

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LANDKEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 4th DECEMBER 2024 AT 7.00 p.m.**

Present: - Councillor Halliday (Chair)
Councillors Consterdine, Hayes, Hommell, Lane, Prowse and
Warwick.

NDC Councillors Haworth-Booth and Lane

DCC Councillor Henderson

M Isaac (Clerk)

In Attendance: Parishioner/Members of the Public – None

166. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Clayton

167. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th November 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to minute 143 (b) being amended to state that Councillor Hayes would be dipping the Burma Star Standard.

**168. ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD WHICH IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIR
SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY**

The Chair reported that the new defibrillator had been received at a grant aided cost of £750 from London Hearts and would be installed in the next few weeks.

169. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest announced.

170. PUBLIC SESSION

There were no issues raised by Parishioners.

171. DCC COUNCILLOR REPORT

DCC Councillor Henderson reported the following:

- Pedestrian Safe Routes. These would need to go to Transport/Strategic Planning
- For the first site, there was already a safe pedestrian route from the crossing, through Mazzard Close, up Bakery Way that terminates 30m short of the footpath at the junction of Vicarage Road/Blakes Hill. That will probably link up when the land on the north of Vicarage Road was developed and would be part of the planning process.
- Landkey Newlands to Swimbridge would be a long term aspiration, if at all, one that may not happen for 20+ years, sooner if development occurs along that corridor.

- Landkey to Newport. He was aware that the EDG team had had a brief to look at feasibility and design of a shared use path along this route, but not sure on the timeframe for this or it was just a feasibility for future consideration.
NDC Councillor Haworth-Booth agreed to contact the South West Road Safety Partnership regarding possible funding of the schemes.
- Highways As part of the overall review process highlighted in previous reports, trials had begun on a new 'online' dashboard which would allow both Parish and Town Council Clerks to access highways information directly related to their own areas. This would also show planned/upcoming works in the coming months.
- Council welcomes new parliamentary step in the journey towards devolved powers
The 'Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority Regulations 2024', a 'statutory instrument' (SI), had been laid in Parliament, paving the way towards the creation of the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority. The Regulations would be debated in the House of Commons and the House of Lords. When they were signed by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, under powers delegated by the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023, the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority (CCA) would come into being. The CCA would make decisions about the powers and funding devolved from Whitehall to Devon and Torbay through the deal that was agreed in January this year. The Leader of Devon County Council, Councillor James McInnes, said: "We welcome this important milestone on the journey towards creating the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority. Devolved power means that significantly important decisions, about key priorities such as housing, employment, education and skills, and the environment – priorities that make a real difference to all of our lives – can be made locally by people who live and work in Devon and Torbay. We look forward to its progress through Parliament, and to the formation of the Devon and Torbay CCA early in the new year."
- Devon County Council set to demand 'family farm tax' is withdrawn The immediate withdrawal of the proposed family farm tax was being called for in an urgent motion to be debated by Devon County Council. The call was being made by Okehampton Rural County Councillor Lois Samuel who was also a member of the ruling Cabinet. In a Notice of Motion to be discussed by the Council on December 5, she says the imposition of inheritance tax by the Labour Government is a threat to the existence of many family farms. It will also jeopardise this country's food security, environmental safeguards and the rural way of life which depends on farming.
- Emergency tree fund extended National Tree Week was celebrated in Devon until Sunday 1 Dec with an announcement that Emergency Tree Funding, granted by the Woodland Trust, had been extended to help with our Free Tree Scheme this winter.
- Plans for thousands of new EV chargers given 'greenlight' Cabinet had approved a scheme which would deliver up to 2,000 new Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers across Devon. Cabinet approval of the scheme on Wednesday followed the Government awarding than £7m funding to deliver thousands of new publicly accessible EV charging points up to 2030. Teignbridge, Torbay and West Devon Councils. The scheme is good news for residents who want to be able to charge vehicles closer to their properties the scheme include trials of both charge points built into streetlighting columns and cable channels in the footway to avoid cables trailing across pavements.

172. NDC COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

NDC Councillor Haworth-Booth reported the following:

- That he had attended a Thematic Workshop regarding the Local Plan on health and wellbeing planning.
- That he would send a NDC highlights report to the Clerk for circulation to all Councillors.

NDC Councillor Lane had no NDC issues to report.

173. CO-OPTION

The Clerk reported that interest had been received from one Parishioner. The vacancy would be filled at the January meeting.

