

# Christow Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs C Retallick, Bagtor Barton, Isington, Newton Abbot, TQ13 9RT.

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Minutes of the Zoom meeting of Christow Parish Council held on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021.

Present: Cllr Archer  
Cllr K Evans  
Cllr AJ Orme  
Cllr J Orme  
Cllr R Slack

Carol Retallick (Clerk), Cllr J Brook (DCC), Cllr S Purser (TDC) and one member of the public.  
Cllr Archer welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## Minutes of council meeting

### 1) Apologies and Acceptance for Absence:

None received

### 2) Public Discussion – To allow any questions, reports by members of the public on any matters relating to the agenda of this meeting. The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 5 minutes.

A representative of the Climate Hub addressed the meeting as the group are supporting the Farmer's Market which is currently using the Car Park at Christow. The Market organisers have asked to extend the permission to every Saturday in March and the Climate Hub urges the Council to grant the permission. This will allow the field, where the market is usually held, the chance to recover from the effects of the heavy rain.

### 3) Declarations of Interest: In accordance with the Code of Conduct.

None declared.

### 4) District, County Councillor's, DNPA Ranger/Representative Forestry Commission officer, Police and Lengthsman - to receive reports.

DCC J Brook – The Council is concentrating on budgets and large support has been allocated to Adult Services. Once the budgets have been finalised, he will circulate to all Clerks. The scrutiny committees have recommended several motions for the cabinet to debate which were mainly related to national issues.

There has been an increase of staff as some of the services, which were outsourced, have come back to Devon CC to manage.

The Chief Executive congratulated the residents of Devon as we have one of the lowest rates of infection in the UK. While there are a high number of people in ICU beds, some are from outside the region.

Cllr Archer asked about the pothole that had been repaired at Court Orchard. The work was not completed satisfactorily and the repair has already failed, as has a repair near the Teign House Inn.

The Clerk asked Cllr Brook if there were any funds left with which to purchase a grit bin. He confirmed his budget has been spent.

*(Cllr Brook left the meeting)*

TDC Cllr S Purser emailed this report – TDC expect a £5 increase for Band D properties. TDC are mainly discussing COVID matters. Sherbourne House in Newton Abbot has opened as a vaccination centre.

Please see TDC website for updated information on grants and assistance on offer. The Budget has had to be slightly reworked with the extended lockdown and is due to be finalised towards the end of February.

The National Census is still going ahead on 21 March 2021.

*(Cllr Purser left the meeting & Cllr Evans joined)*

Lengthsman report -. Having delayed collecting the leaves in the basketball area until December, to give all the oak trees chance to drop their leaves, Christmas and Covid lockdown has delayed work. In addition, I completed the final drains check and clearance for this financial year so there are no more drain clearance works planned until September 2021. All of the drains are clear and flowing well. The problem at the bottom of Bennah Lane continues but this is now firmly within DCC's remit.

