

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2022  
IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM OF BOW VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** Mr C D Nicks in the Chair,  
Mrs L A Hamilton and Mrs D M Pritchett-Farrell,  
Messrs P P W Edworthy, R P Edworthy and V Steer.  
DCC Rep. Cllr Letch and MDDC Rep. Cllr White  
Clerk: Miss B D Ware.

Members of the Public: Nil

**Apologies:** Messrs N P Edworthy, C R McAllister and T J Vanstone.

**PARISH COUNCIL**

1. **Public Open Forum.**

No members of the public present; no issues raised.

2. **Minutes.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2022, having been circulated in advance, were confirmed as a complete and accurate record and were signed.

3. **Planning**

APPLICATION

Nil

MDDC DECISION

APPROVAL

[22/01418/HOUSE](#)

*Proposal:* Erection of garage with ancillary use above

*Location:* Bow Station, Bow, Crediton, Devon EX17 6JD

*Site Vicinity Grid Ref:* 271661 / 100015

WITHDRAWN

[22/01106/HOUSE](#)

*Proposal:* Erection of two storey extension to rear

*Location:* 29 Godfreys Garden, Bow, Crediton, Devon EX17 6HT

*Site Vicinity Grid Ref:* 272105 / 101482

4. **Casual Vacancy.**

Following Notices being published, the application from the sole applicant, Mr Paul Edworthy, was read.

Proposed by Mr Steer, seconded by Mr Nicks, it was agreed that Mr Edworthy be co-opted. He was welcomed to the Council. He completed and signed his Declaration of Acceptance.

5. **Bow Village Hall and Village Field Management Committee, Request to Fund Pump Track Planning Application.**

Mr Steer advised that the Planning application would likely be submitted to MDDC LPA within the next week. He commented that there might not be a fee.

6. **Mid Devon District Council Requests Town/Parish Councils Accept Delegated Service(s) Responsibility or Provide Financial Assistance to Support MDDC Services.**

MDDC Deputy Chief Executive, Mr Andrew Jarrett, had written to town and parish councils highlighting recent inflationary pressures with the lack of certainty over how local government public services would be financed over the longer term, commenting on the dramatically escalating cost of living (inflation) crisis now posing additional pressures on service provision linked to material, energy and resourcing costs. MDDC, looking ahead, was considering the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and estimating a budget gap of £2.111m for 2023/24 growing to £5.219m by 2025/26, stating that MDDC needed to look at all levels/quality and methods of delivery of current service provision. Against that challenging backdrop, MDDC was exploring all avenues to retain the majority of service provision and in order to maintain service levels MDDC needed the help and support of town/parish councils, requesting that town/parish councils consider providing some services directly or make a

contribution to their delivery. The letter continued, advising that local government was unlikely to see substantial investment in services in the short-term, therefore anticipating reduction of some services unless town and parish Councils work with MDDC to enable continuity. In the absence of sufficient funding, MDDC would have to focus on statutory function service provision. Services MDDC was considering for support incl. grounds maintenance, parks/play areas, street cleansing, amenity car parks, cemetery maintenance, community grants, enforcement/CCTV, open spaces and public conveniences. Town/parish councils would soon be setting annual precepts, hence MDDC's timing with the approach. MDDC would welcome discussion with any town/parish council also provide any further info needed. The Clerk had copied the letter to Members. After brief discussion, the situation was noted but Members did not favour financially supporting MDDC. A response would not be sent. MDDC might make an approach to Parish Council regarding maintenance of Bow play areas. The financial situation MDDC faced was in common with other councils across the county. Cllr Letch advised that Crediton Town Council Clerk was in liaison with the Clerks at Tiverton and Cullompton Town Councils.

7. **Request for Support and to Help Finance Automated External Defibrillator with Cabinet at Nymet Tracey.**

The AED, Cardiac Science Powerheart G5 semi-automatic with CPRD with cabinet, Aivia 200 outdoor, unlocked, and alarmed, had been ordered. The DCC Locality Fund application, for £300.00 as Cllr Letch had previously indicated, had also been submitted. AED equipment had been delivered (received that day) with invoice, at £1,764.00 (£1,470.00 + vat), received.

8. **D. C.C. Highways Matters.**

*Speeding A3072 western approach to village (proposed extension of 30mph limit).* DCC Highways approach to Parish Council still awaited.

*Community Speedwatch (A3072 western approach to village, eastbound traffic).* The Clerk advised that Bow CSW had carried out the first speedwatch session on 30 October with the second session on 5 November. Fourteen members of the CSW group had completed online training, roadside training would follow; two members had each received roadside training at both recent sessions. Cllr Letch advised that at a recent session of Crediton Community Speedwatch, at Jockey Hill, several vehicles had been travelling at 36-43mph.

*Vehicle Activated Speed Sign (VAS).* DCC's advices following SCARF meetings awaited (meeting dates unknown). Cllr Letch had approached DCC Highways officer, Mr Tucker, for info. re. HATOC meetings.

Revised bus service. Since the revised arrangements (services 315 and 345 served Bow) had become operational (30/10/2022), Cllr Letch had spotted a no.5 bus at Bow, which was puzzling. Members reported that service buses were often not running to time.

