

# LANGTREE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING

**12<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

<b>Present</b>	Councillors: Mark Glover John Davies Pat Mitchell Geoff Bond Anna Moseby David Ley Jenny Coles Chris Whateley (TDC) Andrew Saywell (DCC) Left after report
<b>In attendance</b>	Linda Davies Parish Clerk
<b>707</b>	<b>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>  Apologies were received from. Penny Stowell Colin Edworthy Cheryl Cottle Hunkin, (TDC) Melissa Baker (PCSO)
<b>708</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</b>
708.1	Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Still await Travis Perkins, who have offered to replace the fencing in Beech Road play park. Councillor Davies will contact as other work needs to be scheduled to coincide. Supplier for paint for climbing frame metal rungs has been identified.</li><li>• Litter bin key for Langtree Park has been sourced and delivered.</li></ul>
708.2	Minutes of meeting held on 8 <sup>th</sup> August 2024 to be confirmed and signed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• These were agreed - proposed by John Davies and seconded by Patrick Mitchell – duly signed.</li></ul>
<b>709</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There was no declaration of interests.</li></ul>

710	<b>REPORTS</b>
710.1	<p><b><u>Police Community Support Officer:</u></b></p> <p>Crime – 1 Theft.</p> <p>Logs – 1 Suspicious incident, 1 concern for welfare, 4 road related offences.</p>
710.2	<p><b><u>County Councillor:</u></b></p> <p>The resurfacing of the road has been completed, this time to a higher standard than originally planned as Keily have added an additional layer of tarmac over the stones – this was not part of the original contract but was added due to dissatisfaction of residents and therefore County Council.</p> <p>Family Hubs are proceeding using the universal model for children and young adults aged 0 to 19. The children’s centre building may become a childcare facility – talks will be held in Langtree to decide what is needed by families here, and they may use the Parish Hall to cut travel distances.</p> <p>The devolution plan may change now we have a change of Government: Plymouth will not now be a lone authority but will need to link with either Devon or Cornwall. Discussions will need to be held with central government.</p> <p>Summer activities were held during the school holidays to ensure that children that received Free school means continued to do so in the holidays.</p>
710.3	<p><b><u>District Councillor:</u></b></p> <p>After the recent Full Council meetings on 15th July and 9th September we adopted many strategies related to economic development and received Reports from our Chief Executive and Council Leader.</p> <p>The first one was the Torridge Place Story. This has already been adopted by the Torridge Place Board. It highlighted the opportunities in Torridge including Clean Maritime, Green Energy, Aquaculture, Innovative Agriculture, Creative and Digital Industries, and A Year-Round Sustainable Visitor Economy.</p> <p>We also adopted the North Devon and Torridge Economic Strategy. This sets out a vision for our economic future. It will help inform our policy and new local plan. It identifies 5 key sectors with net zero at the heart. There has been input from both councils (North Devon and Torridge), business leaders, and Universities in Devon.</p>

We then agreed the Clean Maritime Growth vision. It's all about attracting investment into Northern Devon- raising national level investment, and growing traction in Westminster and the private sector.

We also had an X-Links consultation response as a council. As you're probably all aware, these are the 4,000km sub-sea cables bringing solar energy from Morocco. The process is likely to go on for another 2 years. We are a host authority and key consultee, and we are working closely with DCC on this. We are establishing a working group to consider the community benefit package associated with this large infrastructure project. The council is taking guidance from Suffolk and Essex Councils who are also going through NSIPs (Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects).

We then adopted the Torridge Productivity Plan. This highlights the challenges including rurality and connectivity and the barriers preventing progress. This was written for central government based on the previous government and "levelling up". It will all still be useful and remains relevant, however we're unsure of exactly what is happening now in terms of the Torridge "levelling up" partnership now that we have a new government in place...

LGA Corporate Peer Challenge feedback. The LGA team met with 85 individuals related to the council including councillors, staff, and external partners. There were 30 workshops. It's not considered to be an "inspection", but a "critical friend" approach, providing assurance and assistance to improve what we're doing...

