

Draft

**Minutes of the Meeting of Shirwell Parish Council
held on the
9th November 2023 in the Village Hall, Shirwell**

Present

Cllr J Friend Chairman
Cllr J Watts (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Mrs C Parkhouse
Cllr R Pelling
Cllr Mrs S Pine
Cllr S Shortridge

Also present County Councillor A Davis and three members of the public

Officer

The Clerk had apologised for his absence, County Cllr Mrs Davis had offered to take the notes

Nov23/1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr E Abretti

Nov23/2 Public Question Time

There were no questions

Nov23/3 Minutes of the meeting held on the 12th October 2023

RESOLVED that the minutes as previously circulated be approved

Nov23/4 Matters arising from the minutes

Nothing that was not on the agenda

Nov23/5 Inspection of Defibrillator

The defibrillator had been inspected and cleaned

Nov 23/6 Report of the County Councillor

County Cllr Mrs Davis had forwarded her report a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Nov23/7 Questions to the County Councillor

Problems with blocked drains were raised and the County Councillor undertook to raise those with the local highway office.

Nov23/8 Report of the District Councillor

There was no report

Nov23/9 Questions to the District Councillor

There were no questions

Nov23/10 Correspondence

The following correspondence had been distributed in advance of the meeting.

- Dalc Monthly bulletin
- Grants and Community news for October
- Rural bulletin
- County Councillors Monthly report
- Energy saving newsletter

Nov23/11 Planning Applications

Cllr Friend declared a prejudicial interest in this application. Left the room and did not speak or vote thereon

Planning Application 77664 Extension to existing silage pit at West Plaistow Muddiford Barnstaple Devon EX31 4EY It was **RESOLVED** to recommend **APPROVAL**

Planning Application 77817 Erection of a dwelling (fallback to class Q prior approval 73923) at Southern Barn Land East of Sugwells Shirwell Barnstaple Devon EX31 4JX It was **RESOLVED** to recommend **REFUSAL** as it was an overdevelopment of the site, not in line with the local plan and planning policy. This proposal is development in the Countryside and should be under the exception site policy

Planning Application 77805 Creation of new access track to dwelling with associated landscaping at Sepscott Farm Shirwell Barnstaple Devon EX31 4JL It was **RESOLVED** to recommend **APPROVAL**

Nov23/12 Planning Decisions

None reported to the meeting

Nov23/13 Cheques for Payment

A Cheque for £150.00 to G Dwyer (Clerks salary) was signed at the meeting

Nov23/14 Reports from Councillors

There were none

Nov23/15 Matters brought forward by Members of the Public

There were none

Nov23/16 Clerks Report

Replacement bench on Village Green to be considered when submitting precept

Nov23/17 Public Questions regarding business on this agenda

There was none. It was noted that a question regarding lack of consistency of recycling and food waste collection were for the District.

Nov23/18 Urgent Business

There was none

The meeting closed at 7.59 pm

Chairman: Dated:.....

Shirwell Parish Council County Councillors report November 2023

North Devon Link Road

The North Devon Link Road is partially closed for a month to allow essential maintenance work to go ahead to 12th November.

As part of Devon County Council's ongoing scheme to upgrade the A361, contractor Griffiths needs to excavate the road in a number of areas to waterproof five major structures beneath the highway.

Drainage improvements, safety barrier replacement and resurfacing will also be undertaken at the same time.

The work will require the closure of the westbound carriageway (Tiverton to Barnstaple) of the A361

between North Aller roundabout and Landkey roundabout, for a month.

Traffic heading to Barnstaple diverted onto the C783 to travel through Filleigh, Swimbridge and Landkey.

On-street parking in these villages on the diversion route will have to be restricted during this period to help maintain traffic flow. The diversion route will be regularly monitored. There is a separate diversion route available for HGVs and abnormal loads heading westbound (Tiverton to Barnstaple) to reduce the number of large vehicles travelling through the villages. This will be signed via the B3227 and A377. The eastbound carriageway (Barnstaple to Tiverton) will remain fully open to traffic throughout this phase of work.

