

Black Torrington Parish Council

Leasefield Farm, Halwill Junction, Beaworthy EX21 5XU
Telephone: 07809 688 725 Email: clerkblacktorrington@outlook.com

To All Black Torrington Parish Councillors,

You are hereby summoned to attend a **Virtual Meeting of Black Torrington Parish Council**, which will be held on **Tuesday, 9th March 2021, 7:00 pm** by video conferencing, for the purpose of transacting the following business. In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 members of the public are welcome to attend, contact the clerk for details of how to do this.

D Osborne

01/03/2021

Members of the press and public requiring access to any of the documents mentioned in this agenda are asked to contact the Town Clerk (electronic links to documents are provided where available).

AGENDA

1. **To receive and accept apologies** (Please make any apologies known to the Parish Clerk)
2. **Declarations of Interest** - To receive declarations of personal interest and disclosable pecuniary interests (DPI's) in respect of items on this agenda.
3. **Parish Council Minutes** - To approve and sign the minutes of the Black Torrington Parish Council meetings held on 13th January 2021 as a correct record.
4. **Public Question Time** - At the discretion of the Chairman, to receive questions from members of the public relevant to the work of the Council. Matters raised may be added to future agenda. Answers may be given in writing.
5. **Clerk & Councillor Reports** - At the discretion of the Chairman, to receive reports from Councillors (Parish, District, and County) - for information only.
6. **Action List**
7. **Waste in the parish – Litter pick – Waste bin at Windmiland Cross**
8. **Boundary tree uplift – Select a new contractor**
9. **Finances –**
 - Bills to pay, cheques to be raised
 - Does the Parish Council wish to renew its CPRE subscription?
10. **Black Torrington Playing Fields**
 - Playing Field Committee Report.
11. **Planning**

Torrige District Council - Planning Applications [TDC Planning Public Access Portal](#)

Torrige District Council, the determining Authority, has **asked for comments** for the following planning applications:

Reference: 1/0194/2021/FUL

Proposal: Creation of commercial fish pond

Location: Anglers Paradise, The Gables, Winsford Lane, Halwill Junction

Deadline for comment: 25th March 2021

Reference: 1/0049/2021/FUL
Proposal: Erection of a treehouse for holiday use
Location: Land Adjacent Kingsley Cottage, Black Torrington, Devon
Deadline for comment: 25th February 2021 (passed)

12. To consider standard responses to planning applications in collaboration with other parishes
13. To agree the date of the next parish council meeting
14. Close

BLACK TORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Black Torrington Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 9th March 2021, at 7pm, by video link

Present: Cllrs, M Hall (MH)(Chair), C Lock (CL), E Barnes (EB), W Frost (WF), P Mills (PM)
M Moulton (MM), M Down(MD), D Haywood(DH)

In Attendance: County Councilor B Parsons & Clerk

0903/01 To receive and accept apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor S Powell & Ward Councillor P Hackett

0903/02 Declarations of Interest – none

0903/03 Parish Council Minutes

It was **resolved** to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th January 2021.

0903/04 Public Question Time

The chair relayed a message from a resident of the Maltings regarding the flooding from the boundary ditch. Investigations have shown that there is a problem localised in one of the resident's properties. There has been friction between the residents regarding allowing floodwater to flow from one property to another. Once the major blockage is dealt with the pipe which is believed to connect the ditch to the drain can be investigated and replaced if needed.

0903/05 Clerk & Councillor reports

County Councillor Parsons informed the meeting that he would not be standing in the May elections so this would be his last meeting.

He was thanked by the chair for his work for the parish over the years.

The clerk reported that the website is in need of maintenance and updating. It might be time for a review of the website.

0903/06 Action List

Regarding the standard wording for planning applications councillor Mills asked BP how hard hitting to make his wording should be. BP recommended being diplomatic. PM will come up with some wording for consideration.

Regarding planters to brighten up the village entrances, the Clerk confirmed that anything placed on the highway has to not represent a hazard if hit by traffic. Planters built of deck-board should be allowed. MM suggested that planters could be sponsored and maintained by businesses in the parish. An article in the BT Times might get interest. MD suggested the school could be involved.

The Parish Council thinks the recently installed vehicle activated speed sign at Highampton is very effective at slowing the traffic. The Clerk informed the meeting that he has approached the Highampton Parish Council to ask for their advice on how to get permission for such a sign.

MM has been in contact with the school who are willing to help design speed signs. Perhaps a mural can be made on the side of the village hall. WF suggested an article in the BT Times might get ideas for a speed aware mural.

