

HARBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Harberton Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 27th July 2021 at Harbertonford Village Hall.

In Attendance

Harbertonford Councillors

Cllr Beamish: Present
Cllr Bowley: Apologies
Cllr Hambly: Present
Cllr Janes: Apologies
Cllr McDonnell: Apologies
Cllr Waite: Present

Harberton Councillors

Cllr Camp: Present
Cllr Croft: Apologies
Cllr J Hockings: Apologies
Cllr S Hockings: Present
Cllr Phillips: Present
Cllr Williams: Apologies

Others

D.Cllr McKay: Apologies
C.Cllr Hodgson: Present
Clerk Ms Radford: Present
Members of the Public: 0

Public Session No members of the public were present.

Agenda

1. **Apologies** were received as above and sanctioned.

2. Declaration of Interests

2.1 Register of Interests: Cllrs were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.

2.2 The following interests were declared on items on the agenda:

- 2.2.1 Item 6.1.3, 6.1.4 and 6.1.7 Cllr Beamish is a tenant of the applicant and did not take part in discussion or vote on the Parish Council's recommendations.
- 2.2.2 Item 9 Cllr S Hockings is chair of the Harberton Playing Field Association (HPFA) and as such was available to answer questions on the grant application but did not enter into discussion or vote on proposals when under consideration.
- 2.2.3 Item 12.2.5 Cllr S Hockings is a relative of the payment beneficiary and as such did not vote on whether the payment should be made.
- 2.2.4 Item 12.2.8 Cllr S Hockings is chair of the HPFA and as such did not vote on whether the payment should be made.

3. Reports for information from:

3.1 County Councillor

- 3.1.1 Double Yellow Lines at Packs Close The C.Cllr has urgently requested this of Highways following correspondence from the District Councillor. See item 3.2.4.
- 3.1.2 Road works in Totnes The C.Cllr commented that the placement of diversion signs has been appalling throughout the works, causing grid lock due to heavy traffic and larger vehicles getting stuck in unsuitable lanes. Ramps haven't been well marked either. Cllrs agreed that the new surface is good.
- 3.1.3 20mph Zones The C.Cllr commented on a lot of cross-party support across Devon County Council (DCC) for 20mph zones and hoped for more trials to run alongside the planned trial in Newton Abbot.
- 3.1.4 Large Vehicles in Rural Roads The C.Cllr informed cllrs of a discussion with Highways prompted by concerns about large agricultural vehicles and HGVs used on narrow rural roads around Staverton. Highways has commented that rural roads have a national speed limit and therefore agricultural vehicles will not be speeding. Highways also commented that whilst much farm machinery has outgrown the typical country lane but these roads are rural by their very nature providing access to fields etc. Any restriction would have an 'except for access' exemption meaning these vehicles can still use the route if required and restricting them further would mean the farms cannot continue to work/trade.
- 3.1.5 Speed assessment in Harbertonford Asked for a second speed assessment done at Harbertonford due to the number of complaints about speeds. The C.Cllr has asked if there is funding available for Harbertonford to have 'gated' signage to support reduction in road speeds. The C.Cllr also suggested '20 is Plenty' campaign.
- 3.1.6 Digital speeding sign It was suggested that a sign to noting speeds of approaching traffic could support reduction in speeds. The C.Cllr agreed to look into this.
- 3.1.7 Verges It was suggested that the Parish Council place signs on verges that they don't want to be cut. It was agreed that safety should come first.

3.2 District Councillor In his absence the Clerk summarised an update from the District Councillor:

- 3.2.1 Automatic Traffic Survey The D.Cllr has commissioned a 7-day automatic traffic survey to be done on the A381 in Harbertonford, starting 25th July. It is being done under the auspices of the "South West Collaborative Call-off Framework for Traffic Surveys" and will be funded by the District Councillor's localities allocation. This is just a preliminary survey and the D.Cllr hopes to do another in Sep/Oct as well. The survey is being conducted by a company that is accredited and well known to Devon County Council (DCC) and Highways, and will provide 15 min data on traffic volumes, speed, and vehicle classification (no.

of axels). The D.Cllr commented that the latest data for the A381 is out of date and is often extrapolated. The survey will give real current data to work with and argue a range of cases with DCC and Highways.

- 3.2.2 Climate Change and Biodiversity Action Plan The D.Cllr reported that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee passed his motion for a Task and Finish Group to review the Climate Change and Biodiversity Action Plan. He believes this to be a real opportunity to get the plan pointing in the right direction and to be an example for other councils.
- 3.2.3 Recycling Service The D.Cllr comments it is very unlikely the original promised recycling service will happen before Christmas and is still a long way off from being stable. The D.Cllr is critical of the contract with FCC however for the moment is of the opinion that due process should be given a chance.
- 3.2.4 Double Yellow Lines at Packs Close The Clerk reported being copied in on correspondence from the D.Cllr to the C.Cllr requesting Highways install double yellow lines on the entrance to Packs Close following complaints by residents that parking at this location is preventing bin collections and paramedic access to the close. Cllrs were in support of the proposal. See item 3.1.1.

