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*Minutes of a Meeting of the **BRENTOR PARISH COUNCIL** held in Brentor Village Hall
on **MONDAY 14th September 2015** at **7.30pm***

Present: Cllr S Burrows (Chair), Cllr T Pearce (Vice-Chair), Cllr J Burrows
Cllr B Lemon, Cllr L Bristow. Cllr J Adams

In Attendance: Mrs C Oxenham (Parish Clerk), 3 members of the Public

Public question time: Following the co-option of the new Cllrs, a member of the public asked that it be minuted that only 3 other members of the public had attended the meeting which was very disappointing. Cllr Bristow spoke of her personal experience that lack of knowledge had maybe prevented her in the past from coming. She suggested that making more use of the Brentor News could be a good way of informing people. She also suggested an item informing people who the new Council were and maybe a quick piece with a resume of the major subjects covered in the meeting. It was **AGREED** that this would be done.

8771 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - none

8772 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - none

8773 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLORS

The Chair invited any interested parties to say a few words about why they wanted to become a Councillor and what they thought they could offer. Robert (Bob) Lemon said he believed that the Parish Council existed for a reason and he wanted to support it. Having lived in Brentor for many years he now wants to do something for the village.

Mrs Linda (Lin) Bristow believed that living in the middle of the village means that she knows lots of villagers and thinks it's important that parishioners are able to voice their opinions through their Councillors.

Jonathan (Jon) Adams (a previous Councillor) also acknowledged the work done by the Parish Council and stated his interest in re-joining as a Councillor.

Cllr Pearce acknowledged that Parish Councils are going to be even more important in the future as more cuts are made and congratulated them on their interest in joining. He proposed their appointments, seconded by Cllr J Burrows. Cllr Bristow, Cllr Adams and Cllr Lemon duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Public Question time then followed.

8774 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th July, 2015

Cllr Pearce advised that in respect of the kerbs mentioned in **Minute 8767**, he would be going to a Highways Meeting regarding areas of concern shortly. Any emergency work should be done by the Parish lengthsman via Cllr J Burrows. It was **AGREED** that the minutes of this meeting then be adopted.

8775 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

All Cllrs **AGREED** to serve as members on the Planning Committee.

8776 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO SERVE AS COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

Southern Parishes Links Committee - Cllr Pearce

Village Hall/Playing Field Committee - Cllr Bristow

Snow Warden - Cllr Adams

Clerk to make enquiries re Brentor Commons Association and Brentor Community Trust to find out how often they meet and what level of commitment is required. **CLERK**

8777 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT LISTED AS SEPARATE ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

DRAFT

Members **NOTED** the action tracker circulated with the agenda.

Cllr Pearce to update on speed limits – Brentor along with Lydford and Mary Tavy had been looking into TAP funding for a VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign). Mary Tavy are no longer pursuing this and Lydford have joined forces with the Forest of Dartmoor which unfortunately means the scheme in Brentor is not now being considered for TAP funding. A new working group comprising of County Council and West Devon Borough Councillors has been formed to consider speeding in rural areas. The first meeting is scheduled for the first week in October. **TP**

Wheelwrights Stone - Bill Horner has now replied to an email previously sent to him, asking if in his capacity as County Archaeologist he was able to help. He replied that it was beyond his responsibilities and that if he was to become involved he would be breaching his profession's codes. Cllr Pearce reported that the previous Senior Archaeologist (DNPA) had now left and as yet hadn't been replaced. He will confirm when the position has been filled. **TP**

Brentor Inn – Cllr Pearce reported that there was now a new point of contact – Helen Nesbitt. Things are advancing but Cllr Pearce was unable to provide any further information at present. He did however clarify the situation to date for the new Cllrs who were unfamiliar with the case.

Annual Cemetery visit for all Councillors – This has been organised for 7.00pm on 28th September. It was noted that the path through the cemetery was looking untidy. Clerk to contact Adam Phillips who maintains the rest of the cemetery to see if he can attend to this. **CLERK**

Notification to co-opt to fill vacant seats – completed

Parish lengthsman scheme – an advert for this job has now been placed on the village noticeboard. Cllr Pearce/Cllr J Burrows will contact Bill as there are several areas around Brentor which need attention, including Windsor Cottage which is still an issue. **TP/JB**

Phone box – Clerk made enquiries and established that this is NOT a listed building and continues to be a working phone box.

Mobile phone coverage – this continues to be a problem within the village with the National Park opposing any attempts to let operators erect masts and the Harlequin Group who were interested in siting a mast at Burnville Farm, being out of contact for the last 6 months or so. John Drury stated that he had also been in contact with the Harlequin group when he had been a serving member of the Parish Council and had discussed lattice masts with them but line of site was still an issue. DNPA and English Heritage had both said they would oppose any plans but had offered no alternative. **CLERK**

It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would invite Chris Hart, Senior Planning Officer at DNPA, to come to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss the lack of mobile phone coverage and the related issues. **CLERK**

Procedural report to be written for the process for reporting problems within the Parish – This is ongoing. **TP**

Clerk to return forms re County Committee elections – completed

Cemetery Bin – Clerk had spoken to Liam in WDBC who had added the cemetery bin to the regular route. It was noted that the Bus shelter bin is again becoming an issue. It was **AGREED** that an item would be put in the Brentor News reminding people with holiday lets to **CLERK**

DRAFT

inform their customers not to use this as a main rubbish dump.