MD asked about the feasibility of a sign to stop parking by the old telephone kiosk. Cars parked there make it difficult for vehicles to travel down Broad St and may cause an

obstruction for fire engines. The Clerk will ask if we can have leaflets to educate inconsiderate parkers. MD thought this issue is likely to get worse.

The infant swing is installed. The ground has had drainage work done and the woodchip will be installed soon.

The search for a new mower is still ongoing.

The War Memorial: The parishioner who usually maintains the war memorial garden is no longer willing to do it. WF will try and persuade him to change his mind. Stacey's have carried out some of the remedial work. CL thought the rendering at the base of the plinth was substandard. Councillors will try and view the memorial before their next meeting so the work can be signed off.

The overgrown hedges have been cut back.

0903/07 Waste in the parish – Litter pick – Waste bin at Windmiland Cross

The litter bin in the lay in the lay-by at Windmiland Cross was removed in 2017. This has resulted in an increase in the amount of litter at Lane End. There is a risk that the Parish Council would be left liable for disposal of commercial waste. Parishioners in the parish have been picking up litter. The parish council has received a suggestion that litter pickers and bags should be made available on a stand similar to those in Bude. Item for next Agenda.

PM suggested that the school might be able to use some of the recycling for art use.

The Clerk was asked to find out the cost of recycling bins.

0903/08 Boundary tree uplift – select a new contractor

WF reported that he has cut the hedge at the South end of the playing field and is willing to cut anything that needs doing for the boundary tree uplift with a pole saw. The Clerk assured the councillors that volunteers are covered by the Parish Council's insurance.

0903/09 Finances

- **Bills to pay, cheques to be raised**

None

- **Does the Parish Council wish to renew its CPRE subscription?**

It was agreed that the Parish Council will renew its CPRE subscription

0903/10 Black Torrington Playing Fields.

- Playing Field Committee Report.

WF reported on behalf of the playing field committee.

- The wood chippings will cost £900.
- RoSPA will be carrying out a safety inspection.
- The picket fence will be about £600
- The Playing Field Committee's financial reserves will be depleted by the cost of the wood chippings and picket fence.

The Parish Council is willing to donate £500 towards the cost of the picket fence.

The Clerk was asked to put the chestnut tree on the agenda for the next meeting.

0903/11 Planning

Torridge District Council - Planning Applications [TDC Planning Public Access Portal](#)

Torridge District Council, the determining Authority, has **asked for comments** for the following planning applications:

Reference: 1/0194/2021/FUL

Proposal: Creation of commercial fish pond

Location: Anglers Paradise, The Gables, Winsford Lane, Halwill Junction

No comment

Reference: 1/0049/2021/FUL

Proposal: Erection of a treehouse for holiday use

Location: Land Adjacent Kingsley Cottage, Black Torrington, Devon

No Comment

There is a bus parked in the parish which the owners intend turning into burger van. The Clerk explained that as long as the bus is SORNed and off road or taxed and insured there is no action that can be taken. A burger bus would need licencing and the land would need change of use permission. The Clerk was asked to make this an agenda item for the next meeting.

0903/12 To consider standard responses to planning applications in collaboration with other parishes - deferred

0903/13 To agree the date of the next parish council meeting

There was a discussion of the meeting calendar during Item 6. It was agreed to keep bi-monthly meetings. The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting followed by an ordinary meeting on May 4th.

0903/14 Close

The meeting closed at 20:43 pm

Action List

Minute Number	Action	Responsible for action	Next steps
1301/10	Standard wording for planning consultations	P Mills	Agree wording
1301/09	Ideas to improve the wellbeing of the parishioners Planters, BT Re-connect,	M Hall Clerk	Clerk to check Highway's view – waiting for response.
1419/08	Speed Watch Signs in the parish to slow traffic	M Hall M Moulton	Delayed by the COVIDS Examples circulated. MM to ask school for ideas
1409/11	Poppy Wreath £100 donation	Clerk	Completed
1409/13	Infant's swing New Mower	PFC PFC	Completed, safety surface to be installed Ongoing
	Website compliance with WCAG2.1 regulation	Clerk	Mr Bowen commissioned to do the work at his quoted price - £270 Waiting for confirmation
	War Memorial	All	Sign off completed work or agree what remedial work is needed
1110/4	Boundary tree uplift.	M Hall	Agenda Item March
1110/08	Highways – overgrown hedges	Clerk	Monitor how the hedge cutting is progressing