4. **Minutes** The following minutes were approved as an accurate record:

- 4.1 the Annual Meeting of Harberton Parish Council 4th May 2021
- 4.2 the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Harberton Parish Council 4th May 2021

5. **Report Matters Arising from the Minutes** for information only

- 5.1 Harberton Devon Air Ambulance clearance area sign Ongoing
- 5.2 Marquee in Harberton Square Cllr Camp has spoken to the publican the marquee will be coming down at some point but table and chairs will remain.
- 5.3 Flooding in Harbertonford Cllr Waite has been meeting with representatives of various agencies. A consultant has been employed by the Environment Agency and has drawn up plans for some alleviation of flooding and warning of flooding of Yeolands Stream, but major works are required.
- 5.4 Update on Highways issues The Clerk reported that Highways had provided the following information following queries made in May:
 - 5.4.1 Parking in the bus turning area, Harberton The signs and lines in the bus turning area are advisory only with no legal status. It can only be assumed that they were an attempt to try and ensure the site was clear of parked vehicles as much as possible without the need for an official restriction. DCC altered its policy on the use of the access protection lines some time ago so this is no long a supported use and would not be maintained. At this location the only way to officially restrict parking is to use either a single or double yellow lines. The PC may decide to request this through Cllr Hodgson for consideration within the HATOC process. My only apprehension is that the process to install these markings requires them to be advertised and objections may be received as its local residents parking in the area.
 - 5.4.2 Finger post sign to Harberton at Blakemore Cross It has been noted by a member of the public that the arm has been replaced. Whilst the post remains undamaged Highways will continue to replace the arm rather than set the post back into the hedgerow.
 - 5.4.3 The Clerk reminded Cllrs that Highways had agreed to consider the re-siting of an advisory blue sign outside The Old Hall as a possible solution to larger vehicles regularly getting stuck between the Church House Inn and the churchyard wall. Further correspondence has been received by residents that this is becoming a daily event. Cllr Camp had agreed to visit the site and suggest possible alternative locations. It was suggested to stop large vehicles at Gills Cross and send through Screw Lane as once vehicles get to the village hall the roads are too narrow for large vehicles. The Clerk will relay this to Highways.

6. **Planning**

6.1 Consideration of planning applications

- 6.1.1 1964/21/OPA Outline application with all matters reserved for change of use from Public House with accommodation to 2.No apartments at The Maltsters Arms Main Road Harbertonford **It was RESOLVED** to comment that the Parish Council reluctantly support the application on the condition that atleast 1 parking space per dwelling was provided. The reluctance to support the application is due to the loss of amenity in the village. The condition is due to the ongoing challenges of lack of parking in the village that the creation of further dwellings without parking will exacerbate. The C.Cllr was asked to forward a request for the provision of parking spaces at the entrance Woodland Road from the A381.
- 6.1.2 1825/21/VAR Application for variation of condition 16 (decommissioning works) of planning consent 14/1040/13/F Bidwell Solar Farm, Dartington **It was RESOLVED** OBJECT TO the planning application on the grounds that extension is premature.
- 6.1.3 2646/21/ARC Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 and 4 of planning consent 0621/21/LBC at Woodcourt Farm, Woodcourt Road Harbertonford **It was RESOLVED** to make NO COMMENT.
- 6.1.4 2647/21/ARC Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 6 and 9 of planning consent 0621/21/LBC at Woodcourt Farm, Woodcourt Road Harbertonford **It was RESOLVED** to make NO OBJECTIONS

