



**Minutes of the Berrynarbor Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday,
10th December 2024 at 7pm in the Manor Hall, Birdswell Lane,
Berrynarbor**

Present: Cllrs. A Davies, B Joyce, J Latham, C Boxall and A Stanbury

Also Present: J Irwin, Parish Clerk,
Mrs A Davis, Devon County Council
7 members of the public

2412/01 Election of Chairman

Cllr. A Stanbury was unanimously elected as interim Chairman.

2412/02 Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr. J Latham was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair.

Chair's discretion - Agenda item 18 was moved to item 8 to enable the public to hear the discussions earlier in the proceedings.

2412/03 Apologies

None

2412/04 Declarations of Interest

None.

2412/05 Public Participation

A member of the public raised the issue of the accuracy of the minutes in fully recording and responding to issues raised in this section. Requesting evidence for the statement made regarding the commercial benefit of the motorised sporting events. Requesting retraction of the statement if this evidence is not forthcoming.

A member of the public highlighted the excellent Christmas light display in the village this year. Requesting that the issues raised in the village survey be reviewed and addressed by the Parish Council.

On agenda

A member of the public stated that detail of expenditure was not explicit on the agenda. It was clarified that this detail is contained in the Minutes.

2412/06 To approve and adopt Minutes

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and two abstentions, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2024 as a correct record.

2412/07 To receive reports from:

- a) Police - Not received.
- b) County Cllr Miss A Davis – Report, (Appendix I).



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It was suggested that a fact sheet be created to advise/guide Parishioners of the responsibility of tree maintenance on private land.

Road collapse, North Lee to Middle Lee Farm
ACTION 1

Cllr Davis left the meeting.

- c) District Cllr J Hunt - None received.
- d) Play Area – None to report
- e) Manor Hall – None to report
- f) Footpaths

In response to letter received from Parishioner footpath 27, has been reported. DCC have requested more detail about which sections are overgrown.

ACTION 2.

- g) Grit Bins/Road
Cllr Stanbury reported that the hedges in the dog field have been cut.

Cllr Stanbury reported that the Boules club would take some responsibility in helping to keep the area clean and tidy.

Cllrs. Stanbury & Davies reported that grit/salt bins have been checked and reported where necessary.

Grit bin 1378 to be reported.

ACTION 3.

Sand bin at Village Shop is nearly empty
ACTION 4.

Car park lines require repainting
ACTION 5.

Discussion re electric vehicle charging point in car park
ACTION 6.

- h) Meetings/Events attended by Councillors/Clerk
None to report

2412/08

Parish Community Survey

Questions from the open meeting held on 5th December 2024 and questions emailed to the Clerk have been collated, (Appendix II)



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- 1) The Boules and Dog park are part of the Berrynarbor Recreation Field
- 2) It is not clear what the issues were with SW Water.
ACTION 7.
- 3) And 4) The discussion concluded that this statement had not been made and therefore was incorrect.
- 5) A separate public meeting did not take place.
- 6) The minutes March 24, item 2403/07 records “It was resolved, with one vote against, to accept the quotation and agree to Devon Communities Together to undertake the householder survey”.
- 7) The Parish Council accounts are overt and are publicly recorded in the minutes. There is an annual audit.
- 8) It was agreed that a steering group would be convened to review the future requirements, for the recreation ground. This would include those highlighted in the report, for consideration,
 - Picnic bench
 - Tables
 - Low lighting at entrance and path
 - Disabled access
 - Tidying and laying Tarmac
 - Replacement of football nets

ACTION 8.

2412/09 Payments and Receipts

PAYMENTS

76. Tesco Mobile Charge	12.95
77. Pennon Water Services, Water Public toilets	197.64
78. HMRC PAYE	185.40
79. Pensions contributions	0.00
83. British Gas, electricity	63.49
84. Berry in Bloom, Grant	1000.00
85. CAB, Grant	50.00
86. BerryNews	60.00
87. Public Toilet Cleaning, November	125.00
88. DALC training	36.00
89. Reference texts	193.96
90. Back to Roots, Dog field hedge	440.00
91. Toilet cleaning products	67.75
92. Tesco Mobile top up	10.00
93. Property Search – Ye Olde Globe	3.00



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	94. Manor Hall Hire – Survey Meeting	18.00
	95. Clerk Salary Nov & Dec	686.40
	96. Travel Expenses	54.93
	Total Payments	3204.52
	<u>Receipts</u>	
It was	BerryNews	60.00
	Total Receipts	60.00

resolved, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the payments and receipts.

