

---

**DRAFT Minutes of the monthly meeting of Blackawton Parish Council held at 3:30 p.m.  
on Wednesday 6 December 2017 in the Hall of Blackawton Primary School**

---

**Open Forum**

**a. Blackawton Primary School – A UNICEF Rights Respecting School**

Three students gave a presentation and answered questions about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and what it has meant for Blackawton Primary School to become a Rights Respecting School. Blackawton Primary School was awarded the UNICEF Rights Respecting School silver award in 2016. Initiatives have been made towards extending the approach to Dartmouth Academy and to Kingsbridge Community College. BPC students will work in the community on 'make a difference day' and welcomes suggestions for work they can do.

**b. Cllr Chris Wills' resignation**

It was with regret that Cllr Chris Wills' resignation from the Parish Council after 38 years of continuous service was accepted. Cllr Wills was thanked, and presented with a gift and a certificate.

**Present:** Cllrs Rake, Joyce, Wills, Mallyon, Lewis-Davis, Cllrs Perry and Coe were present, as were Cllr Brazil (Devon County Council), A Thom (Clerk), and twelve members of the public.

**107/17 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Hicks (South Hams District Council).

**108/17 Declarations of Interest**

None declared.

**109/17 Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The minutes of the Meeting held 7 November 2017 were approved.

**110/17 Report from District Councillor**

Deferred in the absence of Cllr Hicks.

**111/17 Report from County Councillor**

Cllr Brazil reported his concern that DCC budget cuts may lead to loss of day centres, such as Tumbling Fields, which provide activities and respite care for vulnerable adults. He expressed his view that as well as the human cost this will be a false economy – transferring the cost to the community and to carers. The services should be prioritised over pothole repair if necessary. Please send your anecdotal evidence to Andrew Leadbetter Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Health Services [[andrew.leadbetter@devon.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.leadbetter@devon.gov.uk)].

Education has received a small funding increase in the Budget however it does not cover inflation. Letters about education funding can be sent to the Leader of Devon County Council, Councillor John Hart [[john.hart@devon.gov.uk](mailto:john.hart@devon.gov.uk)]. Please send a copy to Cllr Brazil and ask that your correspondence be circulated to all Cllrs. To influence the budget process letters need to be sent as early as possible.

**112/17 Town Farm Development**

The suggestion from the November meeting of BPC that the marketing name of the development be School Lane etc is not supported by the School. It was agreed that further discussion about naming would be deferred to the end of the meeting.

**Temporary Closure of Main Street**

South West Water has applied for closure of Main Street from 26 February to 29 April 2018 to carry out sewage works necessary to connect the new development site to the main sewer. The actual period of closure will depend on the complexity of the work. The initial closure will be just past Trench Firs corner. If the sewer chamber is deep enough the work will take up to ten days. If a connection is needed to the main sewer in the Village the works will take longer and the closure will extend to Chapel Street. Pedestrians will have access throughout. SWW will try to provide overnight access for vehicles.

---

**113/17 Planning Issues**

**113/17.1 SHDC Planning Approvals/Refusals**

3054/17/FUL Field at SX 793 508 Woodford Blackawton TQ9 7AB. Construction of an agricultural/equestrian building (resubmission of 0767/17/FUL). Refusal.

3116/17/FUL Yeomans Cotterbury Green To Bugford La Paddelake TQ6 0NA. Demolition of dwelling and garaging (with retention of some stone walls) and erection of replacement dwelling with associated landscaping. Conditional Approval.

3654/17/CLP Brook Cottage Blackawton TQ9 7AP. Lawful Development Certificate for proposed extension on rear. Cert of Lawfulness (Proposed) Certified.

**113/17.2 Review of New Applications**

3703/17/PDM Lower Dimes Barn At Sx 815 508 Chapple Street Blackawton Totnes TQ9 7DA. Notification for prior approval for proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (use class C3) and for associated operational development (Class Q(a)&(b)). BPC agrees this barn is part of an agricultural operation and was on 20 March 2013.

3755/17/HHO Woodcott Blackawton TQ9 7AA. Householder application for alterations and extension to existing dwelling. Support.

