

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 **Meeting of Black Torrington Parish Council**, which will be held on **Tuesday, 14th September 2021, 7:00 pm** in the village hall, 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

01/09/2021

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 Ordinary meeting held on 16th July 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, matters arising from the minutes including:**
 - Speeding and parking in the parish (see also Item 9)
 - Website design and maintenance
 - Horse chestnut tree at the entrance to the overflow car park
 - The playing field gates
 - Litter picking "A" board
- 7. Hedge and verge trimming – to consider whether the parish council wishes to pay contractors to trim roadside hedges and verges**
- 8. Plans for the parish Christmas tree**
- 9. To set up a Community SpeedWatch Group**
- 10. To consider progress and any quotes regarding the culvert in the ditch between the playing fields and the Maltings Estate**
- 11. Finances –**
 - Bills to pay, cheques to be raised
 - Financial Report

12. Black Torrington Playing Fields

- Playing Field Committee Report.

13. 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: 1/0612/2021/FUL
Proposal: Conversion of barn to No.1 dwelling (amended red edge)
Location: Land At Victoria Road, Black Torrington, Devon
Comment by: 27th September

14. To agree the date of the next parish council meeting

15. Close

BLACK TORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Black Torrington Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 14th September 2021, at 7pm, in the Village Hall

Present: Cllrs, M Hall (MH)(Chair), C Lock (CL), E Barnes (EB), W Frost (WF), M Down(MD)

In Attendance: County Councillor J Morrish, 3 members of the public (MOP), Ward Councillor P Hackett & Clerk

1409/01 To receive and accept apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor S Powell, P Mills and D Haywood

1409/02 Declarations of Interest – none

1409/03 Parish Council Minutes

It was **resolved** to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Ordinary meeting held on 14th July 2021, as a correct record.

1409/04 Public Question Time

Standing orders were suspended to allow the public to speak.

Ward Councillor Hackett reported that he was aware of a number of objections regarding the planning application in Victoria Road. Today he has discussed [the Victoria Road application] with the planning manager, in consultation with the case officer to understand the issues with a possibility of calling in the application and is seeking to receive further guidance from from the local planning authority [Devon County (Highways)]. [The case officer] is aware of the number of objections and will take account of the objections when making his decision. The local planning authority has given standing advice. In this instance [PH] is aware of the problems the dust carts had [in Victoria Road] and the problems with access. [PH thinks] It is crucial that the planning authority look again at this. Even if the application is called in to committee there is no guarantee the committee will reject it as they are subject to the same guidelines and must follow the same policies as the planning officers.

MH reported that he has received an email from a parishioner regarding the brightness of the new street lights. County Councillor Morrish thought this was a matter for the district council. MH asked the parishioner to email councillors Morrish and Hackett.

The clerk was asked to add acquiring a defibrillator for the parish hall to the next agenda.

The Silent Soldier is being looked after by a parishioner. It will be put up for Remembrance Sunday. The poppy wreath is in good condition and can be reused. It was agreed to send a donation of £100 to the RBL for poppy day subject to ratification at the next meeting.

Standing orders were reinstated.

1409/05 Clerk & Councillor reports

The Clerk reported that the problems with setting up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme have been resolved, we just need some volunteers to watch the neighbourhood.

1409/06 Action List

Speeding and parking in the parish

A parishioner reported that speed was still an issue in East Street. There has not yet been sufficient number of volunteers to form a Community SpeedWatch group.

The Chair asked if it would be possible to put up warning signs to beware of horse riders as there are a large number in the parish. PH said that highways are likely to oppose this as they are reluctant to allow signs to proliferate.

The Chair has spoken to the school about the children designing speed signs.

Website design and maintenance

The website design and editing problems have been resolved but it still needs volunteers to create content.

Horse chestnut tree at the entrance to the car park

The horse chestnut tree will be pollarded on the 21st September.

Playing Field Gates

Carried over

Litter picking "A" board

Carried over

1409/07 Hedge and verge trimming – to consider whether the parish council wishes to pay contractors to trim roadside hedges and verge

A parishioner suggested that the parish council employ a contractor to keep the verges and hedges through Chilla neat and trimmed.

The clerk was asked to get prices more information

1409/08 Plans for the parish Christmas tree

It was agreed that there should be 2 trees, one for the Black Torrington and one for Chilla.

The clerk was asked to get prices.

1409/09 To set up a Community SpeedWatch Group

Covered Item 6

1409/10 To consider progress and any quotes regarding the culvert in the ditch between the playing fields and the Maltings Estate

The pipe from the bottom of the boundary ditch to the inspection chamber has been found. The tree which was blocking the drainage pipe through the Maltings estate has been removed but the damage to the pipe has not been repaired. This pipe is on private land. The end of the drain in the boundary ditch is exposed and should be protected. MD thought a simple mesh should stop balls blocking the pipe.

