

## EAST BUDLEIGH with BICTON PARISH COUNCIL

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### Minutes of the East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18th September 2023 in the Village Hall

**RISK ASSESSMENT BY CLERK** – All correct

**PRESENT:** Parish Councillors Derek Wensley, John Tresidder, Louis Allan, Jim Carter, Jim Ferrers and Kathy Moyle BEM, Angela Canning and Heather Houston and District Councillor Melanie Martin.

**APOLOGIES:** District Councillors Henry Riddell and Charlotte Fitzgerald. County Councillor Christine Channon

The **MINUTES** of the Parish Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were approved.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - none

The Chair, Cllr. Wensley said the Council sends its condolences to Judith Lumsden, the previous clerk, on the death of her husband.

**No report from County Councillor**

**DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT** – The attached report was submitted by District Charlotte Fitzgerald. Cllr. Martin said the coast path will be shut for several weeks, while Kier carry out major works. Seachange have received a grant from the Lyons organisation to upgrade the gardens. Only essential repairs will be carried out to the toilets on the seafront in Budleigh. A major refurbishment is planned for 2024/25. Councillors asked why the carpark at south Farm is still shut. She will investigate.

#### **Items for Discussion**

##### **Funding for Drake's School new playground and the CIL**

Cllr. Wensley explained that currently we have not received CIL that may be due to us, so we are unable to contribute to Drake's School. The Council confirmed their support for the project. £22,500.00 is needed. They have already raised £13,000.00 Cllr. Houston will keep the Council informed on progress.

Cllr. Martin offered to investigate the **CIL funding** as the PC has received no response to its several enquiries.

##### **Recreation Ground**

Council agreed a sum of £800.00 be added to the Precept in future for yearly maintenance.

### **National Effort to Protect Neighbourhood Plans**

After a discussion, Council chose not to participate in the petition. The District Council in question was unable to demonstrate a 5-year land supply and this influenced the Inspector's decision.

### **Toilet Lights**

Council agreed to send a letter to Fords, asking them to check the lights and sensors, as they appear to be incorrectly wired.

### **Recreation Ground Driveway**

The Clerk has investigated the cost of resurfacing, but an estimate so far quotes £2021.00. She has applied to the Lottery Fund for a grant, which will take 12 weeks to process. Councillors agreed to wait and see if the Football Club proceeds to infill the serious pothole at the field entrance.

Councillor needed to carry out regular checks of the Recreation Ground – None volunteered for the post.

### **Reports**

**Cllr. Wensley – Chair:** The River Otter breached again during the recent floods. CDE say there is an alternative route pending a long-term solution which requires consultation between CDE, DCC and EDDC in order to raise the necessary funding for repair.

**Clerk – Village Matters & Correspondence:** See attached report. Council agreed to set up a new contract with British Gas for electricity at the toilet. This will lock in the costs until 2026

**Parish Pathways – Jon Roseway:** See attached report

**Resilience/ Community Shop/ Climate Emergency -** See attached report. Cllr. Tresidder in his role as Flood Warden, cleared drains and worked with other volunteers to prevent water flooding the High Street. Cllr. Houston expressed concern that Volunteers on the WhatsApp list were not called out, but Cllr. Tresidder confirmed he had sufficient assistance. He said volunteers could not carry out major cleanup of roads, as they are not trained or insured for such work. However, the Clerk has notified Highways Dept. of areas that need sweeping. The Clerk reminded Councillors that the Council has road-signs, high viz jackets and sandbags available via Cllr. Tresidder. The Clerk agreed to update the Volunteers list.

**Village Hall –** See attached report. Cllr. Allan said revised building plans will be shared with the community on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023 from 10.00am to 1.00pm.

**Community Pub –** See attached report. Cllr. Carter queried the payment of funds from the Community Shop to the Community Pub. Concern was expressed that this could leave the Shop short of funds to cover increased costs. Cllr. Tresidder said the money was being held in case of need but had not yet been paid.

**Traffic Matters/ Drakes School/CDE –** Cllr. Houston attended the Traffic Group meeting. A cycle path is needed from East Budleigh into Budleigh, but the no funds are available. Cllr. Moyle said the current footpath is unsafe for her disability-vehicle, with uneven surface, which tipped up her vehicle yesterday. Cllr. Houston will raise this with County Councillor Channon.

The Otter Valley Advisory Group is looking at ways to carry out landscape recovery around the River Otter and funding has been requested from Government.  
Drake's School will be getting an Outstanding report from Ofsted. There is now a pre-school and Toddler playgroup.

**Local Liaison** – Cllr. Moyle. See attached report. She is investigating the role of the Chatty Bus. Seachange raised £1,500.00 at their Fete. The Heritage Trust are investigating the burial ground around the Salem Chapel. The Clerk reported that two members of the public had expressed concerns over parking. Currently Cllr. Mole said it has not been an issue.

**Cricket Club** – Cllr. Carter said there were no problems currently with parking.

**Yettington:** Cllr. Ferrers: See attached report which he gave verbally. He is tracking requests for repair of potholes outside Lemprice Farm. He will strim around the defibrillator kiosk when he can gain access.

**Planning: 23/1671/FUL – Meadow Cottage, Frogmore Road.** Council approved an amended statement from Cllr. Wensley. Insufficient information is available for a decision to be reached. Clerk will upload the statement to the planning portal.

The External Verifier has signed off the accounts for 2022/23. The second half of the Precept has been received.

**Monthly Transactions :** Approved

**Financial Reports:** All records approved.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.