- 6.1.5 [2424/21/FUL](#) Change of use of land to residential curtilage and creation of a wildlife pond at Hallelen, Harberton **It was RESOLVED** to SUPPORT the planning application with the condition that permitted development rights are removed.
- 6.1.6 [2779/21/ARC](#) Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 5 and 6 of planning permission 0656/21/LBC at Woodcourt Farm, Woodcourt Road, Harbertonford **It was RESOLVED** to make NO COMMENT.
- 6.1.7 [2679/21/FUL](#) Full planning application for Technical Details Consent for new dwelling following Permission in Principle application 0573/19/PIP at Wilma, Woodcourt Road, Harbertonford **It was RESOLVED** to make NO OBJECTIONS however express serious concerns about traffic, access and impact on flooding and would require provision of a construction management plan for any future development. The Parish Council would like to see a full response from the Environment Agency on the plans.
- 6.1.8 [2870/21/ARC](#) and [2787/21/ARC](#) Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3, 5 and 6 of Planning Permission 0559/19/HHO and 0560/19/LBC at May Cottage, Old Road, Harbertonford **It was RESOLVED** to make NO COMMENT.
- 6.2 Receive a report on planning or appeal decisions Cllrs were informed of the following planning authority decisions:
- 6.2.1 [0621/21/LBC](#) Listed building consent for demolition of rear lean-to roof structure to create cat slide roof to extend walls to accommodate new bath and shower room, internal alterations, replacement of windows and other associated works at Woodcourt House, Woodcourt Road, Harbertonford
- 6.2.2 [0655/21/FUL](#) and [0656/21/LBC](#) Conversion of existing agricultural barn into 3 bedroom residential dwelling with home-working accommodation Woodcourt Farm Woodcourt Road, Harbertonford **Conditional Approval**. It is noted that the Parish Council supported the application with the proviso there should be a planning condition requiring compliance with all the ecology survey recommendations. Such a condition has been applied.
- 6.2.3 [0703/21/FUL](#) Construction of agricultural barn at Land adjacent to Higher Dorsley Barton Barns, Harberton **Conditional Approval**
- 6.2.4 The Parish Council objected to the application without an agricultural appraisal and had concerns about the impact on the footpath. The Case Officer Report notes that following receipt of this comment the applicant's agent has since provided details of their justification for the building, extent of land holding that this building would support and provided clarification that the public right of way would not need to be interfered with and that the development has been designed to ensure that the public right of way would not be impacted including the position of the soakaway to ensure this is sited an adequate distance from the public right of way. It is noted elsewhere in the report that as the new building would be visible from the public right of way the Planning Authority would include a landscaping condition for new Devon Bank hedging to the western boundary of the site and additional planting to southern boundary of the site;. Other conditions of note: the building used solely for the purposes of agriculture, removal of building if no longer required for agricultural purposes; Surface water drainage to accord with BRE Digest 365; and no lighting unless details agreed prior to installation.
- 6.2.5 [1003/21/FUL](#) READVERTISEMENT (Amended site address) Replacement dwelling (following approval 3707/20/PDM) Moore Farm Higher Plymouth Road, Harberton **Conditional Approval**
- 6.2.6 [1735/21/HHO](#) Householder application for single storey side extension to dwelling at Hazard Farm **Conditional Approval Conditions of note:** No surface water from the roof of the extension hereby approved shall be discharged onto the highway, or any land outside of the curtilage of Hazard Farm, Harberton
- 6.2.7 [2029/21/TCA](#) T1: Apple Tree - Fell and remove due to fungus at The Old Mill Woodland Road Harbertonford No TPO assessment has been undertaken or considered necessary in respect of this Notification given that the works relate to sound arboricultural practise, or relate to trees of limited life expectancy or of such
- 6.3 Receive a report on enforcement cases Cllrs were informed of cases that had been closed as no breach had been found.
7. **Clerk's report** The Clerk had circulated a report in advance of the meeting noting the following:
- 7.1 Tree felling at Harberton Parish Hall The Parish Hall Committee has notified the Parish Council of the intention to fell an ash tree affected by Ash Dieback. The Clerk, Chair and Vice Chair had agreed that the felling was a good idea and that the Clerk would thank the Parish Hall committee in taking action.
- 7.2 Quarter 1 Bank Reconciliation In lieu of the Finance Committee meeting on 6th July papers had been circulated for comment by committee members. The Vice Chair checked the bank reconciliation as prepared against the budget report and the bank statements and signed the reconciliation as an accurate record.
- 7.3 Maintenance of Harberton Bus Shelter The Vice Chair had agreed to have a look at this and let the Clerk have comments on fixes required to the flashing to send to the contractor who built the bus shelter. On inspection the Vice Chair believes the work to be of a good standard and is not concerned about water ingress. It was decided not to follow up with the contractor.
- 7.4 Community Speed Watch (CSW) Volunteers signed up to the online Community Speed Watch group for Harbertonford had received a message from the Devon and Cornwall Speedwatch Co-ordinator commenting

that it is proving difficult to find a suitable location from which to conduct a speed watch as trying to get a good line of sight (for both operators and drivers) as far from bends as possible and also keep speed limit signs/changes out of view is not easy. The email commented that the bus stop suggestion unfortunately is too near the bend and dangerous in respect of potential for causing accident, ie coming around bend and seeing hi viz could cause sudden braking/rear ending. Alternative sites, including the garage, would need permission of the property owner. As this first review had been undertaken on google the new Neighbourhood Team Leader, PC Mark Smith would visit all proposed sites to check sight-lines and consider suitability. This message prompted replies from three of the volunteers each commenting on feeling unsafe due to the road speeds on the A381 and hoping that a resolution is found to a location from which a speed watch can be conducted as it is an urgent concern. Most disagree with the suggestion that the bus stop is not a suitable location, making comment that this is the location of the zebra crossing. One volunteer requested a mobile police unit undertake a formal speed watch in the village, and has raised concerns with both Cllr Judy Pearce at South Hams District Council and County Cllr Jacqi Hodgson to raise concerns with highways copying the Clerk into this correspondence. Since the report was circulated an update had been received from the CSW Coordinator reporting that no safe location had been found from which to conduct the speed watch. Further emails of concern have been written by signed up speed watch volunteers, commenting that if it is not safe to conduct a speed watch, how can users of the Zebra Crossing be safe.

