

DEAN PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting Held on

Monday 5th February 2024 at 7.00 pm. in the Village Hall in Dean Prior

Present – Cllrs Bailey (Chair) Chew, Rutley, Smerdon and Thorn
and Dist Cllr David Hancock and the Clerk , Karen Gilbert

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NONE

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

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL - FULL REPORT AVAILABLE FROM CLERK

South Hams residents can sign up to or renew their subscription for our garden waste collection service from 15 February. The fee is going up this year to cover costs, though we're offering a discount to those who sign up early. Anyone who signs up between 15 February and 1 April 2024 will pay a discounted fee of £52 for a year-long subscription running from April 2024 that covers collections for one brown wheelie bin.

There is a maximum of two subscriptions (which would cover two bins) per household. Anyone who signs up after 31 March will pay £55. This is an increase on last year's fee,

Our partners Learn Devon have a range of free courses to choose from to help residents build on their digital skills.

They could help with things like accessing digital banking, connecting with loved ones online and accessing job and training opportunities.

Courses include help with the first steps to getting online, building computer confidence to gaining a nationally recognised 'Award in Digital Skills'.

but it is necessary to cover rising costs.

DEVON COUNTY -

Proposed transfer of powers and funding to local government

The Minister for Levelling Up, Jacob Young, was at the EPIC Centre in Torbay last week to sign a ground-breaking deal that could transfer significant decision-making powers and funding, from Whitehall to local government in Devon and Torbay.

The proposed Deal could mean that more decisions can be taken locally by people who know their areas best, and on things that matter to local people, such as building more affordable homes, investing in new quality jobs and skills, and improving public transport.

Mr Young was joined yesterday by the Leaders of Devon County Council and Torbay Council, two local MPs, and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

But before the proposal can be confirmed, it first needs to be supported by the two councils, followed by a six-week public consultation.

The proposed deal could create up to 50,000 new training and retraining opportunities by 2030

So what is the Devolution Deal?

The 40-page proposed Deal sets out in detail proposals that could see the transfer of powers and funding to a Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority, subject to public consultation. The proposed Combined County Authority would be a partnership made up of Councillors representing the councils of Devon and Torbay, including District Councils, and representatives from business and education.

Together, that partnership would deliver on a jointly agreed programme, working alongside a wide range of local stakeholders to tackle key local priorities.

The Government has chosen Devon and Torbay as one of only a small number of local authority areas in the country to form a Combined County Authority (hereafter CCA), that will not require an elected Mayor or changes to the current structure of local councils.

The proposals would create a joint local action plan for affordable housing schemes for local people

What would the Deal allow the local councils to do?

It would allow important decisions to be taken locally by people who know their areas best, on things that matter to local people, such as building more affordable homes, investing in new quality jobs and skills, and improving public transport.

Here's a summary of the highlights:

- under the proposals, the CCA would have direct control of adult education to create up to 50,000 new training and retraining opportunities by 2030
- it would create a stronger relationship between employers and schools, colleges and universities to provide the skilled workforce the local economy needs for the future
- it would see the Government transfer over £16 million to invest in new green jobs, homes, skills, and business growth, and accelerate Devon and Torbay's transition to a net-zero economy
- there would be a stronger partnership with Homes England to create a joint local action plan for affordable housing schemes for local people, and reduce homelessness
- it would lead to even closer working between Devon and Torbay to improve the efficiency and co-ordination of public transport. There is an ambition to introduce a single ticketing system for travellers and investment in services to provide greater access to public transport
- Devon and Torbay would be responsible for developing, designing and delivering the next stages of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund from 2025
- there would be a significant boost to high growth business sectors in Devon and Torbay, such as advanced marine engineering, defence, photonics and digital

For more information on the Devolution Deal, there is a website:

www.devontorbaydeal.org.uk

DNPA

More Miles Without Stiles routes launched

Four new Miles Without Stiles routes have been added to DNPA's growing bank of accessible routes.

Waymarked paths at Norsworthy Bridge, Brent Island, Burrator Arboretum and Yarner Wood have been added in the last few months meaning people with mobility scooters, pushchairs and wheelchairs can enjoy time in these wonderful places.

DNPA's award-winning Miles Without Stiles is aimed at creating accessible and well-maintained networks to get more people more active, more often. DNPA works with the Dartmoor Wheelchair Access Group and landowners so existing networks can be used, or new ones created, with Defra funding paying for upgrading infrastructure such as gates or waymarking.

Rangers continue using body-worn video cameras

After a successful two-year trial, Dartmoor Rangers will continue using body worn video cameras (BWV).

Rangers have been using BWV as part of their role since early 2022; the equipment was introduced to protect their health, safety and welfare, and has been used in situations where there's been risks of physical or verbal abuse.

The equipment has played a valuable role in helping the team when dealing with potentially sensitive and high-risk situations. Data shows the Rangers have worn the equipment 211

times and activated the cameras seven times, mainly in relation to precautionary incidents such as dealing with raves, verbal abuse and evidence gathering.

24/02/01 Apologies for absence - Cllr Dan Thomas

24/02/02 Approval of Minutes

To consider , amend as agreed by the Council (if required) & approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th December 2023 - **APPROVED**

24/02/03 Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Smerdon - Planning - as DNPA member (standing Interest)

Cllr Chew - Planning 0050/24 - as Neighbour

Dispensation requests - None

24/02/04- Parish Council admin -

To note the Annual Parish Meeting will take place on 4th March 2024 **NOTED**

To adopt a Biodiversity Policy **ADOPTED**

24/02/05- Emergency Planning for the Parish - ongoing

24/02/06 Clerks Report - NOTHING

24/02/07 Planning

NB COUNCILLOR SMERDON DECLARED AN INTEREST AS A MEMBER OF DNPA REMAINING IN THE ROOM TO LISTEN TO DEBATE - BUT TOOK NO PART IN DECISION MAKING NOR OFFERED ANY OPINION

0050/24 OBJECTION *	Full Planning Permission - Householder	10 Cross View, Dean Prior, Buckfastleigh, Devon, TQ11 0LU	Proposed new outbuilding to create ancillary accommodation
0014/24 NOTED	Prior Notification	Addislade Bungalow, Deancombe, Buckfastleigh, Devon, TQ11 0NA	Extension to existing barn

OBJECTION to 0050/24

- Overdevelopment of the site
- Highways safety concerns - the egress from the designated parking has poor visibility when pulling onto a narrow highway
- Lack of alternative parking
- The proposal exceeds the maximum percentage increase allowed

a) To decide on a speaker at DNPA planning Committee meeting re app at Timbers Road

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk prepare a draft statement for consideration . Once that had been agreed , the Clerk was authorised to attend to speak at DNPA Planning Committee on behalf off the Council - should the need arise

BAILEY / CHEW / THORN for - RUTLEY AGAINST - SMERDON ABSTAINED

24/02/08— Finance

a) Approval of cheque APPROVED

Karen Gilbert expenses12/23 AND 01/24 + Stationery £114.19

24/02/09 Highway matters

It was reported that a camper van had been parked up under the A38 for some time

It was also reported that travellers had moved from Marley Head to the the road to White Oxen at Dry Bridge

ACTION ; CLERK TO REPORT TO HIGHWAYS

24/02/10 - Correspondence - correspondence had been emailed during the month.

24/02/11 Councillors business for next agenda. Emergency planning Bus shelter

24/02/12 Date/time of next meeting.

4th March 2024 - Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm followed by ordinary PC meeting

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.20pm