



Brixham Town Council

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Brixham Town Council held on Zoom on 19th November 2020 at 2.00pm

Present	Cllrs P Addison, D Giles, R Haddock, E Hoggart, S Laurie, S Leech, A Massey and J Regan.
In attendance	Tracy Hallett, Town Clerk, Linda McGuirk, Deputy Town Clerk
Welcome	Cllr Regan opened the meeting.
Public Time	

20108	Apologies for absence through the Clerk. Apologies were received from Cllr I Carr
20109	To confirm and sign the minutes as a true record of the meetings held on the 3rd September and the 8th October 2020 The minutes of 03.09.20 and 08.10.20 were resolved and signed as a correct record subject to a minor amendment: <i>Minute number 20102 Cllr Giles brought up the use of solar powered bins with support from other councillors.</i>
20110	Declarations of Interest None
20111	Cycle parking Members considered the following proposal received from Councillor Leech In line with the Government Greener Active Transport Policy, and in advance of the outcomes of the Torbay Cycling and Walking consultation, facilitated by the £2 Billion investment announced in May 2020. To consider 2 opportunities to provide secure cycle parking facilities for in the Town Centre. (Report 38-2020) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Purchase Cycle Hoops and Wall Anchors in suitable locations to be agreed between the Town Clerk and the Lengthsmen. The locations to be considerate of existing business use, pavement cafe and emergency vehicle access. b) Work with landlords and businesses for the installation of Wall Anchors. c) Commissions the Town Lengthsmen to carry out the installation. The cost of the hire of any required equipment to be taken into consideration within the proposed budget. d) Allocate £3,000 from the Social Emergency Fund. e) Commence discussions with Torbay Council for the introduction cycle lanes in Brixham including Fore Street.

	<p>Members discussed the proposal at length and agreed the sequencing of the proposal was wrong. Concerns were raised whether permission would be granted by Torbay Council to attach the cycle hoops to street furniture.</p> <p>Cllr Haddock stated that money is available in S106 funds allocated to Brixham.</p> <p>Cllr Massey requested that when projects included utilising the Lengthsmen the cost of their employment is shown.</p> <p>Cllr Addison was very concerned about inclusion of a cycle lane in Fore Street and proposed removal of this area from further discussion, all agreed.</p> <p>It was resolved that subject to agreement with Torbay Council the recommendations should be actioned in the following sequence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with landlords and businesses for the installation of Wall Anchors. 2. Purchase Cycle Hoops and Wall Anchors in suitable locations to be agreed between the Town Clerk and the Lengthsmen. The locations to be considerate of existing business use, pavement cafe and emergency vehicle access. 3. Commissions the Town Lengthsmen to carry out the installation. The cost of the hire of any required equipment to be taken into consideration within the proposed budget. 4. Allocate £3,000 from the Social Emergency Fund. 5. Commence discussions with Torbay Council for the introduction cycle lanes in Brixham.
<p>20112</p>	<p>Torbay Council budget consultation</p> <p>Members considered a response to the Torbay Council budget consultation. Cllrs agreed the budget consultation was open and honest and much improved.</p> <p>The Clerk advised Torbay Council are predicting a 2 to 3% reduction in the tax base. Based on 3% and the Town Council not increasing its precept we are looking at an increase to Band D properties of 3.09%.</p> <p>The Clerk has written to the local MP Anthony Mangnall to raise our concerns and requested his support.</p> <p>It was agreed to respond to the consultation stating the Town Council is pleased with the report and whole heartedly supports it.</p>
<p>20113</p>	<p>K6 Red Telephone Boxes</p> <p>Members discussed and considered Report 37-2020 which outlined a change to the 2019 resolution for refurbishment and relocation and proposed to refurbish them in situ to provide floral displays and a bug hotel which would result in a large cost saving.</p> <p>Cllr Laurie felt it was inappropriate to spend money on telephone boxes while the budget is being considered.</p>