7.5 Tour of Britain It is noted that the Tour of Britain will pass through Harbertonford on 6th September at the estimated arrival time of 11:59.

7.6 Emergency works on Fore Street The clerk received notice of the works taking place between the Church House Inn and the Vicarage Ball/Fore Street triangle between 26th – 30th July to repair a leaking stop tap. A diversion is in place during an emergency road closure. Cllr Camp commented on a number of suspected South West Water leaks, one opposite Tristford Farm and one at the Harberton Bus Stop. Cllr Camp agreed to forward information on this to the C.Cllr.

8. **Delegated decisions report** Councillors received a report of the delegated decisions made since the Council adopted Emergency Delegated Powers on 4th May 2021. All delegated decisions were made by the Clerk in consultation with the Chair and the Vice Chair. No decisions were Section 137 decisions. The decisions were entered into the minutes as a formal record:

- DD21_1 made on 08/06/21 Planning Application 1735/21/HHO Householder application for single storey side extension to dwelling at Hazard Farm. The application was circulated to all Parish Councillors for comment by email before the decision was made. It was agreed to recommend to the Planning Authority that the Parish Council SUPPORTS the application.
- DD21_2 made on 08/06/21 Planning application 1441/21/FUL Conversion of existing stone barns to two dwelling houses with garages at Moore Farm Barns, Harberton. The application was circulated to all Parish Councillors for comment by email before the decision was made. It was agreed to recommend to the Planning Authority that the Parish Council SUPPORTS the application, with the following comments: during consultation with councillors the following comments were raised: The HSE consultation response doesn't look to be based on the Revised Site Location Plan; It was questioned whether a resin-bonded/bound driveway is necessary and appropriate in this rural environment and character setting highlighted by the design statement; There is an extensive range of observations / comments / mitigations / recommendations in the 26.03.21 Ecology Survey Update following on from more detailed earlier surveys. It is noted that the design statement states that 'Generally all the recommendations for measures to safeguard protected species to be incorporated into the development, related to bats and birds.' The use of the word 'generally' is ambiguous. Does the applicant mean 'all' or 'most' of the measures?
- DD21_3,4,5 made on 08/08/21 Payment authorisation on June Payments at a total value of £696.46. See item 12.1 for a breakdown. No items of expenditure were decisions made under section 137. This item was updated having noted an error in how one of the payments was recorded.
- DD21_6 made on 13/07/21 Planning Application 1631/21/LBC Listed Building Consent for structural works in relation to internal lintel to east facing window at Tristford House, East Wing Harberton. The application was circulated to Parish Councillors for comment by email before the decision was made. The delegated decision on 13th July 2021 was to SUPPORT the application.
- DD21_7 made on 13/07/21 Planning Application 2027/21/TCA T2: Ash - Fell leaving stump 3-4m in height, due to ash dieback. T6: Alder - Reduction of dead stem on East side by 5m. T11: Alder - Reduction of diseased stem on North side by 5m. T12: Alder - Fell central diseased stem. T13: Alder - Fell whole tree due to dead/ subsiding stems. T14: Alder - Fell leaning stem on West side, leaning towards neighbouring garden. G1: Alder x 1 - Fell diseased stem on west side, Sycamore x 1 - Deadwood removal (exempt). G2: Alder x 1 - Fell leaning stem on North side at Harberton Football Club Steve Jane Memorial Ground Woodcourt Road Harbertonford. The application was circulated to Parish Councillors for comment by email before the decision was made. 6 councillors supported the application, 1 had no objections and 3 objected. The delegated decision on 13th July was to SUPPORT the application and forward the following comments made during consultation: The arboriculturalist's report makes no mention of the fact that these trees form part of a greater horseshoe bat strategic flyway within the South Devon SAC consultation zone. Greater horseshoe bats echolocate at particularly high frequencies which attenuate rapidly with distance. Gaps in their flight

corridors can therefore be disorientating for them so it is important that gaps are avoided or mitigated as much as possible; In view of the importance of this flyway to this and several other species of bats, all protected species, some Harberton Parish Councillors would ask for a bat survey from a suitably qualified ecologist; In the event that this application is approved, councillors comment that tree work should be confined to the absolute minimum to ensure public safety and that where trees are to be felled, tall monoliths should be preferred to taking the trunks down to the base.

