

BICKLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

The Council Offices, The Woolwell Centre, Darklake Lane, Woolwell, PL6 7TR

07508 324699

parishclerk@bickleigh.gov.uk

Minutes of a meeting of Bickleigh Parish Council held on Thursday 28th November 2024 at 7.30pm in the Woolwell Centre

Present: Cllr Brian Hill (Chair), Cllr Paul Blight, Cllr Geoff Pithouse, Cllr Gary Stewart, Cllr Nicky Hopwood.

In attendance: Mrs H Broughton, Clerk (remote), District Cllr Chris Oram, County Cllr John Hart and 2 members of the public.

Minute number: 24/11:

Open Forum

The Chair of Woolwell in Bloom expressed gratitude to Councillor Stewart for laying a remembrance wreath and provided the following updates to the councillors:

- A new "Junior in Bloom" group is being established, with a room reserved every Saturday for its activities. Councillor Hart was thanked for funding this initiative.
- The pennant has arrived, and a flagpole will be purchased with a donation from a local family.
- Appreciation was conveyed to the Parish Council for their support throughout the year.

61. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Jackie Taylor and Cllr Larry Taylor.

62. Cllr Paul Blight declared an interest in item 68ii, the nature of his interest being that he is an employee of Dodds Group.

63. **Minutes**

It was agreed that the **minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th October 2024 be signed by the Chair as a true record.

64. **Co-option**

An expression of interest in joining the Council had been received from a woman residing outside the area. Although she lived within three miles and was technically eligible to join, her application was rejected (with one abstention) due to her residence being outside the South Hams boundary.

65. **County and District Councillors reports**

The following reports were received:

County Cllr John Hart reported on the following:

- The Government will be producing a paper on reform of local government in 2025.

- The budget, particularly the increase in the minimum wage and increase in national insurance has had an impact on the County Council budget. A 5% increase is being suggested.

District Councillor Chris Oram provided a report on the recent planning committee meeting, highlighting several key points of discussion. He expressed concern about the anticipated increase in vehicle traffic to the area and shared his dissatisfaction with Cllr Hopwood regarding the allocation of affordable housing.

66. Clerks Report

The Action List was noted and Cllr Hopwood reported that the Woolwell Centre lease appeared to be progressing.

67. Finance and Administration

- i. Receipts and payments against budget as at 31st October 2024 were noted.
- ii. Bank reconciliations to the 31st October 2024 were approved
- iii. A contribution towards refurbishment of the District Council play park of £8,000 was unanimously agreed (a written application would be required from the District Council prior to payment)
- iv. The 2025/26 budget was approved and it was agreed to request a precept of £113,220 from the District Council (appendix A)
- i. The 2025 meeting schedule was agreed (appendix B)
- i. A grant request of £40,000 from Roborough Recreation Hall and Playing Fields to extend and modernise the sports pavilion was considered. There was some discussion regarding the ownership of the pavilion and it was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting once clarification had been obtained by Cllr Hopwood.
- ii. To approve the following payments:

Pre-paid

SUPPLIER	DETAILS	TOTAL	VAT	NET
Cutec	Microsoft monthly fee	70.32	11.72	58.60
H Broughton	Refund poppy wreaths	59.97	0	59.97
Security Mgmt SW	Keyholding	57.60	9.60	48.00

For approval

SUPPLIER	DETAILS	TOTAL	VAT	NET
H Broughton	Salary November	844.01	0	844.01
NEST	Pension	62.23	0	62.23
Drain Care	Woolwell drain	88.00	14.80	74.00
Chubb	Fire alarm service	421.09	70.18	350.91

68. **Woolwell Centre**

- i. It was unanimously agreed to purchase a 44.15KW battery for the PV system at a cost of £13,510.90 from the PWLB loan.

Cllr Blight declared an interest and left the meeting

- ii. It was noted that the Council had twice gone out to tender for the upgrade of the building and mechanical services associated with the heating and ventilation system at the Woolwell Centre however only one tender had been received, from the Dodds Group, despite companies being chased.

It was unanimously agreed to appoint the Dodds Group as the contractor for the upgrade of the building and mechanical services associated with the heating and ventilation system at the Woolwell Centre and to suspend standing orders to enable one quotation to be received.

Cllr Blight returned to the meeting

The Chair reported that the cladding on the porch supports had been completed, the window in the Centre Managers office had been changed and a replacement lock had been installed on the exit from the dance studio.

69. **Planning**

The following comments on planning applications were agreed:

3033/24/HHO - 1 The Heathers Woolwell PL6 7QS. Householder application for proposed porch & side & rear extension. **No comment**

3188/24/LBC - Lantern House Maristow House Roborough PL6 7BZ. Listed Building Consent for installation of rooflight above stairwell & railings on top of parapet wall. **No comment**

3189/24/HHO - Lantern House Maristow House Roborough PL6 7BZ. Householder application for installation of rooflight above stairwell & railings on top of parapet wall. **No comment.**

3285/24/FUL - Development Site At Sx 503 623, Tavistock Road, Roborough. Erection of detached 3 bedroom house. **Repeat previous comment.**

70. **Weedkilling**

A successful Locality grant application for a further £1,000 towards weedkilling in Woolwell and Bickleigh was noted and it was agreed to wait until early 2025, following the road sweepers attending, to take action.

71. **Correspondence**

Correspondence from the Community Engagement Officer (intern) at the Tamara Landscape Partnership and Tamar Valley National Landscape was noted. No-one was available to meet with her.

72. **Staff Matters**

It was noted that the national pay awards have been agreed and applied to the Clerks salary, backdated to 1st April 202, as contractual.

73. **Roborough Village Hall:**

- i. It was agreed that the Parish Council has no objection to a planning application being submitted by Roborough Village Hall for improvements.
- ii. Cllr Pithouse reported that the last meeting had been cancelled due to adverse weather. A S106 application has been submitted. The next meeting is in January.

74. The **date of the next meeting** was noted as 23rd January 2025 at the Woolwell Centre.

Meeting closed at 9.33pm