



## Brixham Town Council

### Minutes of the Meeting of Brixham Town Council held at Brixham Town Hall on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at 6.00pm

<b>Present</b>	Cllrs P Addison (C), D Blackmore, D Borthwick, D Giles, R Haddock, E Hoggart (VC), S Laurie, S Leech, A Massey and J Regan
<b>In attendance</b>	Tracy Hallett, Town Clerk; Linda McGuirk, Deputy Town Clerk, Ward Councillors Brown, Stockman, one member of the press and one member of the public.
<b>Welcome</b>	Councillor Addison opened the meeting.
<b>21061</b>	<b>Apologies for absence through the Clerk.</b> Apologies were received from Cllr Hannaby.
<b>21062</b>	<b>To confirm and sign the minutes as a true record of the meetings held on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021.</b> The minutes of the meeting held on the 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 were <b>resolved</b> and signed as a correct record with the following amendments:  21045 (a): changed 'nominated' to 'elected'. 21046 (a): changed 'nominated' to 'elected'.
<b>21063</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> Cllr Laurie declared a non-pecuniary interest for item 5 on the agenda.
<b>21064</b>	<b>Laywell House</b> Cllr Morey advised that Torbay Council have identified a chronic shortage in Brixham and they will be submitting a planning application for the St. Kildas site to ease the shortage.  Cllr Giles advised that Laywell House will be auctioned on 28 <sup>th</sup> July and that a recent press article was not factually correct. He also advised Members that he has reached out to the Trustees to offer help from the Town Council.  Cllr Haddock raised concern on how soon the application was going to be submitted, given that Torbay Council had advised this was going to happen three years ago.  Cllr Morey advised that he had been assured that this was going to happen this year.

<p><b>21065</b></p>	<p><b>Apprenticeships</b>  It was <b>resolved</b> that the Council should not consider this as long term and to review the scheme at the end of the agreed term.</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) seek to appoint a Facilities Operative Apprentice who meets the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aged 16 or over</li> <li>• Must be working for at least 30 hours per week</li> <li>• Resident in England</li> <li>• Not taking part in full-time education</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) Salary and course costs to be taken from General Reserves</li> <li>3) Approve the draft Job Description with the following amendments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• apprentice should report to Facilities Manager and Town Clerk / Deputy Town Clerk in their absence</li> <li>• Store equipment including cleaning consumables following relevant risk assessments.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4) Give delegated powers to the Town Clerk in conjunction with the Facilities Manager to make minor amendments to the job description, if necessary, prior to advert</li> </ol>
<p><b>21066</b></p>	<p><b>Town Hall Boilers</b>  It is was <b>resolved</b> that the Town Council appoint Stronghold UK in conjunction with Bowen Electrical to carry out the works. The cost of which to be taken from the Town Hall Contingency Ear Marked Reserves.</p>
<p><b>21067</b></p>	<p><b>Shoalstone</b>  Members discussed the need to appoint a Town Councillor as Director and the Clerk advised that according to the CIO Constitution states:</p> <p><b>Nominated Charity Trustee</b> (a) Brixham Town Council may nominate up to 2 charity trustees. (b) Any nomination must be made at a meeting held according to the ordinary practice of the appointing body. (c) Each appointment must be for one year. (d) The appointment will be effective from the date on which the CIO is informed of the appointment. (e) A trustee appointed by the appointing body has the same duty under Clause 12(1) as the other charity trustees to act in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO.</p> <p>Members were further advised that a member of the public was keen to join as a Director. It was <b>resolved</b> to move this to part B at the end of the meeting to discuss and consider the appointment and make an informed decision.</p>
<p><b>21068</b></p>	<p><b>Policies</b>  <u>Email, Internet, Telephone &amp; Social Media</u>  Cllr Leech suggested that the email disclaimer should be added in and ensure that all Members / Officers have the disclaimer at the end of their email.</p>

	<p>It was <b>resolved</b> to make further amendments and accept the amended policy.</p> <p><u>Civic Award</u> It was <b>resolved</b> to make the following amendment and accept the amended policy.</p> <p>Councillors and Officers can only nominate if no nominations are received at the end of the year.</p>
<b>21069</b>	<p><b>Community Recovery</b></p> <p><u>Terms of Reference</u> <b>Resolved</b> to accept the amended policy with the following additional amendment: Page 7 under scope: add “where appropriate” at end of second bullet point.</p> <p>Members raised concern that work was not being completed fast enough. The Clerk advised that works such as power washing had already started.</p> <p><u>Prioritised Action Plan</u> Cllr Giles requested that the action plan is rearranged to have all short / medium / long term actions grouped together.</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> to accept the amended action plan.</p>
<b>21070</b>	<p><b>Floral Displays</b> It was <b>resolved</b> to ratify the decision to purchase the floral display for Fore Street.</p>
<b>21071</b>	<p><b>Fairtrade</b> The Clerk advised that the Fairtrade Foundation have extend the Brixham Fairtrade status for one year and therefore the Council were not required to consider the renewal status.</p>
<b>21072</b>	<p><b>Brixham Peninsula Neighbourhood Plan</b> Cllr Giles reported that a positive meeting took place recently and further amendments were being considered. It was <b>resolved</b> to defer the agenda item until July.</p>
<b>21073</b>	<p><b>Police</b> Cllr Addison advised that the local Sergeant was unable to attend due to G7 commitments. Cllr Addison read his report on crime figures, drug dealing, joint parking initiative with Torbay Council and Community Speedwatch. A copy of the report is shown in the annex at the end of these minutes.</p>