- DD21_8 made on 13/07/21 Planning Application 2437/21/HHO Householder application for proposed porch to front of property at Orchard Lodge Harbertonford. The application was circulated to Parish Councillors for comment by email before the decision was made. The delegated decision on 13th July 2021 was to SUPPORT the application.
- DD21_9 made on 13/07/21 Planning Application 2100/21/LBC Listed Building consent to replace existing asbestos cement slates with new natural slates and install one roof window to northern roof slope at Globe House, Harberton. The application was circulated to Parish Councillors for comment by email before the decision was made. The delegated decision on 13th July 2021 was to SUPPORT the application

9. Community Benefit Fund Application: Harberton Playing Field Committee

It was **RESOLVED** to make a grant of £997.50 to Harberton Playing Field Association to run a series of events at the park, including a community fun day, a fence working party and gardening activities.

Prior to discussing the application above, it was noted that the Parish Council is holding £506.07 in the Community Benefit Fund reserves for HPFA's last Community Benefit Fund application for repair and improvement of play equipment which had not yet been drawn down by the previous committee. It was reported that the new committee has made a request that this balance be spent on general improvements to the park equipment. The Parish Council agreed to this in principle, provided the HPFA could provide a costed plan for how those monies would be allocated. The Parish Council delegated power to the clerk to transfer the funds to the HPFA bank account once this costed plan is received.

10. Harberton Parish Parks and Playing Fields

- 10.1 Consider instructing a Tree Survey at both locations As the last tree safety inspection of the significant trees growing with the boundaries of Harberton Playing fields and playpark and Harbertonford Playpark in May 2020, it was agreed to approach the same arboriculturalist to request availability to conduct a follow up survey before the autumn.
- 10.2 Harberton Playing Field Association (HPFA) update it was reported that Clerk had forwarded both monthly inspection reports and the annual Allianz inspection report to the committee.
- 10.3 Harbertonford Play Park:
- 10.3.1 Consider inspection reports The inspection reports had been circulated. **ACTION: Cllr Beamish** agreed to remove the remaining cradle swing as reports note that the straps are damaged.
- 10.3.2 Update on long terms plans for the park It was reported that following a meeting of a group of 'Friends of Harbertonford Park' conversations had been had with some regular park users to ask for feedback on preferences for the future of the area. The general consensus amongst those asked was not to put any more money into trying to restore the climbing apparatus, but to salvage any reusable pieces, such as the slide, which could be placed on the bank. Clearing the site, removing the herras fencing and ensuring the ground condition is stable and usable would seem to be the most supported option by those that offered a view. Further landscaping of the area and introduction of wildflowers was also raised. A meeting had been held with Earthwrights to give their view on salvaging elements of the current equipment, who agreed that having been standing for over 10 years, the structure is well past its sell by date. The slide could be carefully removed and re-used elsewhere. The tangle is in reasonable condition but was made bespoke for the play tower and therefore would be unsuitable for any other setting. The semi-rotten lengths of larch could be reused as borders for example, with a fair amount of chainsaw work.

Earthwrights has agreed to provide a 'mood-board' (sketches) of a possible replacement of the current structure and some minor changes to the layout of the play-park, just as a starting point for community discussions and consultation. This will include a quotation for installing the slide on the bank, with steps up.

Members of Sustainable Harbourne Valley are looking at applying for funds to purchase young trees, and it has been suggested that the park be a possible location.

11. Correspondence

- 11.1. Pop-Up Campsites on Private Land South Hams District Council Explain What Is and Isn't Allowed Cllrs were informed by press release on rules for 'pop-up' campsites. With record numbers of visitors predicted to head to the South Hams over the coming months and an expectation that local people will open up their land as pop-up camping sites, South Hams District Council has issued advice on what is and isn't allowed. This includes guidance on the temporary nature of sites limited to 56 days, guidance on provision of toilets and

water supply, licenced rubbish disposal, adherence to COVID-19 advice/restrictions and how visitor behaviour will be managed to avoid unreasonable disturbance through loud music etc.

