

# Abbotsham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Abbotsham Parish Council held on Tuesday 20 February 2024

**Present:** Councillors, Lilly (Vice Chair), Reed, Davey- Potts, Mullins and Wilson  
Cllr Pennington (TDC)  
Cllr Wilton-Love (DCC)

**Apologies** – Jenna Tolley, Dominic Wilton-Love,  
Not Present - Sarah Walton.

## 1. To Register Members New Interests - none

## 2. Items raised by members of public –

Tony Sloan – Racecourse Bungalow – requesting purchasing the heated box for the defibrillator. Parish council contribute £200, County Councillor £200, District Councillor remaining to be paid by Parish Council.

Liz Rendle PCSO – Community Police officer, try to attend a couple meetings a year,  
Crime stats – 2 x Public Order

1 x Blackmail

2 x Sexual offences

4 x domestic related

1 x Fraud (online)

3 x Criminal Damage

1 x Theft

2 x Burglary (non dwellings). 2 sheds on the allotments were broken into during the same committed times.

Weekly crime reports now not available

Leaflets – what number to call and when

Sign up to get notifications of crime or missing persons

## 3. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda and Minutes

3.1 Declarations of interest by Councillors within agenda – None

3.1.1 Minutes of previous meeting held on 23 January 2024 to be approved – all agreed

3.1.2 Matters arising not covered by Agenda –

## 4. Report by Councillor Philip Pennington or Robert Hicks

Budget set, Increase 2.9% - £184 approximately for band D to £189

Staff cost increases, wins – reserves, parking, planning all help, bought in accommodation. Martime centre, works kick in next year. Levelling up. DCC – 6 week consultation on devolution, bring in Torbay into Devon. Land trusts may begin to come through.

Parish councillors would like to look into land trust on glebe land. Phil will send through information on land trust.

Sharon has contacted Devon community together and someone will come to the meeting. Let Cllr Pennington know when she's attending.

## 5. Report by County Councillor Jeffery Wilton-Love

Devolution – will it be accepted as it is or with minor amendments. It will bring more money into the county. Wider scope of interpretation as we want it to be seen. Not heading to a unitary.

Budget set – council tax increased by 5% £84 per year.

A39 works in next years budget for resurfacing from traffic lights to Heywood Road roundabouts.

Road warden scheme signed

New highways officer – Tom – email him about priority sign at bridge.

Road towards Greencliff flooded

Keene Lane needs resurfacing

Roger has reported matters so will let Jeff know the references

## 6. Planning

- 6.1 1/0086/2024/FUL - Erection of first floor extension, 14 Shepherds Meadow Abbotsham – no objections
- 6.2 1/0110/2023/REMM Reserved matters application for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for a proposal of 200 dwellings pursuant to outline planning permission 1/0947/2020/OUTM and associated infrastructure (Amended Plans) Land At Grid Reference 242647 125879 Clovelly Road Bideford – **Approved**
- 7.3 1/0822/2023/FULM - Outline application with all matters reserved except access for the development of up to 200 dwellings with associated works (Variation of condition 15 of planning approval 1/0947/2020/OUTM) - Biodiversity Net Gain, Land At Grid Reference 242647 125879, Clovelly Road, Bideford, - **Withdrawn**

## 7. Clerks Report

- 7.1 Speed signs – quote for installing panels and extended pole – approach Simon Cook electrician
- 7.2 Road Warden Scheme – now registered
- 7.3 Temporary traffic orders – emails circulated
- 7.4 Planters for village – plan circulated – agreed to proceed, will also need soil.
- 7.5 Letter to Rick – email sent, email Rick email again in a week advising if we don't have a response within 7 days then we will be referring it to DCC highways.new highway officer
- 7.6 Road sweeping Pump Lane – Cllr Pennington to speak to Richard Haste
- 7.7 Heated box for Defibrillator at Race Course Bungalow – see public items
- 7.8 Letter from XLinks – unlikely for anything to be happening for some time. No need to respond to letter

## 9. Chairs Report

- 9.1 Abbotsham Volunteers – not done anything recently
- 9.2 Footpath at The Big Sheep – no update at present
- 9.3 Sale of Glebe Field/church land – Chris has looked at funding, spoken to a few solicitor. Expert solicitor in Holsworthy for land trust. Solicitor in Penzance – for crowdfunding. Can do agreement with Church to have first choice option, so that we could do what we feel the parish need. Option will cost £20 - £30000. Big step – would we want to do to protect the land. Massive undertaking – would need public meeting.  
CLT – originally from USA, could be good thing for affordable housing, what we want to do with the land, recruit people, businesses, school, church. Not ready for a public meeting at this stage. Need a business plan and need to be affordable. Mandy from Devon Community Together. If we want to continue

after that there would be a cost of £390 for training.  
School want a nursery, parking, drop off for school, land not available for housing then.  
CLT – land is always held by the trust – Contact the clerk at High Bickington to see if we can speak to anyone connected to CLT

Sharon sent letter to Graham Davis (Church diocese) on behalf of Parish Council outlining our interest

## **10 Finance**

- 10.1 Bank account signatories
- 10.2 Payment of Invoices
  - Buzz for first aid course
- Grant request from Church

## **11.0 Correspondence**

Round Robin Items – emails from  
Rural Service Network  
Devon Community  
Devon County Council  
Torridge District Council  
Any others  
Email review

Dream Big Think Big – 6 week consultation for public to have their say on Devon/Torbay devolution deal, Combined County Authority for Devon and Torbay to oversee new power and funding from Government – investment in local economic growth, delivering affordable housing, improving public transport, meeting zero net ambitions. Visit Devon & Torbay Devolution Deal Website

20mph Speed limit – 3<sup>rd</sup> tranche 24-25 financial year – forms must be completed by 1 March. Also mentions potholes – increased nos reported, encouraged to use 'report a problem' on Devon.gov.uk website, roads and transport.  
Banners, decorations and lighting over highway should be notified to highways.  
Check grit stores

National Village Hall Week – 18 – 24 March encouraging village halls to go more green. ACRE can publish energy efficient guidelines.

XLinks – pre planning, scoping report deadline 27<sup>th</sup> February, identify land, description of proposed development, explanation of significant effects.

Childcare Support – Gov planning cash incentive and campaign to raise profile of childcare to recruit more staff. Campaign to waive council tax for care leavers.

Grants – courses for getting online, coastal fountain fund – 23 Feb, suicide prevention 28 Feb, Community library £100-£200 – 3 March

Defib grant scheme £750 installed with 4 weeks

Tom Cox is the new Neighbourhood Highways officer.

## **12 Any Other Business**

Check with Jenna if Colin has checked the grit bins and households have their grit bins.  
Defib at the Thatch, Kenwith had borrowed it, not sure if it was used. If it has

been used it will need a new battery. Responsibility of who bought it – Did the parish council purchase it? Think it may have been the Pantomime funds. Email Neil – what is a scheme for maintenance of defibrillator at the Thatch. Is there a service plan

**13 Items raised by Councillors for inclusion on the next agenda**

**Thank you afternoon Tea.**