Key findings (positive):

- we're ambitious
- we understand Torridge's challenges
- we have a highly regarded economic development team
- we proactively engage with partners

Recommendations (concerns):

- member development and behaviour, low attendance at workshops
- capacity to deliver strategic plan and major projects (huge amount of work)
- review of procedures
- financial sustainability and savings plans

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- need clearer performance measures for climate change</li> <li>- review of HR policies following reported inconsistencies</li> </ul> <p>We received the Report regarding the LGA Corporate Peer Challenge from the Chief Executive and Leader, and work is ongoing on a draft Action Plan to propose recommendations at the next Full Council.</p> <p>We received a Report from the Chief Executive regarding Jo Cox Civility Commission which is progressing on the light of growing abuse towards elected representatives. The TDC support this work and have contributed to the work of the Commission.</p> <p>Local Authority Housing Fund (LAHF) was established in 2024 by the MHCLG - Ministry of Housing Commission and Local government. TDC submitted a successful bid to MHCLG and have been allocated £944,925 to provide 6 properties of which, 4 temporary accommodations, 1 and a 4+ bed resettlement properties.</p> <p>Devon Housing Commission tasked to investigate a wide range of elements impacting the housing market in Devon. Leader Cllr James represents Torridge on the Task Force working with the Housing `Commission to investigate causes of the Devon housing crisis and recommend policy and other relevant changes.</p>
<b>711</b>	<b>PARISH MATTERS</b>
711.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on Langtree Park. - Sand around swings is a little deep and attracts cats! This will resolve once the grass starts to grow through it.</li> </ul>
711.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tree growing through the Church wall is growing from the church side, it will need to be cut down before it damages the wall further.</li> </ul>
<b>712</b>	<b>PLANNING</b>
712.1	Any updates on potential planning application for land at The Crescent, Langtree – None
712.2	Applications for discussion – None received
712.3	To consider any other planning applications received between issuing of agenda and meeting. - None Received

	<p>Planning decisions –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/0656/2024/FUL Covering of existing yard: Granted permission.</li> <li>• 1/0657/2024/FUL Covering of existing yard: Granted permission.</li> </ul>						
712.4	<p><u>Update on Barley Hayes Planning –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Property and grounds are covered by listed building status. Planning permission is required for ground works in the garden. TDC Conservation Officer and Planning Officer have visited and requested that a planning application be submitted. To date no application has been submitted. Torridge Council is aware that there is a private civil action ongoing. This will not affect the councils' actions.</li> </ul>						
<b>713</b>	<b>CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCE</b>						
713.1	<p>To receive update on financial position at the end August 2024</p> <p>The position at the end of August was:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lloyd's account</td> <td>£4299.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reserve account</td> <td>£1567.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£5866.80</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Payments have been made.</li> <li>• In addition, there is £1551.81 in the Langtree Park account.</li> </ul>	Lloyd's account	£4299.33	Reserve account	£1567.47	Total	£5866.80
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713.2	<p>To request approval of BACS Payments and cheques.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None due</li> </ul>						
713.3	<p>To review correspondence received.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invitation for Councillors to attend DALC conference to be held at Exeter Racecourse on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 at 10am.</li> </ul>						
713.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Parish Council Domains Helper Service – request for Councils to move to a.Gov.uk Domain. Central Government would like a move to a monitored Domain which would include website, and email addresses. This would give greater security, legitimacy, and accountability.</li> </ul> <p>The cost to the Council would depend on the switch service provider chosen for the move. (Approved list provided by Helper service)</p>						

	<p>This is not mandatory and there is no budget for it. It is not clear how much Langtree parish would benefit. Council decided to contact another Council that we know has switched in a few months, to discuss whether they have realized any benefit from the Switch.</p>
713.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies Review: The standing Orders were reviewed, the policy does not need any changes except it was agreed that where the text referred to he/him it should be amended to he/she, him/her.</li> </ul>
<b>714</b>	<p><b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No public participation.</li> </ul>
<b>715</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>ANY OTHER ITEMS AT CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION</b></li> <li>• Councillor Ley noted that the original skittle alley was still stored in the Methodist church shed and a decision needed to be made about its future, as it was rotten and had wood worm. It was agreed it would be best if it was destroyed.</li> <li>• The meeting closed at 8.25pm.</li> </ul>
<b>676</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></li> <li>• The date of the next meeting is Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024</li> </ul>