- 11.2. Introducing Airband Cllrs were informed of an offer made by the company 'Airband' to attend a future meeting of the Parish Council to give a 15 minute presentation on the details of the 'Fibre to the premises' (FTTP) project being undertaken at Belsford to introduce the technology and products that will be available. It is possible that properties close to those receiving FTTP at Belsford could also gain access to the network once completed. It was agreed that the Clerk politely decline the invitation due to expected busy nature of meetings in the coming months.
- 11.3. Local Bus Service Totnes - Kingsbridge – Salcombe Cllrs were informed that from 21st June the two services between Totnes and Kingsbridge (164) and Kingsbridge and Salcombe (606) will be combined into one through service at an improved frequency, providing connections with Great Western trains to and from London, together with a range of connections with Cross Country services. Buses will run approximately hourly from early morning into the evening Monday to Saturday, with a Sunday & Bank Holiday service of three through buses a day. Timetables have been provided.
- 11.4. Please support my proposal to change the name of the Totnes Constituency Cllrs were informed of a letter received by the Totnes MP asking for support in his proposal to change the name of the Totnes Constituency to 'South Devon'. He says, "*In changing the name from Totnes to South Devon you will be creating a constituency that is more reflective of the wide area that it covers as well as the residents of Brixham, Salcombe, Kingsbridge, Paignton and Dartmouth*" Should cllrs or members of the public wish to make comment on this or any Boundary Commission proposed alterations for UK Parliamentary Constituencies they can be made here: <https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/node/add/informed-representation/6489/>
- 11.5. Harberton Parish Hall (HPH) Boundary Cllrs were informed that the Parish Council has been copied into several items of correspondence from the Harberton Parish Hall committee and the owner of Tristford Cottage concerning the unauthorised creation of a gateway between Tristford Cottage and Harberton Parish Hall land, leased to the Parish Hall Committee by the Parish Council. As the property is now for sale, the owners of Tristford Cottage were reminded by the Parish Hall Committee that in October 2019 it was noted that the gateway had been cut and the Parish Council had written to clarify that it is not granting access over the land and should there be any future sale or part sale of the property, the hedge at this second gateway must be reinstated and may not be sold with this access in place. Following further letters from the Parish Hall Committee the owner of Tristford Cottage has agreed to remove the gateway and block the access with wire mesh before the property is sold. It is too late in the year for suitable planting to fill the space, so Harberton Parish Hall committee will do this in the autumn.
- 11.6. Microsoft Teams Meeting Cllrs were informed that the new temporary Neighbourhood Sergeant currently covering Totnes and surrounding areas is opening up a Microsoft Teams meeting for Parish Clerks to drop in on in the evening of 14th July. Should this be popular or useful the Sergeant will suggest meetings are held regularly by his predecessor.
- 11.7. 20mph speed limits enforceable Cllrs were informed that Cllr McDonnell had forwarded a piece from Halwell and Morleigh Parish News commenting that recently the Association of Chief Police Officers has reiterated the fact that 20mph speed limits are enforceable and where the limit is clearly marked (i.e. meeting signage regulations) then offenders may be prosecuted. Following Devon County Highways resistance to 20mph speed limits in the parish, the information has been forwarded to the County Councillor for comment.
- 11.8. Caravan encampment near Old Road Cllrs were informed that the Clerk and the Chair have both received correspondence from a resident registering concern at developments on the road between Old Road and Luscombe Cross. A caravan parked on the verge is now part of a set-up that includes a van, a pickup, one or two noisy dogs, a boat and trailer, an old freezer, racks of plants, miscellaneous rubbish and a newly planted hedge across the verge. The resident has been put in touch with the District and County Councillor, and has been informed that the matter has been raised by other members of the public and with the relevant authorities. The Clerk has asked for an update from South Hams officers on status of this site and others in the Parish a concern to residents but has not received a reply.
- 11.9. Invitation for Devon's second Local Councillor Climate Emergency Support Network - 19th July Cllrs were informed that following a successful Local Councillor Climate Emergency Support Network meeting in April, Parish Councillors were invited to a follow up event at 2-4pm on Monday 19th July. Two talks are programmed: "How the agricultural transition is moving payments from direct payments to payments for public goods(ELMS)?" – and therefore how councillors can work closer with land owners to create win-win actions for farmers and the public good an "The power of 'utopian' imagining for better futures, and the energising potential it has for communities." Councillors can [book here](#).
- 11.10. Temporary Traffic Notice - A381 Brockhills Cross To Main Road, Harberton, Halwell & Moreleigh, Totnes (TTRO2141245) Cllrs were informed of a road closure in place between the hours of 18:30 and 07:00 on 25th – 26th July for repairs to the carriageway.
- 11.11. South Hams Recycling Update Cllrs were informed by press release that despite some recent improvements in the roll out of the new recycling service, South Hams District Council will continue to monitor the daily performance of the service. The Executive continue to express to the contractors that they must focus on the complex and repeat missed collection issues, as well as key priorities such as those households who need assisted collections. The contractors will be providing the next steps of their action plan on 12th July which will

include the systematic review of the existing rounds and a detailed plan to roll-out the Devon Aligned Kerbside Recycling Collection Service to all of the residents in the District

