

PETROCKSTOWE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Baxter Hall
on Tuesday 17th January 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs M Busby (Chair), I Fisher (Vice Chair), J Brasier, A Hunkin, J Harris, J Richards

In attendance: Parish Clerk - F Lowe, CCllr A Saywell (arrived late), DCllr D Hurley,
1 member of the public (arrived late)

Public Question Time Public Bodies (admissions to meetings) Act 1960 s1 extended by the LG Act 1972 s100.

Cllr Hurley – provided a verbal report and followed up with a hard copy attached at the end.

Cllr Saywell – provided a report later in the minutes when he arrived.

Standing Orders were suspended to discuss item 4a at this point with a member of the public.

1. **Acceptance of apologies for absence**

Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record to be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Parish Clerk as it is usual for the grounds upon which apologies are tendered also to be recorded. Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are accepted. **Resolved:** Cllr Thompson is on vacation. DCllr Wiseman sent apologies.

2. **Declarations of interest.** Members to declare any interest they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the relevant authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulation 2012 (SI 2012/1464) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

Resolved: During the meeting; Cllrs Busby, Harris and Brasier declared an interest as trustees of the Baxter Hall and Cllr Busby as a volunteer with Citizens Advice.

3. **Approval of Minutes.** To receive and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th November and the planning minutes of 21st December 2022. The Part 2 minutes of 29th September 2022 were approved at the very end of the meeting once public were excluded.. LGA 1972 Sch 12 para 41(1). **Resolved:** that they were a true record of the meetings decisions and signed as such.

4. **Planning**

Council is asked to discuss the below planning application/s and inform the Clerk of its comments to forward to Torridge District Council. Any planning applications received after the distribution of this agenda will also be considered.

- a. **Application:** Ref: 1/0022/2023/FUL Date: 13th January 2023 Proposal: Retrospective application for the formation of a vehicle access and associated works Location: Ferringhi, Petrockstowe, Okehampton, Devon. *Discussed during Public Session.* The Clerk was instructed to send the following comments: *Petrockstowe Parish Council strongly object to this application. The main objection is the restricted sight line. The issue for turning is irrelevant as the property has a rear access. There are concerns that the boundary as show on the application is incorrect, which could cause issues with neighbouring properties* Council is asked to receive planning application decisions made by Torridge District Council. Council is asked to note the below decisions:
- b. **Decision:** Ref: 1/0980/2022/FUL, Date: 5th January 2023 Proposal: Change of use and conversion of agricultural building to holiday let (Barn A) Location: Barn At Aish Barton, Petrockstowe, Devon.
GRANTED

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- c. **Decision.** Our Ref: 1/0982/2022/FUL Date: 6th January 2023 Proposal: Change of use and conversion of agricultural building to one dwelling (Barn B) Location: Barn At Aish Barton, Petrockstowe, Devon. **GRANTED**
- d. **Decision.** Our Ref:1/0984/2022/FUL Date: 6th January 2023 Proposal: Change of use and conversion of agricultural building to one dwelling (Barn C) Location: Barn At Aish Barton, Petrockstowe, Devon. **GRANTED**
5. **Correspondence.** Cllrs agreed that they had received the correspondence as listed in the agenda from 10th November 2022 to 9th January 2023 inclusive, and had no comments
6. **Matters arising from previous minutes.**
 - a. **The Square** – TDC asked for written complaint and none of the original complainants are prepared to put this in writing (even with the Clerk being the named complainant) so the complaint was unable to proceed further.
 - b. **Virtual Attendance** – c/f as not used at this meeting
 - c. **Extension of 30mph speed limit** – Cllr Saywell was not present to update the PC. c/f
 - d. **Grit bins** – The Clerk has reported any that need filling/topping up although with the recent bad weather, some made need refilling again. All Councillors were asked to check levels and either report direct to TDC or via the Clerk. Cllr Richards believes that the bin that was flooded has not been resolved. **Cllr Richards to check** and advise Clerk
7. **Current Business.**
 - a. **Budget for 2023-2024** - Following a discussion, it was agreed to raise the precept to £5,000 for 2023-24. It was further agreed to pay grants to the following in May:
 - i. Churchyard - £500
 - ii. Baxter hall - £500
 - iii. ODTCCG - £50
 - iv. Citizens Advice - £50**The Clerk was instructed** to advise TDC of the Precept request. (Cllr Saywell arrived)
 - b. **Baxter Hall** – the hall is currently struggling to have the recycling collected by TDC, and have asked the PC to write a letter to TDC regarding this. **The Clerk was instructed to write to** Recycling at TDC
 - c. **Meeting Dates 2023-2024.** These were provided to all cllrs.
8. **Clerk/Parish Councillors Reports.**
 - a. **Clerk** – feedback from the planning “training” session was shared with all.
 - b. **Play Park** – Cleaning of the equipment and removal of weeds will happen before the inspection in March.
9. **Finance** – as at 09/01/2023
Receipts: To note receipt of income
none
Total receipts - £0
Expenditure: Previously approved expenditure
15/11/22 – Malcolm Busby (wreath) - £25.00
Total expenditure - £25
Previous Account Balance £10,323.08
New Balance £10,298.08 (of which £8,250.00 is restricted)
Expenditure: Payments to approve

Initials of chair

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Clerks Expenses - totalling £42.71 - **approved**

ClIr Saywell gave a verbal report and took questions from councillors.

- **Highways**, currently c.500 pothole reports a day and 2,700 defects at the end of last week. Caused by the freezing and wet weather. The contractor is working through them though some staff will have to be pulled off to do gritting routes. Q. Do you receive many claims for damaged cars? Yes, many are refused.
- **Budgets**, better settlement from Government, all Departmental budgets going up, though there will still have to be savings achieved in order to break even at the end of next year. But not as bad as first feared... Current overspend £7m, Cab Finance Member thinks we will break even.
- **New Chief Executive**, Donna Manson, from Highland Council, has education and finance background. New broom and will help sort out SEND and secure finances.

Date of next meeting An Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 21st February 2023 at 7.30pm, to discuss the Church closure consultation (an agenda will be issued) and any Planning applications. The next Parish Council meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 21st March 2023 at 7.30pm in Baxter Hall.

Items for the next agenda to include: flagpole, Coronation celebrations and asset maintenance.

Cllrs Saywell and Hurley and 1 member of the public left.

Part 2 minutes of 29th September 2022 agreed and signed as a correct record.

With no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.55pm

Chairman Date

Initials of chair