3742/17/HHO Meadow Vale, Greenslade Road, Blackawton, Devon, TQ9 7BP. Householder application to enlarge single storey front porch to improve access. Support.

3959/17/PDM Watsons Barn, Park Lane, Blackawton, Devon, TQ9 7AA. Notification for Prior approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (C3) and for associated operational development (Class Q part a&b). BPC's comment on the previous application stands.

1972/17/FUL Land at Greenslade Road Blackawton TQ9 7BP. Application for erection of four dwellings (resubmission of 3442/16/FUL).

The resurfacing of the tennis court and the skatepark were the two current projects named which would benefit from further funding. The wording 'sport, play and recreation' was suggested for the Undertaking.

**114/17 Consultations**

- South Hams District Council, Review of the Planning Validation Checklist. Closes 5pm, 9 January 2018. No comment.
- Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan (2018 – 2022). Closes on 31 December 2017. No comment.

**115/17 Cemetery**

The request for a memorial of greater width than permitted by BPC's Regulations was refused.

**116/17 Memorial for Steve**

The dedication of trees to Steve Gale and installation of memorial plaque will take place immediately before the April 2018 PC meeting.

**117/17 Finance**

**117/17.1 Update on Current Financial Position**

The Report, which showed a 2017/18 balance £13,793.88, total balance £52,440.86 and unearmarked reserves £12,745.48, was approved.

**117/17.2 Payments Made, Due and Received**

The following payments were approved:

Blackawton Village Hall, Hire July-November 2017,	£60.00
S Rowden, All over cut of Churchyard, November 2017,	£84.00
A Thom, November 2017 Salary & pension,	£446.49
HMRC, November 2017 ,	£17.40

---

S Thomas, Reimbursement for refreshments for night landing site tree removal volunteers  
£26.44

The following funds received were noted:

Memorial inscription	£40
ICCM Course reimbursement for refreshments	£76.50
Night landing site donation £30 & Wormcharming funds	£211.74

Steve Thomas reported on the installation of the lighting column for the Devon Air Ambulance night landing site. It may be completed mid December 2017. The PC minutes its thanks to Steve for his hard work to progress the project. Steve commended the work of volunteers, donors and fund raisers.

**117/17.3 Councillor allowances** – The meeting **resolved** that £125 annually was an appropriate amount for the allowances in 2017/18. They are intended to cover expenses associated with the basic duties of being a Councillor (not travel and subsistence). The allowances are taxable and the process to administer them is being researched.

Cllr Joyce gave apologies and left the meeting.

#### **117/17.4 2018/19 Budget**

The requirements for the 2018/19 budget were discussed. It was considered that the Churchyard wall reserve is adequate and that ongoing maintenance should prevent the need for intermittent large outgoings. The Community Shop will apply for grants to relocate and the current reserve was considered adequate. No allocation will be made for the purchase of a defibrillator because community ownership of the project is important. The community employment units require an additional allocation of £1-2,000 in 2018/19 budget. The former SHDC/DCC reserve is adequate. £150 will be added to the IT reserve. Consideration will be given to a reduction in the Precept.

#### **118/17 Correspondence**

The following miscellaneous correspondence was noted:

- SHDC 30/11/17 Notice that the future running of public toilets in the South Hams is being considered as part of the budget process.
- DCC 25/10/17 Briefing note on the Highway Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund.

#### **119/17 Reports from Parish Councillors and Wardens**

Cllr Rake will respond to correspondence about the speed of vehicles in the Village,

There is no longer a power socket in the lychgate for the Christmas lights. Cllr Rake will follow up.

Residents are encouraged to use their driveway/private parking rather the road to help reduce congestion in the Village.

The Clerk will follow up with Cllr Perry the possible relocation of a 30 mph sign.

#### **120/17 Marketing name for Town Farm Development**

It was agreed that Linden Homes would propose 'French Furze' as the marketing name. It is one of the historical names of the Town Farm fields. This might evolve into a street name. The community will be consulted as widely as possible about street names - so that residents have the opportunity to offer a view and to try to ensure that the final name has widespread support.

#### **121/17 Future Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on 9 January 2017.