- 11.12. Share how you see South Hams as a place to live, work, and play Cllrs were informed that SHDC is taking steps towards developing a new long-term strategy for the South Hams to “support businesses to thrive and help communities stay strong”. Members of the public are being encouraged to respond to surveys about living or running a business in the South Hams. Information about the strategy and links to the survey can be found here: <https://www.engagement.southhams.gov.uk/betterlivesforall>
- 11.13. Rapid Lateral Flow Testing Cllrs were informed that as part of the continued support for the Covid Pandemic, Devon County Council Public Health is supporting the communities of Devon by providing 5 mobile rapid lateral flow testing units across the County. The car park at Harberton Parish Hall has been identified as a potential site for mobile testing. Plans are not yet formalised, however the Clerk has forwarded this information to the Harberton Parish Hall Committee to liaise directly.
- 11.14. National Bus Strategy Stakeholder Consultation The Parish Council has been asked to contribute to a questionnaire to help Devon County Council understand the current views on the bus network and its contribution to the overall transport network in Devon. The Parish Council has been asked what it sees to be the biggest barrier to bus travel in Devon at the moment, what areas are seen as a priority with an invitation to offer comment for improvement. Cllrs responded that infrequency of buses is a barrier, as is lack of service in the evening. Buses currently run at school pick up and drop off times. It was also commented that consulting on use of the service in the last 12 months would not give an accurate picture of service use.
- 11.15. Managing Council green spaces to enhance biodiversity value Consultation Cllrs were informed that the Parish Council has been asked to respond to, and raise the profile of, a consultation into ‘Enhancing Biodiversity on Council Green Spaces’ including proposals to rewild green spaces in the District. The 4 week public consultation was launched on Thursday 4th July and will run until 5th August 2021. Contributions can be made through the following link: <https://www.engagement.southhams.gov.uk/enhancingbiodiversity>. The Parish Council is also asked to respond to questions about using Council grass cutting services. As noted at item 3.1.7 Cllrs would put safety first on cutting of verges.
- 11.16. DALC Newsletter #38 2021 End of Covid-19 Restrictions Cllrs were informed that this newsletter notes the message from Devon’s Director of Public Health that despite the end of social distancing restrictions people not to put themselves at unnecessary risk. DALC comments that Town and Parish Councils will still need to protect staff, members and the public by carrying out risk assessments and taking steps to mitigate hazards such as: continuing with social distancing, keeping venues well ventilated, requesting the wearing of masks, providing hand sanitiser, minimising contact and where there have been significant local outbreaks, councils may want to consider postponing meetings or events.
- 11.17. £127,000 Business Boost for Local Towns Cllrs were informed by press release of grants made available to Kingsbridge, Dartmouth and Totnes to support reopening after COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Totnes received a grant of £50,000 to support a community transport scheme, including a trial park and ride at KEVICCs; plan an events programme in the town to boost footfall; support the Chamber of Commerce to deliver Christmas lights, Civic Square improvements and business support.
- 11.18. How to stay safe and help prevent the spread of COVID-19 when restrictions end on Monday 19 July; funding available to help communities reconnect, rebuild and recover and all adults urged to have second jabs at eight weeks Cllrs were informed that this newsletter reiterates the Director of Public Health for Devon’s message of caution in lifting of social distancing restrictions with guidance on how to stay safe and prevent the spread of COVID, including isolating immediately if you have symptoms, taking regular Lateral Flow Device tests, recommended use of face coverings, regular hand washing, encouragement to receive a double vaccination, considering meeting outdoors or increasing ventilation if meeting indoors, follow published guidance if returning to work. The newsletter also refers to the Heat Health alert, and for communities to look out for people who may struggle, particularly older people, those with underlying health conditions and those who live alone
- 11.19. Churchyard Maintenance Grant Cllrs considered a formal request for the annual churchyard maintenance grant received from both St Andrew’s PCC and St Peter’s PCC. **It was RESOLVED** to pay the grants according to the budget.
- 11.20. Parish and Town Council Wildlife Network, Devon Wildlife Community Awards Cllrs were informed that the Clerk has received the first Town and Parish Council Natural Devon newsletter from the Devon Local Nature Partnership. The newsletter will provide updates on a range of topics specifically aimed for Parish and Town Councils. In order to receive subsequent newsletters, the Parish Council must be signed up to the Parish and Town Council Wildlife Network ([Parish and Town Council Wildlife Network - Devon Local Nature Partnership \(devonlnp.org.uk\)](https://www.devonlnp.org.uk)) by emailing nature@devon.gov.uk with a member of the Parish Council’s contact details. A series of community webinars are expected and submissions to the next newsletter are encouraged. It was suggested to ask Cllr Croft if she would like to opt in.
- 11.21. COVID-19 self-isolation affects South Hams Waste & Recycling Service Cllrs were informed by news release that A number of areas in the South Hams have had missed waste and recycling collections this week after a number of FCC Collections staff have been told to self-isolate because of COVID-19. It is hoped that staff will return to work as quickly as possible. If waste is not collected on the normal collection day, the Council is

asking residents to please hold on to their waste until the next collection day, or use the local recycling centre where possible.