174. LANDKEY MAZZARD COMMUNITY HALL TRUST WORKING GROUP – UPDATE

The Clerk reported that the Group had now opened a charity bank account. As agreed by the Parish Council £2,100 had been transferred into the new account.

The Chair reported that the Planning application for the new Community Hall had now been submitted and the donation from the benefactor would be received in early January. A pledge was required to be signed to the Charity would only use these funds for the specified purpose of building the new hall.

175. POLICE

Councillor Consterdine reported that the written apology (previously circulated) from the perpetrator of the graffiti had now been received.

The Council accepted the apology.

176. HIGHWAY MATTERS

Councillor Lane reported that he had spoken to the Planning Officers regarding vehicles parking along Birch and unfortunately there was no condition on the planning consent prohibiting the parking.

177. PLAYING FIELDS

There were no issues reported.

178. MILLENNIUM GREEN

Councillor Consterdine reported that there was some tree clearance to enable the larger trees to grow.

179. OLD SCHOOL CENTRE

It was noted that the external light had been fixed.

180. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER

There were no issues reported.

181. SOCIAL MEDIA

The Council noted the up-to-date statistics on the Landkey Parish Council Facebook page.

From 1 Jan 24 - 11 November 24:

23,718 reach

895 content interactions

47 followers

182. GENERAL MAINTENANCE

There were no issues reported. The Council noted the work undertaken over the previous month

183. FINANCE MATTERS

a) Payments

RESOLVED:

That the following payments be approved:

M. Isaac Expenses	£28.70
HMRC Income Tax Payment – Clerk/Caretaker Salary	£193.20
PrintworkX – Newsletter	£130.00
Woodward Smith – Architect Fees re Mazzard Hall	£308.88
North Devon Council – Planning Application Fees Mazzard Hall	£2,382.00
CAF Bank – Transfer of agreed funds for Mazzard Hall Project	£2,100.00
London Hearts – Donation New Defibrillator	£750.00
C. Waldron – Web Site Maintenance	£36.00
Current Electrics – Replacement Floodlight OSC	£79.70
P. Prouse – General Maintenance	£72.00
Southern Alarms – Half yearly emergency alarm and lighting check	£78.00
S. Harman – Sundries OSC	£3.75

(b) The current financial position as at 28th October 2024 - Current A/C £46,501.54 (£1,557.29 remained grant ringed fenced for Community Building Fees) and - Business Reserve 9th October 2024 £23,720.12 was noted.

(c) Budget and Precept 2025/26.

The Council considered and agreed the draft budget (previously circulated) and noted the

current financial position and bank reconciliation (previously circulated) and discussed the precept for 2025/2026.

It was agreed that:

- (i) Future consideration be given to the allocation of a reserve for the new Community Mazzard Hall building.
- (ii) The precept for 2025/2026 be increased by 5% to £21,498.75

(d) Bank accounts – Introduction of account fee

The Clerk reported that the bank was introducing a per account maintenance fee of £4.25 per month as from 14th January 2025 and that the Treasurer account was being re-named Community Account.

The fee was noted.

184. PLANNING MATTERS

The Council considered the following Planning Applications:

- a) **79270** Removal of static caravan & erection of residential annexe, demolition of existing agricultural shed & erection of agricultural tractor garage and workshop with associated works, Broadmoor Barn, Acland Road, Landkey

Recommended No comment

- b) **79463** Extension to dwelling to create sunroom/office, 4 Crossway Cottages, Denes Road, Landkey

Recommended No objections

- c) **79413** Retrospective siting of shepherd's hut for ancillary accommodation, Dasset, Vicarage Road, Landkey

Recommended No comment

185. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported the receipt of the following:

- a) A request for an additional shelf in the book exchange phone box. It was agreed that an additional shelf be provided at a cost of £75.00
- b) A request from the Landkey Hedgehog Group for the purchase of hedgehog highway surrounds as part of the highway project.
It was agreed to defer consideration for the Chair to seeking costings and current accounts from the group
- c) An update from North Devon Council (previously circulated) regarding the five year land supply calculations. The published statement demonstrated a five year housing land supply equivalent to 5.18 years which represented a 104% of five year requirement. However, the Governments proposed national housing policy changes following consultation were awaited.

186. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

There were no issues raised.

187. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Wednesday 8th January 2025.

Chairman the meeting ended at 8.37 p.m.