

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LANDKEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7.00 p.m.**

Present: - Councillor Halliday (Chair)
Councillors Clayton, 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

141. APOLOGIES

There were no Apologies.

142. MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd October 2024 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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

The Chair raised the following issues:

a) Defibrillator – Landkey Newlands

That a resident in Meadow Close had agreed to the defibrillator being located the outside wall of their property and to provide the electricity.

It was agreed to continue the progress the provision and purchase of a defibrillator at Landkey Newlands.

b) Remembrance Wreath

That the Service would be held in the Village Hall at 10.00 am and War Memorial at 10.45 am.

It was agreed that Councillor Clayton lay the Remembrance Wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

Councillor Hayes thanked Member for suggesting that he lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council but he was already laying a wreath on behalf of the Burma Star.

144. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest announced.

145. PUBLIC SESSION

There were no issues raised by Parishioners.

146. POLICING ISSUES

PC Chelsea Lloyd and PCSO Michelle Fenge attended the meeting to update Council on Policing issues in the area.

PC Lloyd stated that as the Barnstaple Rural Neighbourhood Team they covered the following areas Bishops Tawton, Landkey, Swimbridge and Whiddon Valley.

The Neighbourhood Policing Team consisted of Neighbourhood Team Leaders (police sergeants), Neighbourhood Beat Managers (police officers) and police community support officers (PCSOs) who were accountable to their local community. A key element of the role was to undertake community engagement to understand community concerns and update them on police activity in order to build confidence.

Over the last 3 months in the Barnstaple Rural Neighbourhood Area there had been 156 incidents of which 40 were non-attendance issues. There were no burglaries and most incidents related to one person in the Town Centre.

She stated that she would chase up the apology letter from the offender regarding the recent graffiti issues.

147. DCC COUNCILLOR REPORT

DCC Councillor Henderson reported the following:

- **Highways** A review of the overall management delivery of Highways matters had begun looking at all options for the future. He had made direct representation on a one to one call with the Leader (James McInnes) earlier in the week as he felt that Highways should have its own Overview & Scrutiny Committee in the same way that Adult Health & Social Care & Children's Services do. This would allow direct intervention from elected members to raise and act upon the many failings of the current system, to be addressed.
- **New Buses** Stagecoach South West had invested over £1.5 million in 12 brand new single deck buses for its North Devon fleet. The new Optare 'Solo' buses would replace older vehicles and operate on various routes out of Barnstaple including the newly awarded Lynton, Lynmouth and Woolacombe services.
- **Household Support Fund** The government had announced further household support funding until the end of March 2025 to help households that were struggling with the costs of energy, food, water and other essentials. DCC will receive a share of the Household Support Fund, as received each year since 2021. This allocation was a little over £5 million. DCC were now considering how to distribute the funding, working closely with Devon's eight District, City and Borough councils and voluntary and community partners.
- **Become a County Councillor** The next county council elections were in May next year, and to help potential candidates understand the role and a councillor's responsibilities, DCC were inviting the public to sign up for an information session. The two sessions, which you can attend either in person or online, were on Tuesday, 10 December at 5pm and Thursday, 16 January at 9am.

- New Team to help Care Experienced Young People A new team to help the care experienced by young people to navigate the mental health system had launched this week. The Therapeutic Wellbeing Service for care leavers would support access to existing mental health services, identify gaps in provision, and advocate for young people in strategic meetings. It will also be able to offer some therapeutic support themselves.
- Devon Recycling Rate Increases Devon had maintained its position as having the second highest recycling rate in the country for Waste Disposal Authorities. Figures published showed that recycling rates in Devon were 54.5 per cent during 2023/24, an increase of 0.5 per cent on the previous year. Additionally, new figures showed that 78.7 per cent of items were recycled. Also there has been a reduction in the amount of household waste being sent to landfill from 3.4 per cent to 1.3 per cent in 2023/24.
- Assault on Civil Enforcement Officer
A man found guilty of assaulting a civil enforcement officer was found guilty of assault and assault by battery in May. He was sentenced at Barnstaple Magistrates Court to a 12-month community order and ordered to complete 250 hours of unpaid work and to pay compensation and court fees amounting to £984.
- Council & Colleges Collaborate to Enhance SEND Education Colleges in Devon were working with DCC to provide more places specifically to support the further education of hundreds of young people with special educational needs and disabilities, (SEND). At least 350 additional post 16 education places for young people with SEND will be created at Exeter College and PETROC College's two campuses in Barnstaple and Tiverton.

The Chair/Clerk reported the receipt of an email from MPC Lansdell regarding the provision of a footpath between Swimbridge and Landkey. DCC Councillor Henderson agreed raise the issue with DCC Officers.