- 11.22. Harbertonford Village Hall The Parish Council has been asked if it can make a grant to Harbertonford Village Hall to contribute to the costs of resurfacing the car park. The Clerk has forwarded information on the Community Benefit Fund, but presents the request should the Parish Council wish to make any further recommendations on grants available. The Parish Council agreed with the Clerk's approach to recommend an application to the Community Benefit Fund.

12. Finance

12.1 Notice of income and expenditure since last meeting.

12.1.1 Income 10/05/21 Deposit £702.63: 2020/21 VAT refund from HMRC

12.1.2 Expenditure

12.1.2.1 Payment 2106_1 to Cat Radford, payslip dated 22nd June 2021 includes Clerk June salary at £441.31 and Neighbourhood Plan June salary at £50.92 = £492.23 no VAT

12.1.2.2 Payment 2106_2 to Cat Radford, Clerk expenses claim dated 4th June 2021 includes mileage at £2.34, Zoom subscription reimbursement at £14.39, Broadband costs at £7.50, plus = £24.23 no VAT

12.1.2.3 Payment 2106_3 to IAC Audit Ltd Invoice 1185 Provision of Internal Audit Services in respect of 2021 Annual Return = £150 + £30 VAT Total £180

12.2 To consider payments as per the July payment schedule

12.2.1 Payment 2107_1 to Cat Radford, payslip dated 22nd July 2021 includes Clerk July salary at £441.31 and Neighbourhood Plan July salary at £50.92 = £492.23 no VAT

12.2.2 Payment 2107_2 to Cat Radford, Clerk expenses claim dated 22nd July 2021 includes Zoom subscription reimbursement at £14.39, Broadband costs at £7.50 = £21.89 no VAT

12.2.3 Payment 2107_3 to Totnes Rural Area Youth Engagement for Community Benefit Fund Grant to support the costs of the youth engagement sessions delivered in Harbertonford - as agreed 21st April item 9.2 = £500 no VAT

12.2.4 Payment 2107_4 to Exeter Diocesan Board of Finance for Harbertonford Playground lease payment for the year commencing 23rd August 2021 = £60 no VAT

12.2.5 Payment 2107_5 Andrew's Technology Support for Livedrive cloud UK based backup Unlimited storage, unlimited computers. from July 2021 to June 2022 = £48 no VAT

12.2.6 Payment 2107_6 to Cat Radford, payslip dated 22nd August 2021 includes Clerk August salary at £441.31 and Neighbourhood Plan August salary at £50.92 = £492.23 no VAT

12.2.7 Payment 2107_7 St Andrew's Church PCC for PCC Grant graveyard maintenance 2021/22 = £500 no VAT

12.2.8 Payment 2107_8 Harberton Playing Field Association for Community Benefit Fund Grant = £997.50 no VAT

12.2.9 Payment 2107_9 St Peter's Church PCC Grant graveyard maintenance 2021/22 = £450 no VAT

12.2.10 Payment 2107_10 Playing field association, subject to an inventory of what it will be spent on = £506.70

- 12.3 **It was RESOLVED** to transfer the value of the Community Benefit Grants from the Barclay's account to the Parish Council current account.

13. **E-Circulars** received included Citizens Advice South Hams, Climate Change and Biodiversity Emergency, Devon Communities Together, Devon County Council Community News Round-up, Devon Home Choice, Emergency Planning newsletter, Harberton Village Email, Healthwatch Devon, Information Commissioners Office, Public Sector Executive, Rural Services Network, SLCC Membership, Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust.

14. **Matters at the discretion of the Chairman: Councillors' reports and items for future agendas**

Councillors may use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas:

- 14.1 Police Property Act Fund Cllr Hambly reported that community and voluntary groups in Devon are now invited to apply for a share of £25,000 recovered under the Police Property Act fund: when police sell on items which have come into their possession and cannot be returned to owners, including items seized from criminals. Applications are now invited from groups to support projects which will help communities recover from the coronavirus pandemic AND have a specific focus on antisocial behaviour. As applications can only come from charitable organisations it was agreed to forward the opportunity to Totnes Rural Area Youth Engagement project (TRAYE).

15. **Date of next ordinary meeting** There will be no ordinary meeting of the Parish Council in August, however an EGM was agreed for the 24th August at the Parish Hall car park in Harberton to discuss any planning applications that required consideration.