

Minutes of Black Torrington parish council's May meeting

Held on 6 May 2025 following the AGM In the Village Hall

The meeting started at 7:30pm

Present:

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

In Attendance:

The clerk

0605.1 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor A Pallatt

0605.2 Declarations of Interest

None

0605.3 To confirm minutes for the March 12 2025 parish council meeting.

The minutes were signed as a correct record by Cllr M Hall

0605.4 Public question time

None

0605.5 Clerk's and Councillors' announcements

County Councillor

Not present

Ward Councillors

Not present

Clerk

None

Councillors

Councillor Frost reported that the [Community Council of Devon](#) will give grants of up to £250 to fund formation of a community emergency plan and up to £1,500 to support small scale developments and purchase equipment for an emergency plan.

There was a discussion on what the nature of any emergency might be. It was noted that during the recent extended power cuts people tended to organise themselves and look after vulnerable neighbours. The clerk noted the Halwill had an emergency plan and had equipment purchased 12 years ago. Most of the equipment was of little value now as communication technology has improved. It was agreed that an article could be put in the BT and Chilla Times to see if there was any feedback.

0605.6 Finances

- **Bills to pay**

Payee	Amount Ex VAT	Brief details of supply
DALC	£207.00	Annual subscription
Vincent's	£52.01	Tractor service
Parish Magazine Printing	£193.35	BT & Chilla Times April
Clear Insurance Management	767.39	Insurance Renewal

Total for month ex VAT £1,184.08

Total for month inc VAT £1,219.78

VAT for month £35.67

0605.7 Progress reports

- **Banking provisions**

Carried over

- **Transition to a ".gov.uk" domain name**

The clerk was asked to find out how much the ongoing annual cost will be of a .gov.uk domain name. The current site costs us £11 per annum for the domain name registration and nothing for the hosting. It is uncertain where the website is being hosted that is whose server is currently hosting the website.

- **Ditch outlet**

There have been no issues reported with the outflow from the ditch between the playing fields and the Maltings estate. The blockage under the Maltings has been resolved. Councillor Down thought we should still put a mesh over the outlet pipe end to stop it being blocked by debris. The chair will ask a local builder to look at the outlet and quote to put some mesh over the outlet.

0605.8 Black Torrington Playing Fields

- **Playing field committee (PFC) delegate report**

The birch trees agreed at the January meeting have been purchased.

The annual safety inspection has not identified any serious defects but there are minor defects which need addressing. The exercise equipment is in need of maintenance where the powder coating is peeling away.

The mower is running just peachy

The playing field committee has about £4,000 in its account

- **Mower security**

Carried over

0605.9 Planning

Reference: 1/0117/2025/FUL

Proposal: Erection of new garage (amended plans, red edge and description)

Location: West View Barn, Black Torrington, Beaworthy, Devon

Black Torrington Parish Council does not wish to comment on this matter

Reference: 1/0118/2025/FUL

Proposal: Change of use of land from agricultural to equestrian - New stables and all weather paddocks (amended plans)

Location: West View Barn, Black Torrington, Beaworthy, Devon

Black Torrington Parish Council does not wish to comment on this matter

0605.10 Correspondence

0605.11 To agree the date of the next meeting.

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting and an Ordinary Meeting on 8 July 2025 at 7 pm in the Village Hall.

0605.12 Close

The meeting closed at 9:00 pm