

Draft minutes subject to approval

# **Burrator Parish Council**

## **Minutes of the Council Meeting held remotely via Zoom on Thursday 25th June 2020 at 7.30pm**

**Councillors present:** Cllrs Paskins, Scrivener, Hopson, Ayres, Glanville F, Stribley, Balkwill & Mechan.

**Also present:** Cllr D Moyse, Borough Councillor.

**Absent:** Cllr Brunsdon, Glanville R & Wills.

The Chairman, Cllr Paskins opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed Cllr F Glanville to the Parish Council. Cllr F Glanville gave a brief resume.

- 1. Apologies.**  
Cllrs Brunsdon & Wills.
- 2. Declarations of Interest.**  
There were no declarations of interest. Otherwise as recorded in the register.
- 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 27th February 2020**  
The minutes were proposed as an accurate record by Cllr Paskins and seconded by Cllr Hopson.
- 4. Matters arising from the minutes of 27th February 2020.**  
Cllr Paskins advised that Sheepstor notice board is expected to be installed in a couple of weeks. It was noted that the funds from the now disbanded Burrator Twinning Association, have been distributed as agreed.  
Cllr Paskins advised that there has been less congestion at Meavy Primary School during the lockdown and few if any complaints. He raised one complaint received from a local resident that children attending Meavy Primary School are not socially distancing from the residents using the bus shelter and it has been requested that the Parish Council write to the School on behalf of the resident. Cllrs discussed and agreed unanimously not to get involved with the complaint.  
Cllr Paskins spoke on the Walking the Parish Boundary 2021, and proposed this be suspended until Cllr R Glanville is present or able to set up a working party to bring the proposal forward. This was agreed.

**5. Planning Committee.**

Cllr Paskins read a report from Cllr Brunsdon:

There has been no Planning committee meeting as you know but applications have been considered by the committee and commented upon with vote by email. This seems to be working ok after some initial teething problems.

The barn redevelopment for holiday accommodation at Durance Farm was refused by DNPA and the conversion of 2 barns at Sparkatown Farm, Dousland was supported by the PC. An objection was made for the proposed siting of yurt tent and shepherds hut as accommodation for artists residency at Routrundle, Sampford Spiney. The site inspection at Yennadon Quarry scheduled for 20 March was cancelled.

**6. Royal Oak Inn Committee.**

Cllr Paskins advised that in the absence of the Committee Chair and Vice that matters would not be discussed. Cllr Ayres clarified that part two minutes cannot be discussed at full Council meetings unless the meeting moves into a part two, itself. Cllr Scrivener asked the Clerk how the meeting had gone with the tenant that morning and it was clarified that the meeting is arranged for next Thursday. Cllr Scrivener requested that all Councillors be sent copies of minutes from the Inn Committee.

**7. Finance and General Purposes Committee.**

**a) Bills for payment.** The bills were authorised. Proposed Cllr Paskins seconded Cllr Scrivener.

**b) Financial Statements.** The statement was noted.

**c) Precept 2021 – 2022 Initial Proposal.** Cllr Paskins advised that the precept should increase for the following financial year to cover essential contracts of the Council. The budget and figures to be discussed at the committee level first in November.

**d) Acceptance of the Annual Return 2019/2020 (as previously discussed).** Accepted by all as previously circulated.

**8. Burrator Events.**

Cllr Paskins advised that he is not aware of any events being announced. Cllr F Glanville advised of large groups of people meeting at the reservoir, swimming in the reservoir and leaving remains of fire pits. Cllrs also discussed the sighting of a professional swimmer training in the water and Cllr Moyse asked if anyone had raised this with SWLT or Dartmoor Rangers. Cllr Moyse advised of a forthcoming meeting and confirmed that she will raise this on the Parish Council's behalf. Cllr Hopson advised that SWLT are now back at work and should be contacted. Cllrs discussed the increase of visitors to the area. Cllr Scrivener advised that fencing has been removed in places by visitors however some visitors have been clearing litter left by others as goodwill. The Clerk was asked to write to the Discovery Centre & SWLT with the observations.

**9. Parish Plan Steering Group.**

Cllr Paskins gave a verbal report as a member of the Walkhampton Community Steering Group. He advised that he has discussed the current progress with the Chair of the Burrator Steering Group, Kay Thomas.

Cllr Paskins advised he has offered to progress the combined report as follows:

- Draft a contents list to be reviewed by the BSG, this would include a summary report and recommendations to be taken forward by the BPC
- Each Community Report in full to be included in addendum/appendix
- To be reviewed by representatives from each community
- Accepted report to be presented to BPC for comment and amendment before final submission.