2412/10 Draft Budgets

Priorities for Precept 2025/26 discussed and agreed.
ACTION 9.

2412/11 Nomination of Asset of Community Value

Application has been submitted to NDDC to nominate Ye Old Globe Pub as an Asset of Community Value.

2412/12 Grant Funding and Donations

Due to power outages as a result of storm Darragh the funding request from Mid Devon Mobility is deferred until the January meeting.

2412/13 Newsletter

The November NarborNews pilot had been distributed.

As a result of sponsorship, the first edition was cost neutral.

The January copy circulated to the Parish Council and approved.

It was agreed that the 'NarborNews could continue without any further pilot and the Parish Council would review the associated costs should sponsorship not be available.

2412/14 Sewage Tank – Public Toilets

An invoice has been received for repair of the sewage tank that services the toilets in the car park.

The council approved the Parish Council contribution of 75% of the costs of repair and upkeep of the sewage tank.

ACTION 10.

2412/15 Roles and Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities were agreed as follows:

- a) Footpath Officer – Mrs J Fairchild.
- b) Deputy Footpath Officer – Mrs G Bacon.



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- c) Highway Liaison Officer & Tree Warden – Cllr Stanbury.
- d) Emergency Plan Officers – Cllrs. Stanbury & Boxall.
- e) Councillor to check invoices for payment – Cllrs. Laham & Joyce
- f) Berrynarbor Manor Hall Committee – Cllr. Joyce
- g) Working Party – Parish Council
- h) Personnel Working Party – Cllrs A Stanbury, J Latham, B Joyce
- i) Cllr responsible for checking planning applications – Cllr Boxall.
- j) Responsibility for checking the defibrillator – Mr J Irwin.
- k) Dog Field – Cllr Davies.
- l) Public Toilets – Cllr Joyce.
- m) Notice board – Cllr Joyce.
- n) Snow Warden – Mr A Coppin.

ACTION 11.

2412/16 Proposal to take down hedge in the dog field

It was agreed to liaise with Berry in Bloom and to discuss the removal of the patch of shrub/hedge to open up the dog field.

ACTION 12.

2412/17 Community Governance Review

The Parish Council were updated with regard to the review due after April 2025. The documents outlining this review have been circulated for note.

2412/18 Playground Inspection

The quotation from The Play Inspection Company was considered and approved by the Parish Council.

ACTION 13.

It was resolved that under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of confidential information.

PART B

2412/19 Staffing Matter

The spend for Clerk training and support was agreed

Meeting ended at 8.47pm.

Signed..... Dated:.....



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APPENDIX I

Berrynarbor Parish Council County Councillors report, December 2024

Storm Darragh

We were particularly hard hit in Combe Martin Rural and North Devon, I have a lot of residents still without electricity across the area. Despite the challenging conditions, the county's road network is already largely back to normal.

During the period covered by the Met Office's weather warnings, Devon's Network Operations Control Centre received more than 680 calls, with more than 300 of those relating to tree issues. The highest wind gust recorded over the weekend was 78mph at Taw Bridge. As a safety precaution, the A361 Taw Bridge and A39 Torridge Bridge were both closed at midnight on Friday night as planned and were re-opened on Sunday morning. Devon's Household Waste Recycling Centres were also closed on Saturday.

Although wind speeds dropped by Sunday afternoon, calls to the control centre continued as road users came across issues. A large share of the calls were from people reporting roads that were blocked or partially blocked by trees or debris from buildings.

