

LYNTON & LYNMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ON THURSDAY 29 APRIL 2021 AT 7.30 PM.

PRESENT: **Councillors:**
C Sleep (Mayor)
D Harding
P Hawkins
A Hobbs
B Peacock
M Pearce
A Rodway
A Seckleman
(Vacancy)
(Vacancy)

Officers: Town Clerk and Town Council Secretary

Also Present: County Councillor A Davis

270/20 PRESENTATION BY CAROLINE GATRELL – DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL – DEFINITIVE MAP REVIEW

Public Rights of Way Officer attended to talk to Members about the definitive map for Lynton & Lynmouth parish.

Public rights of way include footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways and byways. The definitive map is the legal record of the existence of public rights of way and is the responsibility of the County Council to maintain. The map itself shows the recorded line of a route, and the statement, which includes a description defining a routes status, position and/or sometimes width or surface details. A statement may also contain limitations along the way, such as stiles or gates.

The definitive map and statement is conclusive evidence in law of the particulars they contain. There may be additional rights which have not yet been recorded or there may be rights which are incorrectly recorded. The map and statement can therefore be amended/ modified if evidence of missing rights of way is discovered or to correct errors shown to have been made previously. The definitive map and statement and any amending orders are available for the public to inspect free of charge by appointment at the offices of the Public Rights of way team.

271/20 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Three members of the public were present. One parishioner had a question about an agenda item on Aprils Estates & Amenities about Grattons Land. This item was not referring to Grattons Drive or its environs, but to the open field behind the allotments.

272/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Hibbert and Patrinos.

273/20 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

274/20 MINUTES

RESOLVED

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 25 March 2021, copies of which had been previously circulated, were confirmed as a true and correct record and signed by the Mayor.

275/20 POLICE REPORT

No Police report had been received

276/20 COMMUNICATIONS

a. Blacklands Cottage

A letter was received from the owner of Blacklands Cottage requesting a key for new access gate on Manor, especially in case of an emergency. It was

RESOLVED

To allow him a key and to amend minute number 260/20, item g, as follows:

To provide keys only to HM Coastguard, Rock House Hotel and Blacklands Cottage.

b. Go North Devons Cancer Care Car Service

Fundraising campaign, see below link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/manage/edit/f393346b-7eb6-41d6-8104-32ee91c85e4b?opened=campaigns-page>

c. Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service

As DS Fire are starting to develop their new Community risk Management Plan (CRMP), they are gathering views from people and partners across Devon and Somerset as part of the consultation process. There is an online link to the survey

<http://bit.ly/haveyoursayCRMP>

RESOLVED

That the Mayor and Town Clerk would complete and return the survey on behalf of the Town Council

d. Exmoor Cycle Ride

A cycle ride is taking place on 8 May, passing through the area, starting and finishing at Umberleigh Village Hall.

e. Frying Pans – Scout Association Use

The Scout group have been working hard on this area clearing it of refuse and debris and a safety fence put up. They have asked whether they could use some of the logs from the felled tree on the Council track up above, as seating. It was

RESOLVED

They can use the logs for seating.

277/20 COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLVED

That open reports of the following committees, having been circulated, be noted and recommendations contained therein adopted.

Estates and Amenities Committee

14 April 2021

Minutes 253/20-262/20

Policy and Finance Committee

21 April 2021

Minutes 263/20 – 269/20

278/20 DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL

Councillor Davis talked to her report, and a copy is attached to these minutes.

Questions

Councillor Hobbs asked about Watersmeet Road and damage caused by tree fellers to the wall. The engineer has been out and has been in contact with National Trust. Councillor Hawkins asked about the food van that has been parked in Parracombe bypass. Councillor Peacock also discussed with County Councillor Davis the fallout of the tree felling of Watersmeet Road. Councillor Harding talked about the state of certain patches of road on Lynbridge Road and Lynmouth Hill. Councillor Davis would chase this up.

County Councillor Davis finished by thanking Council and should she not get re-elected, wished Council the best of luck.

279/20 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS AND OTHER COUNCIL COMMITTEES

There were no reports.

280/20 NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

Councillor Patrinos sent his report and it is attached to these minutes.

Questions

There were none.

281/20 REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Town Clerk reported:

- The legal challenge to continue virtual Council meetings has failed in the courts. From 6 May virtual meetings are no longer regulated by statute.
- Councils' offer to buy Pig Fields has been accepted and is now in the hands of the solicitors. Town Council to decide how to make payment.
- All members of Council staff are back to work, but there is a backlog of annual leave.
- All the parish toilets have now been inspected by Councillors Hibbert and Hobbs and they are all open. Some maintenance work is ongoing to fix leaks etc.
- Harbour quarterly safety audit has taken place, and the emergency works to clear the channel. Safety survey may be impacted by the 40m of causeway that was lost to the sea.
- Covers have arrived for the crowd control fences in Lynmouth.
- Allied Pharmacies are ready to go in Town Hall and are waiting for their supplies of vaccine. It is hoped vaccinations can start within the next 10 days.

Questions

There were none.

282/20 QUESTIONS

There were none.

Lynton and Lynmouth Town Council

April 2021

County Councillors report

Coronavirus updates from Devon County Council

The link below may be of interest to residents with the situation changing and many interested in what is happening locally this link is a useful starting point for questions and the current situation in Devon.

The link takes you to the Covid-19 pages on the Devon County Council Website, it has daily updated information as to positive cases within the area, information about testing and track and trace. <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/coronavirus-data/>

Devon Recycling Centres are still open, with restrictions.