Kay Thomas agreed to put this proposal to the Burrator Steering Group for agreement.

Cllr Ayres advised of his views of how the individual parish research and views should be individually presented and asked for confirmation that the report would not merged into a combined view. Cllr Stibley also requested clarification that the information will not be merged into one report which would defeat the great efforts taken in the wards to reflect the views of the local parishioners. Cllr Paskins agreed that the final report would detail the views of each parish.

**10. Burrator Beacon.**

Cllr Paskins asked the councillors for their views on whether next edition of the Burrator Beacon should be printed and delivered or made available as a digital version again. Cllr Scrivener advised that he felt a digital version should provided again for the next edition to avoid the volunteers having to walk the streets and approach people's front doors. Cllr Scrivener also advised that this would save on costs in this financial year. Cllr Ayres raised the question of printing a few copies for those without access to the digital version. It was agreed that any individual councillors can print a few copies for their neighbours. The Clerk was asked to draft a notice for residents to contact their local cllr for a copy if required.

**11. Reports from outside bodies.**

a) Borough Councillors Report. Cllr Moyse gave a verbal report on the new Chief Executive of West Devon. There has been discussion on Drake Statue in Tavistock being removed and agreed that this would not be pursued any further. All authorities are meeting remotely with each other and are live streamed. Cllr Moyse advised that the mast at Burrator was recommended for refusal at tomorrow's DNPA Development Management Committee. Cllr Hopson asked Cllr Moyse for the background on this and Cllr Moyse advised that she will be speaking against the application, it is too large, tall and the coverage is a very small area. Cllr Scrivener advised that on each of the 3 applications now, the mast has grown in size. Cllr Hopson advised that there cannot be a requirement to cover every inch of the country. Cllr Mehan enquired if there has been any incident that would have benefited such a mast being in place and if not, what use will any mast be? Cllr Moyse advised that she would note this comment for the meeting. Cllr F Glanville was asked to provide any information on emergency services cover (as part of Devon Fire Rescue Service) and he advised that he could recall two incidents in the area that could have had a different outcome if communications had been available.

b) Any other reports. None.

**12. Public Relations.**

Cllr Scrivener advised that he will be mentioning fly tipping again due course on Facebook.

**13. Parish Property.**

a) Defibrillators. Cllr Paskins asked for feedback; Cllr Ayres confirmed that Meavy defibrillator is in good working and is still working on replacement pads. Cllr Hopson advised that the light remains on the unit at Burrator Dam. Mr P Shapcott has confirmed that Walkhampton's is in working order. Dousland's unit has not been checked recently.

It was noted that Sheepstor Notice Board will be fitted shortly.

**14. Highway Matters.**

Cllr Scrivener summarised his proposal, as circulated, to request confirmation from WDBC and Tavistock Police what measures they are taking to investigate the recent soaring number of fly-tipping crimes within the Parish. He advised that Facebook page got a lot of views which were picked up by Tavistock Times. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the authorities as per Cllr Scrivener's proposal for an official response with a view that this response can then be circulated. Cllr Balkwill advised that in Plymouth, the council do investigate via serial numbers and packaging to trace the offenders.

Cllr Paskins read Cllr Brunson's comment that the lanes at Lovaton have been largely resurfaced. This demonstrates that the Parish Council can make a difference. Cllr Brunson requested that our thanks be passed to DCC Highways.

Cllrs discussed pothole repairs and the criteria required for when they get attention.

Cllr Stribley reported on a broken wooden signpost at Meavy which is now in the hedge. The Clerk will report this on to Highways.

**15. Correspondence.**

Cllr Paskins advised of a Progress Report on Dartmoor Headwaters Natural Flood management project – June 2020 and that Kerry Smith, Dartmoor Headwaters Project Officer, requested advertisement of the report for Walkhampton and Peter Tavy. He advised that links have been posted on the BPC Website/Facebook Page and Walkhampton Village Hub. Kerry Smith has also been advised of the Community Support Hub for Peter Tavy.

**16. Urgent additional business, by leave of the Chair.**

Cllr Stribley reported of regular fires in the Parish in such dry weather and the lack of authority patrolling the area. Cllr Paskins advised that signage has been seen throughout the National Park and this needs to be left to the authorities to deal with.

The Meeting was closed at 8.25pm.

Signed

Date