Mr Bryce has not yet been asked to quote.

CL thought if the pipe remained blocked it could back up and cause flooding in Broad St.

MH thinks that even though the culvert under the Maltings estate is not the responsibility of the parish council, the end of the pipe in the ditch is. The parish council has a duty to protect and maintain the end of the pipe.

1409/11 Finances

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

It was agreed to pay the following bills

Table of bills paid from the current account at the September 2021 Meeting

Date	Payee	Amount Ex VAT	Amount inc VAT	Brief details of supply
31/08/2021	Parish Magazine Printing	£231.90	£231.90	BT Times printing July
13/07/2021	BT Village Hall	£6.00	£6.00	Hall Hire July
22/09/2021	Steggles Tree Services (Mr D Steggles)	£200	£200	Tree surgery
31/08/21	Parish Magazine Printing	£231.90	£231.90	BT Times printing September

Total for month ex VAT £437.90

Total for month inc VAT £437.90

VAT for month £0

P3 Account

Date	Payee	Amount Ex VAT	Amount inc VAT	Brief details of supply
30/06/2021	M Hall	£12.00	£14.40	Brushcutter nut and glue
03/08/21	M Hall	£18.01	£21.61	Brushcutter oil and line
TOTAL		£30.01	£36.01	TOTAL

- 1409/12 Black Torrington Playing Fields.**
- Playing Field Committee Report.

1409/13 Planning

Torrridge District Council, the determining Authority, has asked for comments for the following planning application:

- **Reference:** 1/0612/2021/FUL
- **Proposal:** Conversion of barn to No.1 dwelling (amended red edge)
- **Location:** Land At Victoria Road, Black Torrington, Devon

The parish council **resolved** to restate its objections to this application. The amended red line does nothing to address the parish council's reasons for objecting.

1409/14 To agree the date of the next parish council meeting

The Next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council will be on November 9th at 19:00 in the parish hall.

1409/15 Close

The meeting closed at 21:10 pm

20th August 2021

Black Torrington
RECONCILIATION

From Accounts 20 th August 2021		
Reserve Ac	£3,180.00	
Current Ac	£14,788.64	£17,968.64
Payments not cashed Subtract..		£238.00
Receipts not entered Add.....	£0.00	
Cash as day book		£18,206.64
 Add payments to come		
Precept	£4,906.00	
VAT reversal	£3,155.80	
Total to come Add	£8,061.80	
Day Book.....		26268.44
 Minus restricted funds		
Balance of precept yet to pay	(£8,678.00)	
Ring fenced for MUGA repairs	(£400.00)	
Ring fenced for mower	(£4,000.00)	
 Ring fenced P3	(£225.00)	
Ring fenced for toilet	(£1,500.00)	
Total restricted Subtract	(£14,803.00)	
Total Unrestricted		£11,465.44

BLACK TORRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL - BUDGET 2020/21

	BUDGET	2021									2022			TOTALS	YET TO	REVISED FCAST	VARIANCE
	2021-22	ACTUALS						FORECAST						FOR YEAR	PAY	2021/22	
	£	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	2021/22			
Insurance	600	616												616	-	616	-16
DALC Affiliation	100	103												103	-	103	-3
Domain Name/Hosting	67													-	67	67	0
Software	56													-	56	56	0
Audit	200	300												300	-	300	-100
Admin expenses	300													-	300	300	0
Hall Hire	150				6		6							12	18	30	120
Clerk	2,573													-	2,573	2,573	0
Training	100													-	100	100	0
Travel/Subsistence	50													-	50	50	0
Mem. Garden upkeep	100													-	100	100	0
														-		-	
BT Times	-		215		215		232							662		662	-662
Playing Field maintenance	1,500													-	1,500	1,500	0
Christmas Tree	100													-	100	100	0
Toilets	500													-	500	500	0
Grants/s137fete prize	250													-	250	250	0
Reserves	3,166	36			66									102	3,064	3,166	0
	9812	439	215	-	287	-	238	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,795	8,678	10,473	-661
															checks:	10473	-661

Black Torrington Parish Council

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

To All Black Torrington Parish Councillors,

You are hereby summoned to attend an **Extraordinary Meeting of Black Torrington Parish Council**, which will be held on Friday, **24th September 2021**, at the **Village Hall**, Black Torrington, at **7.00 pm** 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.

