

**DRAFT Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Blackawton Parish Council held on Tuesday 4 February 2020
at 7:30 p.m. in Blackawton Village Hall**

Open Forum

a) Footpath to Main Street from French Furze

A member of the public asked when Linden Homes will build the footpath from French Furze onto Main Street. They raised their concerns about the hazards of the current route via the road, and the obstacle to new residents integrating into the village which is created by the absence of a footpath.

It was agreed that BPC will approach Linden Homes to try to facilitate Linden Homes progressing installation of the path.

b) Hedges

A member of the public discussed the importance of post-planting care of trees and the value of trees being part of hedges. They discussed a hedge rating guide brochure. The School has supported its publication and used the brochure.

Present: Cllr Rake (Chair), Cllrs Mewes (Vice-Chair), Coe, Mallyon, Perry, Thomas and Wilson were present, as were South Hams District Cllr Reeve, Devon County Cllr Brazil for his report, three members of the public, and A Thom (Clerk).

21/20 Apologies

Cllr Wilson sent apologies that he needed to arrive slightly late to the meeting.

22/20 Declarations of Interest

None declared.

23/20 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Meeting held on 7 January 2020 were approved.

24/20 Report from South Hams District Councillor

Cllr Reeve mentioned the Aviva Community Fund programme is open to applications from eligible charities. SHDC has run a good workshop on Gypsies and Travellers. It is looking for suitable sites where Gypsies and Travellers could be relocated to.

25/20 Report from Devon County Councillor

Councillor Brazil reported that DCC is in its budget cycle. Its Cabinet meets on 14 February and there is a meeting of the full council on 20 February. The main budget issues are education, special educational needs and adult social care. Extra money being received for schools is welcome. It is likely that the tax for adult social care funding will be increased.

A citizens assembly is being set up to consider actions to address climate change. It will meet over 2-3 weekends and recommend an action plan.

There will be a meeting of Coleridge group of five parish councils, including Blackawton, on 26 February to discuss a proposal to move the war memorial from Torr Cross to Strete Gate, and secondly local actions on climate change and biodiversity.

26/20 Planning

26/20.1 SHDC Planning Approvals/Refusals

The following decision was noted:

- 0620/19/FUL Watsons Barn Park Lane Totnes TQ9 7AA. READVERTISEMENT (Revised plans received) Demolition of existing barn and erection of dwelling. Conditional Approval.

26/20.2 Review of New Applications

- 0114/20/FUL The Old Dairy North Millcombe Farm Blackawton Totnes TQ9 7AE. Extension of residential curtilage to serve barn approved under consent 2642/19/PDM.

Support (resolution proposed Cllr Rake, seconded Cllr Mallyon).

- 0142/20/HHO 55 French Furze Road Blackawton TQ9 7FN. Householder application for erection of single storey conservatory and single storey garden shed.

Support (resolution proposed Cllr Rake, seconded Cllr Coe).

- 0218/20/HHO Thorne Farm Blackawton TQ9 7BW. Householder application for extension to existing dwelling with relevant internal alterations, provision of a double garage.

Support (resolution proposed Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Wilson).

27/20 Emergency Plan

It was decided to use the Dittisham Emergency Plan as the basis for a Blackawton Plan, and that the Clerk will update with local content.

28/20 Grant Policy and Grant Application Form

It was resolved to adopt the proposed Policy, with the amendment that sections 5.7 and 5.8 regarding timing are removed, and the Form.

29/20 Installation of a Foot/Cycle Path to the A3122

Deferred to 3 March meeting.

30/20 Grit Bin

It was noted that DCC will replace the damaged grit bin on the corner of Park Lane and Main Street.

31/20 Lychgate Planting

Cllr Mewes reported that in the public vote on the three planting options, the Wildflower Meadow is the clear winner. Sustainable Blackawton has funds and will progress the project.

32/20 Parish Lengthsman

Cllrs Rake, Mallyon, and Perry will, as soon as possible and before the end of the financial year, drive around the Parish to agree a menu of works.

33/20 French Furze Project

It was requested that the departing responsible Planning Officer carry out a specific handover of this project.

The Business Units is not willing to take on hired fencing. It is BPC's view that the Units must be handed over in a safe condition and that if hired fencing is what makes it safe, it has not been left in a safe condition. Cllr Reeve offered to ask if Cllr Rake can speak to SHDC legal.

Cllr Reeve will ask if Cllr Rake can go to a site meeting on 6 February.

34/20 Finance

34/20.1 Update on Current Financial Position

The Report, which showed a balance of £57,547.14 and unearmarked reserves of £9,774.11, was read.

34/20.2 Payments Made, Due and Received

The following payment was approved:

- Website provider, Updates, Playing Fields & Sustainable Black. pages, £70.00

The following receipt was noted:

- DCC Making the Connection Grant to Sustainable Blackawton £300.00

35/20 Blackawton Playing Fields Committee Grant

It was resolved that BPC will make a grant of £4,370.40 to the Committee for steam cleaning and maintenance of playground equipment. This grant was discussed and agreed in principle when the work was carried out in 2017, however the invoice was not presented to BPC until now.

36/20 Maintenance Contract

It was unanimously resolved to accept the submission received for the advertised Maintenance Contract. It was agreed that the arrangement will be documented in a simple letter agreement, as suggested by the Clerk.

37/20 Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted:

- Devon County Council (Traffic Management) Permit Scheme Order 2020. Commences 2 March 2020. Permit scheme supports DCC in its legal duties to coordinate works and reduce disruption.

38/20 Reports from Parish Councillors and Wardens

Cllr Wilson reported that the Blackawton Playing Fields Committee has new members and he hopes it will make good progress. Cllr Rake offered his congratulations on the good outcome.

Cllr Mewes sent his thanks to everyone who participated in the poll to choose the lychgate planting scheme.

Cllr Coe reported that there will be a Big Lunch on the first weekend in June.

39/20 Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 3 March 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 21:16