9. **DCC Report.**

Cllr Letch reported. DCC Leader and DCC interim Chief Executive had conveyed DCC financial concerns, advising that £78m savings were needed.

DCC had received an extra £5m for a support fund with DWP "Train4Tomorrow".

DCC new programme, Devon being one of five pilot areas, for post-Covid support fund (skills bootcamp for 19+ year olds which would be free).

The Corporate Infrastructure Regulatory Services (CIRS) would look at reducing traffic speed and road safety.

DCC Social Services workers – twelve new workers had been recruited and ready to start work but then twelve staff members had left! DCC had a Social Services staff problem.

Parish Councillor Mr Steer felt that DCC was involved in some issues not felt to be relevant, e.g. Bideford Bay seaweed farm, menopause issues, etc. (impacting DCC budget) which was briefly discussed.

10. **Monitoring of Services**

D.C.C. A pothole, north of West Langford, Station Road, would be reported. Cllr Letch advised that he was pressing DCC Highways for the A3072 and the north section of Station Road (School Hill) to be repaired.

M.D.D.C. Service satisfactory – comment would not be submitted.

11. **Parish Council Budget 2023-2024.**

For each financial year, town/parish councils should produce a formal budget, monitoring receipts and payments through the year against it. Bow Parish Council did not function with sub committees, thereby lacking a Finance committee, and Members did not support engaging with the budget process in advance of precept setting (submission deadline 25/1/23), it was suggested the Clerk prepare the document.

**13. Parish Precept 2023-2024.**

MDDC documentation, including interactive calculation form, had been received. The submission deadline for submitting the precept request was 25 January 2023. Members, reviewing precept sums over recent years, considered finances and budget. Potential expenditure, incl. a sum of £1,000 annually set aside for Bow village field play area equipment, with corresponding impact on parishioners' Council Tax bills, was considered. After brief discussion, Mrs Hamilton suggested increasing the current precept of £11,000 (set for 2022-2023) by £1,000 to £12,000. It was agreed to increase the precept to £12,000 (increase of 9.09%). Precepts of £10,000.00 and over were paid in two instalments, 50% April and 50% October. It was agreed that the Devon Association of Local Councils subscription be deducted from the precept.

MDDC's Scrutiny Committee was reviewing and seeking feedback on Participatory Budgeting (process whereby residents are involved in deciding where parts of an authority's budget are spent), providing Terms of Reference. MDDC aimed to explore any effective participatory budgeting elsewhere with a view to how it might improve MDDC's budget setting process. MDDC sought answers to specific questions – Bow Parish Council had not been involved in participatory budgeting, so could not provide feedback.

**14. Correspondence**

DCC Trading Standards, Avian Influenza outbreak, information (since 1/10/2022, 90 confirmed cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 in England, the strain is zoonotic). Posters and info. on notice board. DCC Transport Co-ordination Service, confirmation full set of new timetables listed on Travel Devon web page [Changes to Bus Services in Devon from 30th October 2022 - Travel Devon](#)

Plymouth City Council, Transport Planning Officer, Peninsula Transport Business Plan 2022/2023 setting out priorities for year ahead, download here: [www.peninsulatransport.org.uk/business-plan/](http://www.peninsulatransport.org.uk/business-plan/)

DCC, Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Newsletter - October 2022.

DCC, Devon Climate Emergency newsletter November 2022.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Police Enquiry Office (latest update) and Commissioner's Community Grant Funding for Antisocial Behaviour via Cornwall Community Foundation (CCF).

Mid Devon Wildlife Warden Scheme (newly established to support parish environmental projects), info.

MDDC Press Release, Council Air Quality and Climate Plans Developed, consultation. Circulated.

MDDC Press Release, Let's Talk Mid Devon - Residents' Survey 2022. Circulated.

MDDC Press Release, Observance of Armistice Day with the Royal British Legion, info.

DAAT Devon Air Ambulance CLS Community E-newsletter - Touchdown Winter 2022 (Landing Sites Manager Graham Coates taken over from Toby Russell).

MicroshadeVSM, advertisement for internal audit services.

Publications: Clerks & Councils Direct, DCC Connectme, Healthwatch Devon E-bulletin.

**15. Finance.**

Bank balances brought forward: Deposit a/c £7,994.08, Current a/c £29,667.

MDDC (second instalment 50% of precept £11,000) £5,500.00 credited to current a/c

ACCOUNTS AUTHORISED FOR PAYMENT

Community Heartbeat Trust (battery for AED in kiosk) £318.00

First Response (First Aid) Ltd (Cardiac Science AED & Aivia 200 cabinet) £1,764.00

First Response (First Aid) Ltd (pair of adult pads, AED at village hall) £77.94

**16. Any Other Business.**

(i) MDDC Planning, 21 day call-in for Planning applications. Mr Nicks asked about requirements. The Clerk advised that MDDC Planning had requested that town/parish councils endeavour to call-in any applications (with material planning reasons) in writing, within 21 days of the application's registration. MDDC had advised that this practice would ease the Planning Committee, which aimed to meet monthly, process as the Planning Dept was currently under-staffed.

**17. Date of Next Meeting.**

Wednesday 11 January 2023 at 7.30pm at the Community Room of Bow Village Hall. (A Planning meeting may be required in the intervening period.)

This concluded the business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.25p.m.