangers are part of the CSAS scheme which has been running in Devon & Cornwall since 2005, whereas the volunteers are the first in Devon and Cornwall to be part of the APV scheme. The powers accredited through both schemes will enable the volunteers and the rangers to deal with any low level anti-social behaviour which might occur while fostering a sense of security and reassurance for users and the community. The powers have been targeted to address the needs on the canal and surrounding area and include being able to request the name and address of anyone acting in an anti-social manner. It is a formal offence if an individual does not comply with the requests from accredited volunteers.*

## **LOCALITY BUDGET**

*A reminder that Locality Budgets are currently open, but with a smaller overall pot this year it is advisable that any group that is thinking about making an application should do so early to avoid missing out.*

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Following the summary County Councillor R Chesterton asked if there were any DCC related matters councillors wished to raise. J Dent questioned the quality of pothole repairs as fixtures do not last long. R Chesterton confirmed that this issue is being relooked at. Potholes repairs are under warranty, so if fail quickly to be re-reported and can be redone under the warranty. Repairs are subcontracted to the company doing work on behalf of DCC. S Stone asking if true if need 20 people to report for it to be fixed. R Chesterton said only one report needed but more reported the better. Concerns that not everyone can use technology to report, and R Chesterton will look at this.

**District councillors- no reports received.**

**6.2 Parish Councillors- no reports**

**6.3 Village Hall**

Summer Fete is coming up on 12<sup>th</sup> August with some different things on offer this year. There have been lots of volunteers offering help. Templeton VH expect to raise £6000-£7000. Lots of activities are ongoing at the hall, including art club and Yoga sessions regularly. S Stone queried the affordability of Yoga. L O'Brien confirmed that VH were happy to subsidise cost for village members if more than one member came. J Dent confirmed that VH did have agreement to not charge for community events for people of Templeton. J Dent will discuss again with Bindy Linden with suggestion that VH members get reduction. Harvest supper is also coming up. More details will be in the newsletter.

**6.4 Parochial Church Council**

The Tractor run was successful. Art club continues every other Tuesday, raising money for church renovations. Renovations for church walls are continuing, pews have been polished, and bells repaired. Bell ringers are attending classes in Tiverton to allow bells to be rung at upcoming Wedding. The Diocese sent some flower seeds. Reg Coffin is being sworn in as church warden.

**7. Matters arising from minutes.**

**7.1 Telephone box- quote from contractor**

The quote was received at a cost of £1455.00 for repairs and labour. Costs are broken down as £335.00 materials and £1,120 labour. To approve quote.

**S Stone- proposed**

**J O'Brien- Seconded**

Action- Clerk to contact Reg Coffin to inform to commence works.

**7.2 /Grit Bins at Crosspark- Advertise for snow warden.**

Existing grit boxes get refilled when reported as low. R Chesterton has investigated finding new grit boxes but this is not possible. DCC have a snow warden scheme and provide initial training, it requires a volunteer who would have a supply of grit stored and delivered where needed. R Chesterton will see if nearby parish has a snow warden who can advise. R Chesterton directed to DCC website to find the full details of the scheme. [Clerk to find details of scheme and share with councillors.](#) Action- Advertisement to be put in magazine.

**7.3 Ambulance response times**

J Dent reported that following discussion with Southwest Ambulance they report that ambulance response times are now back under control, and they are endeavouring to hit targets.

**7.4 Letters to Tiverton Staghounds and Foxhounds**

L O'Brien to follow this up. Concerns raised by D Leeming that foxhunt turned up to clear out pheasant pen, and they then continued to run dogs across Witheridge Moor. Ongoing concerns of inconsiderate behaviour. To invite the masters or followers to a meeting to discuss. [Action- L O'Brien and S Stone to speak to Steve Coles.](#)

## **8. Finance**

### **8.1 Barclays Community Account as at 02/06/2023= £14,913.84**

Parish Clerk raised that statements are still going to S Squire address.

[S Stone to action to change address with Barclays and enquire regarding standing orders.](#)

### **8.2 Payments**

**Mrs. L Wilson. Parish clerk. HMRC PAYE**

**J Larcombe. Payment for internal audit- £70**

Cheque written- [clerk to send.](#)

**S Phillips. Payment for interim clerk- £100**

Cheque written- [clerk to send.](#)

**J Dent- Payment for filing cabinet keys- £14.75**

Cheque written- clerk to send.

## **9. Correspondence / items to discuss.**

**9.1 Crossparks Pit Abatement/Enforcement Notices-** cc'd. email and video circulated to councillors.

Health concerns raised by nearby residents. Concerns of disregard for planning enforcement notices by property owner. Attempts to communicate with the owner have not worked previously. J Dent suggested we go back to Jo Pope to raise concerns of continuing issues. [Action J Dent to attempt to start opening lines of communication with owner. Jo Pope- invite to next meeting to discuss. Clerk to action](#)

## **10. Items raised by Councillors.**

### **10.1 Parish Clerk**

**Appointment of Mrs. L Wilson-** approval and agreement of contract and salary

**11. Urgent items-** any correspondence or items received since publication of agenda.

Payments to Templeton Village Hall for repairs- £102 and £217.20 [Clerk to send.](#)

S Stone raised that parish council owe S Squire money to be paid. [D Leeming will find invoices and cheques to be raised and sent.](#)

**Next meeting Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm**

**To be held bi-monthly on Tuesdays.**