Changes for disposal of upholstered furniture

New environmental requirements will mean that from **Sunday December 1** we will only be able to dispose of their upholstered furniture at one of eight of our specially designated Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs). It follows the introduction of new requirements from the Environment Agency which require our recycling centres to have segregated facilities to handle Waste Upholstered Domestic Seating (WUDS). WUDS include sofas, sofa beds, armchairs, recliner chairs, upholstered kitchen and dining room chairs, upholstered garden furniture, stools and foot stools, office chairs, futons, bean bags, floor and sofa cushions.

These items contain large quantities of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs or forever chemicals) and other hazardous chemicals in the textiles and foam. These chemicals are often used as fire retardants; they persist in the environment, can accumulate in human and wildlife fatty tissues and can be harmful to health and the environment. All WUDS need to be sent for incineration separately where these chemicals are destroyed.

We are now required by the Environment Agency to ensure that all WUDS are segregated and transported separately from other waste. This segregation will require additional containers and facilities to be provided at HWRCs. However, due to space constraints, only a limited number of sites in Devon will be able to accept WUDS. This



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means that the majority of our recycling centres will not have the facilities to accept these items.

The HWRCs that will be able to accept Waste Upholstered Domestic Seating from Sunday December 1 2024 are: –

- East Devon; Knowle Hill in Exmouth
- Exeter; Pinbrook Road, Exeter
- Mid Devon; Ashley, Tiverton
- **North Devon, Seven Brethren, Barnstaple**
- Torridge; Bideford
- South Hams; Ivybridge
- West Devon: Okehampton
- Teignbridge: Brunel Road, Newton Abbot

WUDS cannot be accepted at any other Devon HWRC after December 1 and residents will need to ensure that they take their WUDS to a site that can accept them or book a bulky collection with their district council who will charge for the service.

To be very clear we will have to go to Barnstaple with any Waste Upholstered Domestic Seating (upholstered furniture, chairs, sofas, floor cushions etc)

The [‘Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority Regulations 2024’](#), a ‘statutory instrument’ (SI), has been laid in Parliament, paving the way towards the creation of the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority.

The Regulations will be debated in in the House of Commons and the House of Lords. When they are signed by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, Angela Rayner MP, under powers delegated by the Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023, the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority (CCA) will come into being.

The CCA will make decisions about the powers and funding devolved from Whitehall to Devon and Torbay through the deal that was agreed in January this year. Devon and Torbay recently received £16 million in capital funding as part of the authorities’ devolution deal.

The funding, which is just the start, will enable [16 projects to progress, to provide more affordable homes, sheltered accommodation, green jobs and business growth across Devon and Torbay.](#)

I strongly suspect this will be rather outdated news by the end of the month and a new conversation may well be needed.....just my opinion!

**The DCC website is very useful for reporting highway problems and the reports go straight to the contractor. [Report a problem - Roads and transport](#)
Alternatively, the highway contact number is 0345 155 1004**



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**If it's a river flooding the environment agency can be contacted on 0345 988 1188
Winter road updates; <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/safe-travel/winter-travel/>
Travel Devon website; [home - Travel Devon](#)**

Merry Christmas and a very happy 2025

Andrea Davis

County Councillor

Combe Martin Rural Division Andrea.davis@devon.gov.uk

APPENDIX II

Questions raised from Household Survey

1. Is the Boules and Dog park part of the Rec field?
2. What were the issues were SW water?
3. Did the community of Berrynarbor approached the Parish Council to conduct a survey on the recreation ground and the parishioners decided it was deemed not fit for purpose! When did the Parishioners approach the Parish Council regarding this matter? On which agenda was this discussed and minuted.
4. This survey was conducted on the basis that BRG was "not fit for use". It was apparent that this was a shock to those attending the meeting.
5. Was there a separate meeting where the community met to discuss we had concerns regarding the recreation ground and I cannot find any information regarding this.
6. one of the few remaining councillors explained that not all the PC had been in favour of the survey and she for one had been against it. Consequently, she was not in a position to defend it now. I think this raises a number of issues for us as parishioners; not least how can we feel confident that the PC is acting fairly, without bias and in the best interests of the village?
7. Are the PC able to be more open and accountable for how they spend money?
8. 19 respondents expressed an interest in joining a steering group – these is however no advice how this group might be formed. Could the PC please advise how the SG members would be chosen and what function they will fulfil.