

DEAN PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting Held on

MONDAY 7th March 2022 at 7.00pm. in the Village Hall in Dean Prior

Present – Cllrs Chew , Bailey (Chair) and Wetherall
Dist Cllr Guy Pannell , Dist Cllr Peter Smerdon & C Cllr Dan Thomas
Clerk - Karen Gilbert

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NONE

Full reports available from the Clerk - all reports circulated to Councillors in advance

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL - Cllr Guy Pannell

Council tax

At the February meeting South Hams Council voted to increase Council Tax by £5 a year for Band D properties – equivalent to 10p a week. The Government has factored in this increase – the maximum allowed without a referendum – into funding presumptions for the coming year. An Opposition amendment to make no increase this year was defeated. The SHDC budget includes a £200,000 fund for investment in community composting.

When the precepts for Parish, District and County Councils, and Police and Fire authorities are added together the average yearly demand for a Band D property will be £2,155.30. That's an increase of £64.75, or 3.1%, on last year

Refuse/recycling

Performance by the contractors is slowly improving but we can't yet say when the switch to recycling boxes will resume.

The temporary suspension of the garden waste (Brown bin) service is due to end on 31 March. At a series of meetings between SHDC Executive and the contractor FCC it has been very firmly expressed that our expectation is that the garden waste service should resume by April at the latest. FCC have confirmed that they are committed to ensuring that they meet their contractual obligations.

We will update residents as soon as further information is available.

DNPA

It was reported that DNPA was still waiting for the Grant settlement figure for 2022/23 without which forming a Budget and planning ahead was proving difficult. It was mentioned that the Officers were still analysing the responses to the Consultation re Byelaws

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL Cllr Daniel Thomas

Just one item this month to report: **Budget**

Council tax increase of 2.99%, meaning a rise of £45.18 for a Band D – the total for Band D now being £1556.46 for the year.

Extra £29.6 million on adult care and health (up 10.5%)

Extra £17.1 million in Children's Services (up 10.8%)

Highways – no change in real terms which is going to cause us a significant headache with local requests going forward, I'm sorry to say, as I had hoped for an increase here too.

Much of this extra money is going to have to be found out of Council reserves. Not only is the Govt not giving local authorities enough cash to carry out their statutory duties, but it is also actively

insisting that all Councils raise Council Tax by the highest amount allowed. I believe this to be the wrong approach, not least because it (Council Tax) is a regressive tax which takes no account of income and bases everything on outdated property values.

The other piece of very bad news is that the locality budget given to each County Councillor to support your local schemes has been reduced from £10,000 to £8,000. This reduction, representing saving of £120,000 - or 0.0024% of the Council's total spending power (some £600 million) seems difficult to justify, in financial terms, in meeting our requirement to help communities stay strong, connected and resilient, but most of all in supporting local projects that do not attract other funding streams.

22/03/01 Apologies for absence - Cathie Pannell

22/03/02 Approval of Minutes

To consider , amend as agreed by the Council (if required) & approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th February 2022 - **APPROVED**

22/03/03- Declarations of Interest None from Cllrs **Dispensation requests - None**

22/03/04 Clerks Report -

The Clerk advised that she had

- Contacted National Highways re graffiti on bridge over A38 and also at Drybridge
- Contacted DNPA Ranger re the Bull sign on footpath across field - **DNPA dealing**

ACTION ; CLERK TO CHASE NATIONAL HIGHWAYS RE GRAFFITI

22/03/05 Planning - Nothing to consider

22/03/06 - Finance

a) Approval of cheque - APPROVED

Karen Gilbert - expenses/ home allowance/admin/mileage / cost living backpay. £132.87
Information Commissioner GDPR renewal £40.00

The Clerk advised the Council of the anticipated end of year bank balance

22/03/07 Highway matters

Dog Bin - Following the decision by SHDC not to provide a bin or provide free emptying , it was **RESOLVED** that the Council purchase a bin and pay the £3 per week for its emptying

It was **NOTED** that SHDC needed to be advised of a proposed location for approval

ACTION : CLERK TO CIRCULATE ALTERNATIVES TO PURCHASE

ACTION : CLERK TO FORWARD LOCATION TO SHDC FOR APPROVAL

It was also **NOTED** that the Cycle route through the Village had been approved and was in use
It was **RESOLVED** that the Council applies to become part of Devon County's 20mph trial - the area identified as the existing 30 mph area

22/03/08 - PC admin - It was **NOTED** that the main noticeboard had been replaced but that its general state was not good . It was **RESOLVED** that a replacement be sourced and **NOTED** that the sum of £500 received through grants from SHDC / Devon County

ACTION ; CHAIRMAN TO PROVIDE EXAMPLES FOR CONSIDERATION

It was **AGREED** that the Annual Parish Meeting would take place at 7pm on 4/4/22 followed by the Regular meeting

There was no parishioner response / interest on the Facebook post regarding Jubilee celebrations

22/03/09- Correspondence - correspondence had been emailed during the month.

22/03/10 Councillors business for next agenda - NOTICEBOARD

22/03/11- Date/time of next meeting Monday 4th April 2022 APM at 7pm -followed by meeting

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.00pm