	<p>Cllr Massey stated the Town Council should never have taken on the telephone boxes and that they should be offered to anyone who would take them away within a month for free and if they don't take them away they are demolished and taken to the refuse tip. Further adding floral ones look really naff.</p> <p>The Deputy Clerk reminded members that the telephone boxes are heritage assets dating back to the early 1900's and that the budget for the project had already been agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Hoggart clarified the cost of carrying out the original project was £6,809 and the cost of the new proposal for the floral display was £1,210.50. Considered it bad timing to be spending on this project while we are trying to build the budget for next year although recognised the need for floral displays outside the Harbour area.</p> <p>Cllr Giles agreed it is the wrong time due to the budget setting.</p> <p>Cllr Addison reminded members that the money was allocated in previous years and does not affect the new budget and in fact was making a cost saving.</p> <p>Cllr Leech supports the initiative due to the locations, the boxes on Edinburgh and Ranscombe Road are on tourist routes to Berry Head and are an eyesore, suggesting they were refurbished and offered to Community Groups to manage.</p> <p>It was resolved to defer the project and consider it as part of the budget consultations at the Finance and General Purposes committee meeting next week.</p>
<p>20114</p>	<p>Community Transport</p> <p>Cllr Giles updated members that the transport working group has recently spoken with a representative from Frome Community Transport about their scheme and they have also received details from the Community Development Trust on the implications of trying to run bus services.</p> <p>An update is due to go out in the January 2021 Signal newsletter with a view to report back to Full Council early in the New Year. Cllr Giles reminded members that the public expect the Town Council to resolve this matter.</p> <p>Cllr Hoggart advised that Torbay Council had appointed WSP Transport Consultants to undertake a study on Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) across Torbay. It was noted that BTC had been included as a transport operator and will be directly involved in the consultation.</p> <p>Cllr Massey requested to join the transport working group.</p>
<p>20115</p>	<p>Community Recovery Plan</p> <p>Cllr Giles provided an update to members on the Community Recovery Plan and suggested the Gardening Assistance scheme is included under the Brixham environment as a short term goal.</p>

Further adding that as it has been the policy of the Town Council to lobby for the introduction of solar powered bins, which will improve the environment, this should be kept in and marked as a medium/long term goal.

Cllr Hoggart agreed with Cllr Giles and hoped the document was starting to look more coherent now the policies and actions had been added. The next stage was to ensure that everything that is outlined in the document is feasible within next year's budget.

Cllr Haddock stated he is in favour of solar bins only the parent council have the management systems in place to tell them when they are full.

It was **resolved** to accept the Recovery Plan priorities action list subject to the following amendments

1. Gardening Assistance Scheme included as a short term goal
2. Solar Powered bins included as a medium/long term goal

The report will be discussed at the next scheduled Finance & General Purposes meeting.

20116 **External Auditor**
 Cllr Giles asked what is regulation 15 of the accounts and audit regulations 2015 that we are not applying with? The clerk advised that the Public Exercise of Rights advertisement had been displayed for 30 days and not 30 working days.

Cllr Haddock stated members of the Finance committee should heed the warning as it was very serious. Further advising that the Town Council should have a Good Practice Guide to allow Councillors to have a better understanding of their duties.

It was **resolved** to note the External Auditors report following the Year End inspection.

20117 **Date of next meeting**
 Date of next meeting is scheduled for 26th November at 2pm.

20118 **Items for future agendas**
 Each Councillor is requested to use this opportunity to raise items for future agendas, giving details of why the Council should consider the item.

Item	Reason	Proposed by
Solar powered bins		Cllr Giles
Community Bus network		Cllr Giles
Community Recovery Plan		Cllrs Giles / Hoggart
Red Telephone Boxes		Deferred item

20119	<p>Exclusion of Public and Press It was resolved to exclude the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.</p>
20120	<p>Town Hall Regeneration It was agreed to move this agenda item to the next Full Council meeting before Christmas to allow the Town Hall committee to meet and consider proposals.</p>

The meeting closed at 15:35 pm

Chairperson Date.....