More information at;

<https://community.alungriffiths.co.uk/projects-in-your-area/north-devon-link-road/>

From Sunday evening the 12th November to am Thursday 16th

November there are some overnight closures (8pm-6am) in the Borners Bridge area. Details below;

Sunday 12th November - 8pm the A361 will be closed between Borners Bridge junction and Bish Mill

Roundabout until 6am Monday 13th November. Traffic between North Aller and Bish Mill will be diverted through South Molton During this night time works the roads to North Molton and South Molton will remain open.

- Monday 13th November - 8pm the A361 will be closed between North Aller Roundabout and Bish

Mill until 6am Tuesday 14th November.

- Tuesday 14th November - 8pm Station Road will be closed at Borners Bridge until 6am Wednesday

15th November and there will be traffic lights on the A361 at Borners Bridge.

- Wednesday 15th November 8pm the A361 will be closed between North Aller Roundabout and

Bish Mill until 6am Thursday 16th November.

Barnstaple Waste and recycling Centre Severn Brethren

The Seven Brethren (Barnstaple) Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) will be undergoing significant maintenance works from Monday 27th November 2023 until Friday 1st December 2023 (inclusive).

During the works, the site will be closed to the public on 27/11/2023 to 01/12/2023 (inclusive). Due

to the scale of the works it would not be safe/practical to open to the public during that period. The

site will re-open to the public on Saturday 2nd December 2023.

The works are being undertaken outside of the busy summer period to try and minimise disruption

to the public as much as possible. The alternative HWRC facilities at Bideford, Ilfracombe and

Torrington will remain open as usual.

Household Support Fund

Earlier this year DCC secured £10m from the fourth round of the

Government's Household Support

Fund to cover the period from April 2023 until March 2024

The money comes with conditions on how it can be allocated and is to support households in most

need – those that are struggling to pay for food, energy, water bills and other related essentials. It is

also intended for those that may not be eligible for other government support.

So far under this fourth round of the scheme, over £5 million has been used to support more than

38,000 households across Devon.

And now with winter approaching, DCC are working with Team Devon

partners (district and city

councils) and other community organisations to provide our most vulnerable residents with rapid

short-term financial support to help them over the coming months.

The homeless, low income families, those who are suffering from ill health and ethnic minorities are

just some of the many groups who will benefit from schemes including free school meal holiday

vouchers, hardship payments, pre-payment and credit energy meter support, community grants and

funding for minor energy efficiency measures.

For this coming winter, Devon's district and city councils have over £2 million to offer 'one-off'

financial help to those who are struggling to pay for their food and utility costs or other household

essentials. Help may also be available for unexpected or exceptional circumstances, for example,

rent arrears prior to being in receipt of appropriate housing benefits.

DCC are also working with the Devon Community Foundation to provide

grants to voluntary sector

organisations supporting communities that don't always get the help they need. Their 'Food, Fuel

and More' grant scheme was very well received earlier this year and will re-open this winter with a

further funding pot of over £260,000.

The scheme will offer large grants of up to £25,000 to organisations that support homeless people or

people in temporary or insecure housing. Groups supporting households with disabled residents or

those suffering ill-health which has a direct impact on household income and an ability to meet food

and energy bills, are also encouraged to apply, along with organisations that support Asian, black,

traveller, Gypsy, Roma and ethnic minority communities who are not accessing support through

other channels. They will also be operating a small grants scheme of up to £2,000 for smaller community initiatives.
<https://www.devon.gov.uk/cost-of-living/>

**Reminder of how to report a Highway issue;
Report a problem - Roads and transport ([devon.gov.uk](https://www.devon.gov.uk))
0345 155 1004**

Live chat is available on the Highways website Monday to Friday 9.30 am to 12 pm and 2 pm to 4.30 pm (4 pm on Fridays). To report a problem with road maintenance, traffic management and parking, streetlights and signs and public rights of way