

Draft

**Minutes of the Meeting of Shirwell Parish Council
held on the
11th January 2024 in the Village Hall, Shirwell**

Present

Cllr J Friend Chairman
Cllr J Watts (Vice Chairman)
Cllr E Abretti
Cllr R Pelling
Cllr Mrs S Pine
Cllr S Shortridge

Also present County Councillor A Davis and one member of the public

Officer

G Dwyer

Jan24/1 Apologies for Absence

Councillors Mrs C Parkhouse

Jan24/2 Public Question Time

There were no questions but the member of the public drew the County Councillor's attention to the pedestrian trip hazard on the stretch of road between Post Box cottage and the Village hall. This was reported online to DCC at the meeting.

Jan24/3 Minutes of the meeting held on the 14th December 2023

RESOLVED that the minutes as previously circulated be approved

Jan24/4 Matters arising from the minutes

Nothing that was not on the agenda

Jan24/5 Inspection of Defibrillator

The defibrillator had been inspected and cleaned

Jan24/6 Report of the County Councillor

County Cllr Mrs Davis had forwarded an updated copy of her report today which had been forwarded to Councillors, a copy of the report is attached to these minutes. County Councillor Davis drew members attention to the traffic issues that would occur with the proposed road works adjacent to the Cedars restaurant on Sticklepath.

Other matters are covered in her report which is attached to these minutes.

Jan24/7 Questions to the County Councillor

There were no questions

Jan24/8 Report of the District Councillor

There was no report

Jan24/9 Questions to the District Councillor

There were no questions

Jan24/10 Correspondence

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

- Dalc newsletter
- County Councillor's report
- Invitation to ND planning seminar

Jan24/11 Planning Applications

There were none

Jan24/12 2024/2025 Precept

The Clerk confirmed that the 2nd precept letter had been sent

Jan24/13 Cheques for Payment

Cheques for £190.00 to G Dwyer (Clerks salary £150.00 and contr to computer repair and upgrade £40.00), and £210.00 to C Seage (grass cutting) were signed at the meeting

Jan24/14 Reports from Councillors

- Cllr Abretti reported on the contacts with the PCC and confirmed he had been logged as the Councils representative; He would report regularly on matters arising from the police councils advocacy project

Jan24/15 Matters brought forward by Members of the Public

There were none

Jan24/16 Clerks Report

The Clerk had written to DALC with the Council's views on the increase in subscription costs but had not as yet received a reply

Jan24/17 Public Questions regarding business on this agenda

There was none

Jan24/18 Urgent Business

There was none

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm

Chairman: Dated:.....

- **Shirwell Parish Council**
- **County Councillors report**
 - **January 2024**
 - **Some good news to start 2024.....**
 - **Tarka Trail missing Link**
 - Long standing members of the Parish Council will know that I have been campaigning for this for the 18 years I have been the County Councillor.
 - Proposals have been approved proposals to construct the latest section of the Tarka Trail between Barnstaple and Ilfracombe.
 - The £583,000 scheme supported at last month's Cabinet meeting will complete a missing link between Buttercombe Lane and Foxhunters as part of a longer-term route to eventually connect Barnstaple to Ilfracombe.
 - This new stretch is the second phase of the project and will be built using Active Travel Funding which Devon County Council received following a successful bid to Government earlier this year.
 - The scheme is delivering around 700 metres of shared use path, while also installing drainage culverts and creating a picnic area and several other rest areas.
 - The first phase from Willingcott Holiday Village to Buttercombe Lane has been built but requires access at either end.
 - A route at the holiday village is under construction by a third party as part of a planning permission, and North Devon HATOC recently approved construction for a section at Nethercott Road.

