

**DRAFT Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Blackawton Parish Council held on Tuesday 3 March 2020 at 7:30 p.m. in Blackawton Village Hall**

**Open Forum**

No matters raised.

**Present:** Cllrs 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, and A Thom (Clerk. There were no members of the public.

**40/20 Apologies**

All councillors present.

**41/20 Declarations of Interest**

None declared.

**42/20 Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The minutes of the Meeting held on 4 February 2020 were approved.

**43/20 Report from South Hams District Councillor**

Councillor Reeve reported that SHDC has backed the Local Electricity Energy Bill which is soon to be re-introduced in Parliament. It aims to make it viable for local renewable energy producers to sell their energy. A new waste collection system begins in September. SHDC will come to events to discuss the new system. The food waste caddy will be larger and collected weekly. Fusion Lifestyle will be employing professional cleaners, beginning next week. Fusion Lifestyle offers an outreach team, for example dementia awareness visits to year 5 and 6 primary school groups. SHDC has a workshop on Wednesday about how to improve community wellbeing. Cllr Thomas reported that he is discussing with an SHDC officer possible grants for the Blackawton Business Units.

**44/20 Report from Devon County Councillor**

Deferred pending the arrival of Cllr Brazil.

**45/20 Planning Issues**

**45/20.1 SHDC Planning Approvals/Refusals**

The following SHDC decisions were noted:

3551/19/FUL Forder Barn Blackawton TQ9 7AL. Demolition of existing agricultural building and construction of dwelling. Conditional Approval.

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 Withdrawn.

**45/20.2 Review of New Applications**

3563/19/FUL Barn At Sx 811 524 Dreyton Cross Blackawton. READVERTISEMENT (Revised Plans Received) Amendment to approval 0416/19/PDM (change of use of agricultural building to dwellinghouse (Class C3)), to include the creation of new site entrance, erection of stable block and use of associated land for equestrian purposes.

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

**46/20 Consultation**

SHDC, Request for feedback The Operational Carbon Reduction Plan, The South Hams Climate Change and Biodiversity Action Plan, and any suggested additional actions, by 31 March 2020

BPC will respond that:

- The Plan is broad and generic – it needs more detail about what it means in terms of specific initiatives.
- The Plan seems to take inadequate account of the effects of certain areas of policy, directly or indirectly, on carbon reduction efforts. For example, criteria for listed building planning applications can discourage improvements in listed buildings' energy performance - such as certain types of double glazing and solar panels on roofs. Similarly, car park provision policy could be used to proactively encourage the transition to electric vehicle use by residents and visitors, by increased provision of charge points and suspension of parking charges for vehicles being charged. More work would appear to be done on assessing how seemingly unrelated policy areas affect the goal of carbon reduction.
- Consideration of planning applications should take more account of woodland removal.

- Requesting that SHDC lobby central government for a zero carbon energy performance requirement for new build housing.

SHDC is budgeting four hundred thousand pounds for community initiatives to address climate change. Cllr Mewes suggested mapping, and car sharing which might need technical professional input.

#### **47/20 French Furze Project**

Further householders have been affected by water run-off from the site. Resolution of the drainage is SHDC's responsibility, and SHDC is involved and has been notified of recent events. There will be a discharge of conditions planning application. SHDC will require construction of the planned footpath to Main Street, the timing of its construction is under Linden Homes control. BPC is trying to discuss the footpath with Linden Homes.

#### **48/20 Installation of a Foot/Cycle path to the A3122**

Cllr Perry reported that the required land is not available, therefore this project is not feasible.

#### **49/20 Blackawton Phone Box**

Suggested possible uses for the space were a Blackawton museum, books, seed swap, rotating bookable pop up space, and a children's book and toy swap. It was suggested to ask the Primary School for ideas. The community will be asked for suggestions. If there are multiple suggestions there could be a poll in the Shop. Cllr Thomas reported that the box appears watertight, needs repainting, and there is a corroded metal strip on the right hand side. The door is stiff to open and close. It is of heritage value. Cllr Thomas will obtain help to assess the work required and bring a budget to the April meeting of BPC.