Our recycling centres are still open, **they are very busy**, the resale areas we tried to open this morning but have closed them again due to the queues forming on the highway and the huge interest affecting other residents trying to dispose of their waste and recycling. The resale shops we will open but in a phased way to prevent the scenes we had this morning. At some sites we had residents queuing from 6.30am just to get to the resale shops!

If you make a visit to the recycling centre, please expect them to be operating differently during this lockdown period.

Restrictions are in place, including social distancing, which may lead to queues. If queues do start forming, we may need to restrict vehicles from joining the queues towards the end of the day and if queues become a safety hazard on the public highway, we may need to temporarily close the site. <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/waste-disposal-and-recycling/>

Devon County Council Community Testing

The service will stop in each community, at a specific location, twice a week on given days – please check [devon.cc/testing](https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/waste-disposal-and-recycling/) for times, locations and dates near you. Please check before driving to a location in case there is an unexpected change to the schedule.

Dates and times but please check before travelling on [devon.cc/testing](https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/waste-disposal-and-recycling/) or call [0345 155 1015](tel:03451551015)

Lynton / Lynmouth

- **Wednesday**
 - 3:30 pm to 7 pm – Lynton Town Hall, EX35 6HT
- **Saturday**
 - 9 am to 12:30 pm – Lynton Town Hall, EX35 6HT

Barnstaple

- **Thursday**
 - 9 am to 11:30 am – Tesco Car Park, EX31 2AS
- **Sunday**
 - 9 am to 5 pm – Tesco Car Park, EX31 2AS

Ilfracombe

- **Wednesday**
 - 11am to 2.30pm – Wilder Road Carpark EX34 8HE

- **Saturday**

12.30pm to 5 pm – Wilder Road Carpark EX34 8HE

Alternatively, people can collect home test kits from any of the council's mobile testing sites, so that they can take the lateral flow tests at home. Staff at the mobile testing sites can show you how to take the test if you're not sure how to use the test kit.

Home test kits can also be [ordered from the NHS to be delivered to people's home address](#), and they are available from [NHS testing locations and pharmacies that are part of the Pharmacy Collect scheme](#).

Additionally some workplaces are offering testing to their employees either on-site or at home – and if you own a [businesses with more than ten employees it is not too late to register](#).

Carers, personal assistants and front line social care staff can also [order and collect testing kits at the same time as their PPE supplies](#).

Those who leave their home to work or volunteer and come into contact with people in the community, for instance carers and emergency service staff, are particularly encouraged to use the service.

The results are back with you within the hour. If you test positive, you'll be asked to self-isolate for ten days. If you're negative, you can continue your day.

Community Testing Centres are for people who are not showing any symptoms and who aren't already accessing regular testing, through their employer for example.

To book a rapid test or to find out more about Community Testing in Devon, visit devon.cc/testing

Goodleigh Road Closure, (not in the parish but a popular route into Barnstaple for residents.)

The contractor is making great progress on site. They have also agreed to work this Saturday to try and reduce the programme. There are another two weeks of the closure.

At the current time I cannot confirm at this stage whether or not we will be opening the road earlier than planned, but I will keep you updated.

Please note we've also accommodated other contractors on-site such as BT (subcontractor call Airband). We always encourage other companies to share our road closure as this will hopefully prevent any additional disruption in the near future.

Reminder about reporting a highway problem:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

telephone: 0345 155 1004

Andrea Davis
County Councillor
Andrea.davis@devon.gov.uk

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT TO LYNTON & LYNMOUTH TOWN COUNCIL
29th April 2021

It has been relatively quiet at NDC for the last few weeks as services become slightly more normal with the easing of lockdown, and some councillors are distracted by the election of County Councillors. However face to face services are resuming to some extent, with the appropriate Covid security measures in place.

I've reported before about the £4.8 billion **Levelling Up Fund** and the government's extraordinary decision that North Devon is one of the least deserving areas of the UK while neighbouring Torridge is one of the most deserving. The District Council's Strategy & Resources Committee will decide in May whether to submit a bid anyway. Another of the government's rules about the fund is the the MP has a veto on any bid she doesn't like. Personally I think this is a gross interference in local democracy, but we have to play the hand we are dealt, even if we think it was dealt from the bottom of the pack.

At our meeting on 12th April NDC agreed a new package of measures to increase **home energy efficiency** in order to reduce carbon emissions and fuel poverty. The plan includes:

- a) the ECO programme whereby utility companies pay for energy efficiency measures in many houses. In North Devon it is focussed on 10 areas including ours.
- b) commissioning a local not-for-profit company called 361 Energy to provide a wide range of domestic energy advice directly to the public.

The latest round of Covid business support grants, called **Restart Grants**, is available through the NDC website. Businesses that have received it before should all have been notified but if you know of any that have slipped through the net please let them know.

I'm sure the Mayor will have reported that the Lyn Valley **Workhub** project continues to make good progress. Structural engineers, architects and project managers have been appointed. Drawings for seven offices, four hot desks, kitchen, toilet etc have been drafted. The next steps will include getting artists impressions of the interior so that potential customers know how good it is going to be. A flyer is being prepared. Please spread the word so that anyone interested in renting a space whether occasionally or long term can get in contact.

Each year every District Councillor get some money to support **local clubs** and organisations. If you know of one that needs a bit of help please let me know.

Lyn Climate Action is having its latest **community meeting on 3 June at 7pm** on Zoom. It will be led by National Trust Area Ranger Josey Field and her colleagues on what they do at Kipscombe Farm to benefit our local environment and how we can become involve as a community. Their efforts include the introduction of trees and kickstarting natural processes to help rejuvenation. I know that similar activities are arranged out by many other farmers and land managers so it is good to have someone explain what are doing and how it will in a small way reduce our planet heating up.

John

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