Having completed these two areas of work that only leaves me carrying out the routine bus shelter inspections and clean ups, until the next financial year. Should you require me to carry out any additional tasks between now and then I would be more than happy to do so. Cllr Archer noted that the drains are all flowing well and the Lengthman's duties are of great value to the parish	
<b>5) Minutes</b> – to approve and sign the Minutes of the extra meeting held on the 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2021.	
These were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	
<b>6) Clerks Report</b> - An update on matters arising from the last meeting and for the interest or attention of councillors (FOR INFORMATION ONLY).	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DALC newsletters – we have received several already this year. The latest advises about the Coronavirus Act 2020 which gives the powers to conduct council business through online meetings until the 6<sup>th</sup> of May. Now it seems that face to face meeting will recommence from the 7<sup>th</sup> of May. This may obviously cause some issues as there may be people still not comfortable to meet in person. We will watch for more guidance.</li> <li>• Letter from the Artichoke's new owners giving a lot of information about their plans for the future of the pub, including many ideas to provide for the community.</li> <li>• Website is now live – more content to be added over the next few weeks.</li> <li>• Farmer's market was organised for January and February.</li> <li>• The play area inspections have been booked for March.</li> <li>• The potholes at Gidley's Meadow and Foxhole Hill have been reported.</li> <li>• Attended two Community Garden Zoom meetings.</li> <li>• There will be road works on the B3213 planned for February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.</li> <li>• Condolence book purchased.</li> <li>• New Electoral Role has arrived.</li> <li>• WI informed that their request has been approved and they confirmed they will manage the tree (pruning etc)</li> </ul>	
<b>7) Community Garden</b> – Update & review	
There have been two meetings so far – the first a public meeting and the second was for the working party. There is a lot of enthusiasm for the project and the working party agreed that a leader is needed to keep the project moving forward. Cllr Archer informed the meeting that a drone will film the area and a plan will be drawn up showing the exact area where the garden is planned. He has received many encouraging comments from the community. Cllr Evans attended the Climate Hub. They are supportive of the project. Cllr Archer asked the Council if they are happy to contact TDC and start the process for obtaining a licence to use part of the field (approx. 50m x 30m), Cllr Evans suggested asking TDC about leasing the whole of the field at a start date of 1st March 2021. <b>ACTION- the Clerk will contact TDC to discuss arranging a licence for either a piece of the field or the entire field – to report back at the next meeting.</b>	CR
<b>8) Farmer's Market</b> – Update & review	
The organisers have contacted the Council seeking permission to extend the agreement to use the car park during March. They also mentioned in the email that each stall holder has been paying a small fee which will come back to the Council. Cllr Evans proposed that the request should be granted for every Saturday in March, if there was no clash of dates and the TVCH committee are agreeable. <b>ACTION – confirm with TVCH dates and gate opening arrangement to continue during March and the fees would be held in the Car Park Repair Fund.</b>	CR
<b>9) New Grit Bin for Stafford Close</b> – discuss & decision	
Following an incident in Stafford Close, where a resident slipped and was taken to hospital, the residents have asked for a grit bin to be sited in the Close. Cllr Archer has found a bin in the parish which has not been used for several years and suggests moving it to Stafford Close, leaving a salt bag in its original place. The Councillors were in favour and Cllr Archer will arrange this.	

<b>ACTION – Cllr Archer to move the grit bin. The clerk will inform Highways</b>	TA/CR
<b>10) Emptying of litter and dog waste bins from Christow – Clarification of acceptance of new charges from TDC</b>	
The final opportunity to look at the new charges for emptying bins has been received. Christow PC are being asked to pay for one litter bin and one dog waste bin, to be emptied at a cost of £1,115.40 per annum. The Council would like to survey the bin's usage and discuss again next month. <b>ACTION- Find out on which day they are emptied, monitor and decide next month</b>	
<b>11) Toilet Cleaning – to discuss and decide contract cleaners</b>	
The current contract costs £230 per week which includes everything from the cleaning to the removal of rubbish and provision of consumables. A local firm has quoted £30 per 45-minute visit. This would include all consumables and cleaning products and three visits a week. They still need to confirm the costs to remove the rubbish as this will need to be cleared as clinical waste. <b>ACTION – Clerk to get more details of the current contract</b>	CR
<b>12) FINANCE</b>	
<b>Expenditure:</b> Clerk's salary for January = £ 478.69 E Fairs - Lengthsman duties for Dec/Jan = £ 352.14 SHS Cleaning for Toilets 575.67+115.11 = £ 690.78 Clerks & Councils Direct = £ 12.00 HP Instant Ink = £ 3.49 Condolence Book = £ 27.10 SLCC Subscription (this is half the fee and shared with IPC) = £ 83.00 Vision ICT – subscription for website = £ 384.00 SW Ground Maintenance – grass cutting = £ 332.00  <b>Bank Reconciliation and Statement:</b> The Chairman had checked the invoices and bank statement against the reconciliation statement with the Clerk. Both documents have been circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr J Orme proposed that the statement was correct, and payments should be issued, this was seconded by Cllr Evans, with all in favour.	
<b>12) MEETINGS ATTENDED:</b> to receive reports from Councillors who have attended meetings on behalf of this Council.	
Cllrs Archer, AJ Orme, J Orme and Evans attended the Community Garden public meeting. Cllr Archer attended the follow up meeting of the working party. Cllr Evans attended the Climate Hub meeting which was meeting to update members and plan for future projects. They are incredibly supportive of the community garden project and may be able to seek funding for seeds. Cllr Slack has started painting the 'T' markings on the car park.	
<b>The next Council meeting is Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021, at 7.30pm. This will be a Zoom meeting.</b>	
There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20.58pm.	

Signed.....

Date.....

Position.....

Email circulations during the past month	Paper circulation
Item for next month's agenda	
New Bin emptying charges/ Toilet cleaners	