148. NDC COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

NDC Councillor Haworth-Booth reported the following:

- That Planning Application 79237 12 The Orchards had been approved at NDC Planning Committee.
- That there was a Local Plan workshop on Friday with Torridge District Council to progress the Local Plan review.
- That the Speedwatch team on Monday 4 November between 8 am and 9.00 am had recorded 205 vehicles but no infringements of speeding.

It was noted that the Speedwatch team had submitted a 20 mph speed restriction application to DCC for Swimbridge

DCC Councillor Henderson agreed to seek information regarding an extension of the 30 mph speed restriction at Valley Close.

NDC Councillor Lane had no NDC issues to report.

149. CO-OPTION

The Clerk reported that no applications had been received. The vacancy had been re-advertised.

150. LANDKEY MAZZARD COMMUNITY HALL TRUST WORKING GROUP – UPDATE

The Chair reported that the Group had now opened a charity bank account. There was a £5.00 monthly fee for the account and he requested that the Council agree to transfer £100 to the new account to meet these costs.

It was agreed that £100 be transferred to the Charity Bank Account to meet the monthly costs.

151. LANDKEY SHAPING OUR FUTURE DOCUMENT – REVIEW.

The Chair reported that the Landkey Shaping Our Future Document Working Group had not met for some time to review the document policies.

It was agreed that Councillor Warwick appointed to the group and Councillor Hayes be appointed Chair and that NDC Councillor Haworth-Booth invited to attend the group meetings.

152. POLICE

See Minute 146 above.

153. HIGHWAY MATTERS

The Chair reported that a resident had raised concerns regarding the overgrown hedges in Birch Road/Denes Road encroaching over the pavements and road.

- a) Devon Countywide Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan – Consultation
The consultation was noted
- b) Draft Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan – Consultation
The consultation was noted

154. PLAYING FIELDS

There were no issues reported.

155. MILLENNIUM GREEN

It was noted that the Millennium Green silver jubilee would be celebrated in July 2025 supported by the Landkey Horticultural Society

156. OLD SCHOOL CENTRE

Councillor Hommell stated that a Table Top sale was to be held on 23rd/24th November in aid of the North Devon Children's Hospice and asked if the Council would grant a reduction in hire charge.

It was agreed that no hire charge be made for the charity event.

Councillor Hommell reported that she had managed to obtain a Christmas Tree free of charge for the St Paul's Church Christmas tree festival.

The Clerk reported that the outside security light and one of the radiators were not working. It was agreed to obtain a price for their repair.

157. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER

There were no issues reported.

158. SOCIAL MEDIA

There were no issues reported.

159. GENERAL MAINTENANCE

There were no issues reported.

160. FINANCE MATTERS

a) Payments

RESOLVED:

That the following payments be approved:

M. Isaac Expenses + Ann. Pay Award Arrears	£176.38
M. Isaac – Annual Payment	£500.00
HMRC Income Tax Payment – Clerk/Caretaker Salary	£146.60
North Devon Council – Dog Bin Emptying	£246.17
West of England Fire Protection – Ann. Fire Extinguisher Insp.	£43.20
Royal British Legion – Poppy Wreath	£50.00
W. Prouse – General Maintenance	£350.00
R . Halliday – Postage	£2.10

(b) The current financial position as at 30th September 2024 - Current A/C £47,847.39 (£1,557.29 remained grant ringed fenced for Community Building Fees) and - Business Reserve 9th September 2024 £23,700.64 was noted.

(c) National Pay Award 2024/25. The annual pay award of £1,290 pro rata for 2024/25 was noted and agreed.

(d) Budget and Precept 2025/26.

In advance of the budget and precept setting the Clerk outlined the current accounts position and bank reconciliation (previously circulated). He further outlined the District Council tax base calculation for Council Tax calculations procedure and the previous two years tax base calculations and Band D calculations for Landkey.

It was noted that budget and precept for 2025/26 would be considered at the December meeting.

161. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The following policies and procedures were adopted/reviewed and no amendments made:

- Standing Orders
- Financial Regulations
- Safeguarding Policy
- Community Engagement Statement of Intent
- Statement of Internal Control
- Code of Conduct
- Health & Safety Policy
- GDPR Policy

162. PLANNING MATTERS

The Council noted a report by the Vice Chair of the Planning Committee on applications considered prior to the Parish Council meeting.

163. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported the receipt of a government consultation regarding remote attendance and proxy voting at council meetings.

It was agreed that the Council was not in favour of the proposed changes and the status quo should remain.

164. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

There were no issues raised.

165. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next Parish Council meeting would be on Wednesday 4th December 2024.

Chairman the meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.