<p><b>21074</b></p>	<p><b>Pilgrim</b>  Cllr Morey advised members that Torbay Council and Harbour Authority recently had a meeting with Vigilance and Pilgrim. They acknowledged that there had been a breakdown in communications and they are now working through the miscommunication. Cllr Morey advised that the issues identified at the meeting, but during discussions it was noted that they could be amicably resolved. They are now working towards a satisfactory conclusion.</p> <p>Cllr Haddock advised that he had approached Pilgrim to discuss the content of their communication. To date, he has not received a reply. It was noted that the pontoon is a Town Pontoon and not a Heritage Pontoon.</p> <p>Cllr Hoggart, advised Cllr Morey that Pilgrim’s concerns about how they can embark / disembark if the pontoon is in use.</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> to respond to Pilgrim’s letter by advising that the Town Council is keen to support the heritage fleet by assisting that the heritage boats remain in Brixham, working with them to make sure they can use the pontoon when loading / unloading and assisting to access the slips when needing to do repairs. The Town Council cannot promise funding, but hope to have a long working relationship with Pilgrim and welcome invites to attend their future meetings.</p>
<p><b>21075</b></p>	<p><b>Committee Membership</b>  It was <b>resolved</b> to appoint:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Giles on the Planning and Regeneration Committee</li> <li>• Cllr Haddock on the Community and Environment Committee</li> <li>• Cllrs Addison and Regan on the Community Partnership Steering Group</li> </ul>
<p><b>21076</b></p>	<p><b>Ward Councillor Report</b>  Cllr Morey advised that he had met with the Deputy Town Clerk, 2 Town Councillors, Chair of the Chamber of Commerce and Torbay Council Officers to discuss priorities for the Town Centre Regeneration. The meeting agreed that the priority was to resolve the parking problems due to the reduction of parking at Oxen Cove.</p> <p>The general feeling from Cabinet is that the northern arm is a priority and an assessment is being considered for potential funding applications.</p> <p>Cllr Giles invited Cllr Morey to the next Community Transport T&amp;F Group.</p> <p>It was <b>resolved</b> to extend the meeting for a further 15 minutes.</p> <p>Cllr Haddock asked how often the traffic lights are maintained. Cllr Morey advised that he would find out. However, was aware that some were due to be renewed. Cllr Haddock advised that some lights had not been working for several weeks. The Town Clerk to email Cllr Morey with a list of lights that were not working.</p>

<b>21077</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b> It was noted the date of the next meeting is scheduled for 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 6pm.
<b>21078</b>	<b>Items for future agenda</b> Each Councillor is requested to use this opportunity to raise items for future agendas, giving details of why the Council should consider the item.

The meeting closed at 20:10

Chairperson ..... Date.....

## **Annex One – Police Report**

### **Crime Figures**

I have reviewed our crime figures for the first 5 months of this year & compared them with the same period last year. Overall, crime is down by 15.3%. Violence offences are down 10.2%, criminal damage is down 62.5%, possession of weapons is down 41.7%, dwelling burglary is down 58.3% and non-dwelling burglary is down 72.2%. Obviously Covid has played a large part in this drop in crime. Shoplifting has shown a 42.4% rise due to a small coterie of drug users funding their habits during lockdown. These frequent offenders have been dealt with & put before the courts. Drugs offences have increased but this appears to be linked with our ability to tackle the problem more as demand decreased elsewhere under Covid lockdowns.

### **Drug Dealing Brixham Town Centre**

We are looking at a number of options to tackle the problem, especially using civil orders for anti-social behaviour for frequent suspected offenders. The main suspect for dealing appears to have signed an agreement to reside at a property in Torquay which could considerably help matters. Watch this space...

### **Joint Parking Initiative with Torbay Council**

Following our discussion some months ago regarding parking issues in Brixham, We conducted a joint operation with Torbay Parking Enforcement between 19-29/04/21 targeting areas raised as being a particular problem. This was highly successful. Obviously, parking remains the responsibility of Torbay Council but we will look to conduct similar operations as the year goes on.

### **Community Speedwatch**

We are currently training a small coterie of volunteers for a new Community Speedwatch scheme in Brixham. Community Speedwatch (CSW) is a national initiative where active members of local communities join with the support of the Police to monitor speeds of vehicles, using speed detection devices.

### **Racial Stickers in the Town 2020**

Last year Brixham was blighted by a concerted campaign of racist stickers appended to doors, bus stops, lamp posts, etc. On 20/05/21 a local man in his early 70's was convicted & fined at Newton Abbot Magistrates Court of one count of racially aggravated harassment, alarm & distress related to stickers appended to a bus stop and lamp post in New Road, Brixham on New Years Eve 2020

### **G7, Carbis Bay**

Prime Minister Boris Johnson is hosting fellow world leaders from Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the US, and invited leaders from Australia, India, South Africa and South Korea, in Carbis Bay and St Ives between 11 and 13 June. The Summit is the main event of the UK's G7 Presidency 2021 & will be the largest policing operation ever managed by Devon & Cornwall Police and is the largest policing and security operation in England this year. As a result, many D & C officers will be sent to Cornwall along with a large number of officers from other Forces on Mutual Aid. This will have obviously have an impact on our ability to deliver neighbourhood policing as expeditiously as we would like over the next 10 days. Our ability to respond to emergency incidents will hopefully not be unduly affected.