Cllr Thomas will take on this project. Cllr Rake will discuss the project with the School. Cllr Thomas will write an article for the Beacon.

The view is that going forward the phone box needs someone from the community to manage it.

#### **50/20 Planting of Area Outside Lychgate**

It was agreed that, for the next year, Cllr Mewes will be responsible for mowing the area.

#### **51/20 Website Accessibility Requirements**

The requirements were noted. It was resolved that a detailed check is a disproportionate burden. The expenditure for BPC's website provider to do the basic check of whether the website meets the international WCAG 2.1 AA standard and provide information required for an accessibility statement (£160) was approved.

#### **52/20 Finance**

##### **52/20.1 Update on Current Financial Position**

The report showed a balance of £52,687.58 and unearmarked reserves of £8,384.95.

##### **52/20.2 Payments Made and Received**

The following payment was approved:

- Website provider, Sustainable Blackawton rebuild, full backup and update, £60.00

The following payments received were noted:

- Parishioner, EROB \* 2 Section E, £130.00
- Funeral Services Ltd, Interment of ashes in section G, £125.00

##### **52/20.3 Clerk's Expenses**

It was resolved to approve the expenses reimbursement claim CE16 £58.89.

**52/20.4** The Chair and Clerk approved the payment of Lengthsman invoice £40.00.

#### **53/20 Reports from Parish Councillors and Wardens**

Cllr Perry and Clerk will report to DCC two areas of hedge which have grown over the lanes and are affecting passage of traffic.

Cllr Mewes' proposal that SHDC supply commercial holiday accommodation with access to recycling services will be on BPC's April Agenda.

Cllr Coe will report to DCC some bad potholes in the Parish. There is a 'Report It' red button on the bottom right hand side of [www.blackawtoncommunity.com](http://www.blackawtoncommunity.com)

Cllr Brazil entered the meeting with apologies that he had been delayed at another parish council meeting.

Cllr Mallyon will write an article about street lighting for the Beacon.

Cllr Thomas raised concerns that the planned diversion route during the resurfacing of the road from Eastdown / Cornish Copse to Oldstone Cross is through narrow winding lanes of Blackawton and Millcombe, and therefore unsuitable for the type and volume of traffic carried by the road being resurfaced. The Clerk and Cllr Brazil will raise with DCC.

Cllr Rake will discuss with the owner, a disused vehicle on Greenslade Road.

Cllrs Rake, Mallyon and Perry completed a drive around of roads in the Parish to assess required drainage works. This will be an item on the April Agenda.

Cllr Rake reported on the meeting in February of Coleridge group of five parish councils:

SHDC's new waste system was described to the meeting. Grey waste will continue to be collected fortnightly. There will be a weekly recycling collection of a food waste caddy, a bag, and two boxes – with a wider range of recyclables collected.

The Slapton Monument is being relocated to the walled garden at Strete Gate. The new location is owned by the Field Studies Centre. The proposal is that the cost of ongoing upkeep be met by the Parish Councils named on the monument contributing pro-rata based on their population. A high estimate of the annual cost is £900. Strete will run the project. This will be an item on BPC's April Agenda.

There was a climate change discussion in the meeting.

**54/20 Report from Devon County Councillor**

Cllr Brazil reported that DCC's budget will increase its component of Council Tax by the maximum permitted (3.99 recurring %) and Adult Social Care by a ring fenced 2%. There is more money in this budget. Special Educational Needs is the main cost pressure area. DCC has a £20 million overspend this financial year and £25 million next year. This overspend will be packaged and set aside. There is a change planned in the distribution of the New Homes Bonus and DCC will be getting a greater proportion. The Climate Change Forum is keen to hear of projects. Sustainable South Brent has an event on the Saturday after Easter. The roads are in a poor state after the wet weather.

**55/20 Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Council**

The Annual Parish Meeting will be on Tuesday 19 May at 7:30 pm. BPC's Health Representative will talk to the meeting, Nick Hindmarsh will be invited to discuss Social Prescribing, and SHDC invited to discuss the new waste and recycling system.

The Annual Meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 5 May, immediately before the ordinary meeting.

**56/20 Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 7 April 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 21:18.