8778 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING MEETINGS/EVENTS OF OTHER

AGENCIES – Cllr Pearce reported that the application for funding for a defibrillator had been approved by the Southern Links committee. The application has to be further endorsed by WDBC and the funds should be available by mid-October. Clerk to write an item for the Brentor News asking for volunteers willing to be trained in its use. Various locations to site the defibrillator were discussed and it was **AGREED** to wait and take advice from the paramedics when they come and do the training. Clerk to write to the main Dr. Surgeries in Tavistock asking if they would also like to attend the training when a date has been set.

CLERK

Other matters – Cllr Pearce advised that a Southern Parishes Superlink meeting has been organised at Meldon Village Hall on 24th September. Police Commissioner Tony Hogg and John Hart the Leader of Devon County Council are to attend and will be providing information about what further cuts in services we can expect from DCC, including Highways over the coming year.

8779 PLANNING MATTERS

a) To consider planning applications received:

DNPA 0402/15	Proposal to replace existing conservatory at rear of house with single storey extension (retrospective), at Parry Ash Farm, Brentor	No comments
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b) To note planning decisions made:

DNPA 0190/15	Removal of conservatory and open porch and erection of single storey extension and open porch, Wastor Farm, Lydford	Conditional planning permission granted
WDBC 0519/2015	Replacement of 8 metal framed rooflights with velux 'conservation' rooflights, Monks Lodge, Brentor	Conditional consent granted
DNPA 15/0033	Proposed tree works, Christ Church – Weeping Beech and Cherry Tree to be felled	Tree Preservation order not imposed

8780 CORRESPONDENCE

Members **NOTED** the list of correspondence (*circulated by the Clerk at the meeting. Copies of which are on the Brentor village website*).

a) For action/decision:-

Howard Ashbridge (Acting Clerk Milton Abbot Grouped Parish Council) re Lyd and Lew Valleys AGLV (Area of Great Landscape Value) - Cllr Pearce explained that many years ago, some areas outside the protection of the National Park were protected by AGVL. This protection was removed approximately 10 years ago. Howard requested that parishes affected by this grouped together to develop a joint initiative to examine this issue. Cllrs **AGREED** that they were in full support. Clerk to inform Howard.

CLERK

Recycle Devon – Say No to Junk Mail Leaflets and Letterbox stickers – Devon County Council are running an initiative to reduce the amount of unnecessary junk mail (around 50,000 tons a year) which is delivered to households in Devon. As part of this campaign, they have produced leaflets and letterbox stickers. Cllrs **AGREED** that they were in support. Clerk to request the items.

CLERK

b) For information only:-

Dr Dave Harris re Christchurch Clock
Working together with the Fire Service

DRAFT

Changes to Bus timetables
DNPA Invitation to 'Connecting Dartmoor and Exmoor' evening event
Neighbourhood Plan Area designation for Lamerton Parish
DNP – Statement of Community Involvement Consultation

8781 GENERAL FINANCE

- a) The Clerk had previously shown the Chair a bank reconciliation and cashflow sheet together with the latest bank statement dated 3rd September 2015.

1. Receipts (£) since the last meeting:

None

2. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments made since the last meeting:

July 2015	£207.67	S/O	Clerks Salary month 4
July 2015	£20.00	S/O	Clerks admin expenses
August 2015	£207.67	S/O	Clerks salary month 5
August 2015	£20.00	S/O	Clerks admin expenses

3. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

14/09/15	£6.48	000481	Clerks postage expenses
14/09/15	£12.85	000482	Postage and Petrol
14/09/15	£120	000483	Grant Thornton

4. It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the cashflow as at 2^{8th} August 2015
5. It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the Bank Reconciliation as at 28th August 2015

8782 APPROVAL OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

These have now been approved by the external auditor Grant Thornton. Two advisory comments were made 1) concerning the late submission – this had already been agreed with Grant Thornton as the period for submitting the accounts was when Brentor was without a Parish Council, 2) The figure recorded for fixed assets had been incorrectly recorded. Clerk to take advice from SLCC to ensure accurate recording next year.

CLERK

8783 LOCATION OF SANDBAGS

The sandbags previously located at the Station House have deteriorated over the years. Ideally they should be kept under cover to prevent the bags from rotting. A request to be put in the Brentor News to see if anybody has anywhere they would be willing to store them.

CLERK

8784 THANKS TO BE GIVEN TO PREVIOUS COUNCILLORS

A letter is to be sent to the previous Councillors, thanking them for their hard work.

CLERK

8785 MINOR ITEMS: TO TAKE COMMENTS ON AND NOTE ONLY ANY ITEMS OF INFORMATION OR INTEREST:

CLERK

Clerk to book hall for future meetings. Dates to be in line with current year.

8786 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 16th November 2015, 7.30pm, Brentor Village Hall

8787 CLOSE The meeting was formally closed at 9.20 pm