

BUCKFASTLEIGH WEST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th February 2025 at 7.00pm in Scoriton Village Hall

Present – Cllrs Brent (Chairman), Feasey , Knowling, Le Marchant , Owen & Rolls
Dist Cllr Pannell (left 7.15pm), Clerk - Karen Gilbert. 1 member of Public

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION -

Mr Richard Hosking introduced himself as the Conservative candidate for the Devon County elections due to take place in May 2025 (if not previously cancelled). He added that it was a role he had held up to 2021 . The Chairman thanked him for attending

Full reports available from the Clerk - all reports circulated to Cllrs in advance

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Removal of bottle banks

As approved by the Waste Working Group in September, a number of bottle banks across the South Hams will be removed in the coming months as part of our ongoing efficiency programme of our waste and recycling service.

13 banks across the District will be taken away in the first wave of removals from 3 February. These banks have been selected because almost all residents now have access to glass collections as part of their weekly kerbside recycling collection.

Garden Waste

Garden waste subscriptions are now open for the new subscription year with collections beginning on 1 April 2025 through to 31 March 2026.

If you register before midnight 31 March 2025:

You can access our early bird discounted rate of £65 available from 3 February 2025 to 31 March 2025, this is for the period of collection beginning 1 April 2025

You will be ready to use the service for the new subscription period

If you register on or after 1 April 2025:

The standard rate of £68 will apply to all renewals and new subscriptions

If you do not register before this date, there may be a delay with your first collection.

DNPA - - Full report available from Clerk

£3million funding boost for Dartmoor-focused nature and heritage partnership

Exciting partnership plans to boost Dartmoor's world-class heritage and enhance its natural environment has been awarded £3,124,179 in funding by The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The Dartmoor's Dynamic Landscapes partnership has been awarded the funding to take forward a major programme of work to restore nature, protect and enhance Dartmoor's cultural heritage and enrich people's understanding and enjoyment of its special qualities. Dartmoor's Dynamic Landscapes brings together Dartmoor National Park Authority, the Woodland Trust, Sustrans, the RSPB, Dartmoor Hill Farm Project, Emergency Exit Arts & Flock South West, the Environment Agency, Shallowford Trust, Dartmoor Headwaters Project, South West Water for the South West Peatland Partnership and the Westcountry Rivers Trust. We will deliver a wide-ranging suite of projects encompassing river, habitat and species conservation; creative events and engagement activities, support for farmers, training and skills and improving access and active travel opportunities.

The communities of Okehampton, Ivybridge, and Princetown, will become 'hubs' for visitors, allowing people from all backgrounds to spend time and money in these places while taking part in events or activities that promote enjoyment and understanding of Dartmoor's special qualities. Conservation work will advance the excellent woodland,

habitat and river restoration already taking place, with a particular focus on the river catchment areas of the Okement, Dart, Erme and Yealm.

Active travel and access will unlock further opportunities for walking and cycling, particularly for children, and giving people the chance to experience amazing views or explore historic remains no matter what their age or ability.

With partner contributions, the total investment in Dartmoor's Dynamic Landscapes will be around £5.85million. The programme will run until 2030.

DEVON COUNTY - CLLR DAN THOMAS

Devon County Council did indeed ask the Government to delay the May 2025 elections to allow for negotiations around Local Government Reorganisation. As of today, we still don't know whether the Gov't will acquiesce, so we remain in an unfortunate state of limbo.

On 20th February, County will discuss the budget for next year; I will of course update you on this at the March meeting. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me as required.

25/02/01 Apologies for absence - County Cllr Thomas

25/02/02 Approval of Minutes - The Minutes of the regular meeting held on 3rd December 2024 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record

25/0/03. Declarations of interest - None **Dispensation requests** None

25/02/04- PC admin -

a) There were no Co-option applications to consider

b) Update re Website - Cllr Feasey advised that most documents had been loaded onto the new site but was a work in progress

The Clerk advised of several discrepancies and commented that she had been unable to load the email account to her computer - Cllr Rolls advised that he had not been able to do this either

ACTION ; CLLR FEASEY TO INVESTIGATE EMAIL PROBLEM

The Annual Parish Meeting was set for 1st April 2025 and the Councillors were asked to give consideration to finding Speaker

ACTION ; CLLRS TO CONSIDER A SPEAKER FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

25/02/05 - Clerks Report

The Clerk advised that she had attended a Zoom meeting held by DALC regarding the devolution proposals and the way in Parish Councils might be affected / respond . At this moment in time , there were insufficient details to necessitate any action

However , DALC had asked for a short resume from each Parish , on how the Council works / what is important and any aspirations it may have . This would be useful in ensuring that each Parish Council s' thoughts are known at all levels when further discussion takes place

ACTION : CLLR BRENT TO PREPARE STATEMENT BY MID FEBRUARY

25/02/06- Planning - NONE

25/02/07 Finance

K Gilbert

Expenses 12/24 AND 01/25

£82.00

Approval of cheque - AGREED by all

25/02/08 Councillor reports

a) **Tree Warden report.** - Cllr Brent confirmed that the maples at the War Memorial had been pollarded

- b) Councillors reports from other meetings.** Cllr Le Marchant advised that the Twinning Association intended to attend the April meeting to address that Council and request financial support
- c) Footpaths Warden Report.** - It was **NOTED** that a tree which had fallen across a Footpath had been removed . Cllr Knowling confirmed that he had walked the paths to Chalk Ford adding that the Bridge and stonework had been well constructed Cllr Owen updated the Council on the proposals for a South Hams Way - which was currently being considered by the South Hams Ramblers - stressing that this was still in the planning stages

25/02/09 - Village Matters

Highways - Cllr Brent confirmed , that after many years , drainage works at Stumpy Oak were due to commence . It was hoped that this would prevent the current flooding issues The Clerk confirmed that the salt stocks at both Scoriton Farm and Bowden Farm had been replenished
The Chairman asked the Clerk to contact Landowners whose roadside hedges still required flailing

Village Hall - Cllr Le Marchant advised that a Committee meeting had taken place . The Trustees had requested certain information from the Parish Council to assist in matters being considered

25/02/10. Parish Council Meeting 4th March 2024 at 7.00pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at. 7.45 pm