21st September 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**
- 2. Declarations of Interest** - To receive declarations of personal interest and disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on this agenda.
- 3.** To consider a request from Councillor P Mills to be absent from meetings for more than 6 months for family reasons
- 4. Planning**

Torridge District Council, the determining Authority, has asked for comments from this Parish Council on the following planning applications:

Reference: 1/0612/2021/FUL
Proposal: Conversion of barn to 1 No. dwelling (amended red edge)
Location: Land At Victoria Road, Black Torrington, Devon,
Deadline for comment: 27th September

Reference: 1/0938/2021/FUL
Proposal: Partial demolition of barn to accommodate a two bedroom dwelling
Location: Barn At Broad Street, Black Torrington, Devon
Deadline for comment: 8th October

Reference: 1/1064/2021/AGMB
Proposal: Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 1 no. dwellinghouse under Class Q
Location: Building At North Graddon Farm, Highampton, Devon
Deadline for comment: 8th October

- 5. Close**

Minutes of the Black Torrington Parish Council Extraordinary Meeting held on Tuesday, 24th September 2021, at the **Village Hall**

1. Present: Cllrs M Hall (Chair), E Barnes, D Haywood, C Lock, M Down & P Mills

In Attendance: Parish Clerk, 2 members of the public

2. To receive and accept apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllrs, W Frost, M Moulton, S Powel

3. Declarations of interest – None

4. To consider a request from Councillor P Mills to be absent from meetings for more than 6 months for family reasons.

It was **resolved** to grant Councillor P Mills a leave of absence of 6 months from the 24th September should he require it for family reasons.

5. Planning

Torrridge District Council, the determining Authority, has asked for comments from this Parish Council on the following planning applications:

Reference: 1/0612/2021/FUL

Proposal: Conversion of barn to 1 No. dwelling (amended red edge)

Location: Land At Victoria Road, Black Torrington, Devon

The Councillors **resolved** to write an objection comment based on the previous objections to proposals on this site and concerns over the privacy of the neighbours.

Reference: 1/0938/2021/FUL

Proposal: Partial demolition of barn to accommodate a two bedroom dwelling

Location: Barn At Broad Street, Black Torrington, Devon

The Councillors **resolved** to write an objection comment based on the lack of parking in Broad St and the lack of a pavement with the door of the proposed dwelling opening directly onto the highway.

Reference: 1/1064/2021/AGMB

Proposal: Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 1 no. dwellinghouse under Class Q

Location: Building At North Graddon Farm, Highampton, Devon

The Parish Council has no opinion on this matter

6. Close

Reference: 1/0938/2021/FUL

Partial demolition of barn to accommodate a two bedroom dwelling | Barn At Broad Street, Black Torrington, Devon

Black Torrington Parish Council wishes to object to this proposal

Black Torrington Parish Council discussed this amended application at its extraordinary Meeting on 24th September. It was resolved to object for the following reasons:-

Highways:- There are inadequate parking spaces available in Broad Street; given the lack of public transport in the village any additional dwelling will inevitably result in additional vehicles and more on-road parking exacerbating the situation. The proposal will result in the loss of 2 off road parking spaces.

The door of the proposed dwelling will open directly onto the main road through the village, there is no footway.

Reference: 1/0612/2021/FUL

Conversion of barn to No.1 dwelling (amended red edge) | Land At Victoria Road Black Torrington Devon

Black Torrington Parish Council wishes to object to this proposal

Black Torrington Parish Council discussed this amended application at its extraordinary Meeting on 24th September. It was resolved to object for the following reasons:-

Highways. The Parish Council sees no reason to change it's earlier comments on highways.

1. The road giving access to the site is by reason of its inadequate width and junctions unsuitable to accommodate the increase in traffic to be generated.
2. The proposed development would be likely to result in a material increase in the volume of traffic entering and leaving the Unclassified County Road through an access that does not provide adequate visibility from and of emerging vehicles, with consequent risk of additional danger to all users of that road.
3. The proposed development would be likely to result in an increase in the volume of traffic entering and leaving the Class 3 County Road through a junction that does not provide adequate visibility from and of emerging vehicles with consequent risk of additional danger to all users of that road

Although DCC Highways have no objections beyond their Standard Advice the Parish Council has greater local knowledge of the use of the road and believes the highways reasons given by TDC themselves for rejecting the earlier applications on the site are still valid, in fact the volume of traffic has increased since 2004 and the access in the current proposal has poorer visibility than the earlier proposals.

Privacy. The Parish Council does not believe it will be possible to provide adequate privacy without compromising the light and amenity value of the adjacent properties. The Chapel of Rest would be particularly affected.

Disturbance. Construction is likely to result in unacceptable disturbance to the Chapel of Rest.