- My aspiration as the local County Councillor is for the Tarka Trail to eventually be mostly off road and segregated from traffic between Knowle and Willingcott, with the exception of the short section on Nethercott Road, where the alternative route options are limited.
- Currently, the Tarka Trail is off-road from Barnstaple to Braunton Police Station before it transfers on-road to Willingcott Bridge Junction, just north of Georgeham.
- By providing a safe, off-road route more people will be encouraged to walk and cycle to work, place of education or in their leisure time which can help save money, while also improving health and the local environment. These latest improvements will provide an alternative to car journeys which will contribute towards our net zero carbon targets in the county.
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- **Cedars Crossing Scheme- potential for traffic congestion.**
- Not in Combe Martin Rural division but I realise the significance for us all assessing services in Barnstaple therefore I wanted to warn you and your councillors about roadworks starting on **22nd January for the Cedars crossing** scheme.
- The works will have a **duration of 20 weeks**. There are multiple utilities to be moved, hopefully all the various companies will stick to their timelines.
- We can expect significant delays as a result of these works as there are limited alternative routes.
- There will be four way traffic signals, manually controlled.
- Signals will be taken down when there isn't anyone working as long as it is safe to do so, signals will be removed for the bank holiday weekend.
- There is a dedicated email address for the scheme should you wish to make contact;
- DCC-Cedars-Roundabout@wsp.com
- **20mph Speed Limit Programme 'Expression of Interest' 24/25**
- The eleven selected 20mph speed limit schemes in the first two tranches are underway or completed. There is now an opportunity for a third tranche to be progressed through the 24/25 financial year.
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- The first two tranches received a significant amount of interest (152 submissions) and it is proposed to utilise the same scoring matrix as used for the previous years. Therefore, where communities have already submitted their expression of interest, they need not do so again, this will be reviewed again and against any expressions from new communities. If a community wishes to modify their proposal they may do so, and this will be reassessed.
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- A further £150,000 has been secured in our Road Safety Capital Allocation for the 24/25 tranche (Item 210, <https://democracy.devon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=133&MIId=4460&Ver=4>). It is anticipated that 4-6 further communities

(depending upon the size of the schemes) could benefit from new 20mph limits with this additional funding.

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- The next steps will be for County Council Members (in Brendon's case me if you wish to submit) to work with you to complete new or modified applications, it is important that every application is supported both by the Town or Parish Council and Elected Member prior to assessment.
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- To allow for assessment and prioritisation for schemes to be delivered in 24/25 Financial year all new or modified submissions must be completed by 1st March 2024. The application form can be found here: [20mph Community Self Assessment form \(Tranche 3\)](#)
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- **Call for sites: EV charging at Parish and Community car parks in Devon**
- Devon County Council (DCC) have been provisionally allocated £7m by the Department for Transport's Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) fund, and are working with district councils and others to develop the project. This project will enable Devon local authorities to deliver chargepoints across the county over coming years in parish and community car parks, local authority car parks, and on-street locations.
- DCC are now seeking Parish Councils and community groups interested in hosting an Electric Vehicle charging point in a car park they own. We understand that many Parish, Town Hall, and Community Hall car parks are owned by community trusts, and these sites will also be eligible. **If you are interested in hosting an EV chargepoint please complete the form linked below.** DCC will then assess the sites and provide feedback and further details. An outline of the proposed chargepoint type, car park requirements, and proposed delivery approach is included in the link. At this stage, there is no binding commitment needed to the project by parish councils or community groups as this is only a call for sites. To find out more and complete the form, please visit:
- <https://forms.gle/Y72qpbDrm85tBGiX7>
- **Peninsula Transport Draft Transport Strategy consultation**
- Many of my Parish councils kindly got involved with the Peninsula Transport vision consultation, we are now consulting on the draft Transport Strategy.
- The consultation on the draft transport strategy is now live, running from Monday 11 December until Monday 5 February (inclusive).
- Although the work goes wider than Devon by working together all authorities are speaking with a collective voice on our strategic transport links – filling the gap between local and national ambitions. It is a strategy for the user and there it is important that we understand if it meets the needs of those relying on our transport links, so please do send us your views.
- Peninsula Transport are hosting the consultation online, you can access the consultation space

here: <https://www.peninsulatransport.org.uk/peninsula-transport-strategy-consultation/>

- Please find a briefing here: http://www.peninsulatransport.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/PT_TS-consultation-stakeholder-briefing_FINAL.pdf
- In the new year there will be webinars, free and open to all should you wish to come along and find out more about the work, it is also an opportunity to ask the project team any specific questions you may have. Please register your interest here: https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=RkWht04KI0q32HCbMr9jNeWYdbrjdStFrZlzNBj4_TxUMzIzNFFGQIVaRUpCSzZRSINIMVhIUfVUMi4u
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- **Grit bins and information about gritting routes**
- With the colder weather we can expect to be using the grit bins, if you find a bin which needs filling there is an easy to use grit bin map on the website, just click on the icon and ask for it to be filled, damaged bins can also be reported here.
- There is a map of the gritting routes in Devon but I would advise that when out driving in icy conditions to treat all roads as if they haven't been gritted as it needs friction for the grit to work.
- [Grit Bins map – Road and Transport \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)
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- *Happy New Year, looking forward to working with you in 2024*
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- *Andrea Davis*
- *County Councillor Combe Martin Rural division*
- Andrea.davis@devon.gov.uk
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