

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 12 JULY 2023 AT 7:30PM  
IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM OF BOW VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** Mr C D Nicks in the Chair,  
Messrs P P W Edworthy, R P Edworthy, T J Hamilton, V Steer and T J Vanstone.  
Clerk: Miss B D Ware.

**Apologies:** Mrs L A Hamilton, Cllr Natalia Letch, Cllr Stuart Penny and Cllr Frank Letch.

1. **Public Open Forum.**

No members of the public present; no matters raised.

2. **Minutes.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2023, having been circulated in advance, were taken as read. With the deletion of Cllr Penny who had not been present, approved as a complete and accurate record, and signed by the Chairman.

3. **Matters Arising:-**

Nil

4. **Planning**

APPLICATIONS

[23/00976/TPO](#)

*Proposal:* Application to crown lift by approx. 4m on north side one Oak tree (T2) protected by Tree Preservation Order 97/00016/TPO

*Location:* 83 Godfreys Garden, Bow, Crediton, Devon

*Site Vicinity Grid Ref:* 271943 / 101460

Parish Council approved the application.

[23/00817/NMA](#)

*Proposal:* Non Material Amendment to Planning Permission 23/00355/HOUSE to install two Velux windows to the rear to replace the two dormer windows

*Location:* 10 Gregory Close, Bow, Crediton, Devon

The proposed amendment had been considered under s96A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and had been determined to be non-material.

MDDC DECISION

REFUSAL

[23/00719/FULL](#)

*Proposal:* Erection of a polytunnel for horticultural use

*Location:* Land at NGR271721 101708 (East of Burston Inn Bungalow), Bow, Crediton, Devon

*Site Vicinity Grid Ref:* 271683 / 101714

5. **DCC Report.**

Highways. Research had shown that it isn't just a Devon issue but roadworks throughout Britain are in a poor state through lack of funding. The Cabinet Member for Highway Management had set out the challenges and responses - there had been 35,000 pothole assessments registered since January 2023; over winter, forty teams across the county had been dedicated to repairing roads, DCC now had five Dragon Patchers, working throughout longer daylight hours. Currently, pothole numbers were 800, down from 3,000 earlier in the year.

Budget. The main budget areas are children's services and adult social care but given those affected fewer people, it tended to be disregarded by the public, despite it accounting for much of DCC debt and impacted on precepts.

Governance. A governance review committee of five (incl. Cllr Letch) had been instigated. It would meet twice monthly until May 2024.

MDDC, zero carbon quest. The two leisure centres with swimming pools had ground source heat pumps and were having solar panels fitted. A campaign to improve housing stock with retro insulation, etc existed.

MDDC had launched a new leisure hub giving members a personalised account for bookings, etc.

Climate change, with changing weather patterns of long dry spells followed by very heavy rain and subsequent flooding, residents were urged to check drains near their property, reporting any needing clearing to DCC.

6. **MDDC Report.**

Cllr Mrs Natalia Letch had requested that a monthly MDDC Report item be included at meetings. Cllr Mrs Letch was not present; no Report to hand, however, an item in hand with Cllr Mrs Letch was a faulty streetlight along Bow Village Field footpath. She was endeavouring to ascertain repair date from MDDC who, a year previous, had identified an underground cable fault but didn't know whether National Grid, formerly Western Power Distribution, had attended to fix it.

7. **Parish Council Election 2023 – Post Election Vacancies.**

There hadn't been any expressions of interest in being co-opted to fill the two vacant seats on Parish Council, or requests for further information. Vacancy posters remained on notice boards.

8. **Poor State of Footway (Lilian Close to Bow Village Field), Complaint to Hand. ,**

Cllr Frank Letch had received a complaint concerning the deteriorated state of the footpath at Bow Village Field which crossed from Lilian Close. The footpath linked with the concrete footpath around the Village Field. The section of footpath at Bow Village Field was in a poorer state than the section at Lilian Close. The origins of the footpath, created approximately at the time of the housing (Hobbs Way & Lilian Close) development, were uncertain. MDDC had been assisting with identifying maintenance responsibility (the Clerk had been sent extracts from title deeds and Land Registry info.) Parish Councillors didn't have any knowledge, or recollections, as to footpath construction, or the reason for construction. Some Members may inspect the footpath.

9. **D. C.C. Highways Matters.**

*Speeding A3072 western approach to village (proposed extension of 30mph limit.* Nothing had been received from DCC reference the Burston Cross area.

*Community Speed Watch (A3072 western approach to village, eastbound traffic).* The CSW group remained active with several sessions (some 32 sessions throughout June) being conducted in the village. The group had acquired a clicker for ease of vehicle counting. A new site on the A3072, at junction with Bow Mill Lane, had been included. A further three people had left the CSW group, the co-ordinator requested a poster recruiting local volunteers be displayed, appreciating any publicity.

*Vehicle Activated Speed Sign (VAS).* Relevant speed data for the proposed VAS site at the eastern approach was lacking (most easterly CSW site being at entrance to Iter Park). Submission (maps, speed data for western approach site) via Cllr Letch, would be made.

*Road surface A3072, the Square.* Some, very minimal, work had been carried out on 7 July 2023.

10. **Monitoring of Services**

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

M.D.D.C. In current week, recycling had not been collected on Tuesday (understood to be a lorry issue), but had been collected on Wednesday.

11. **Correspondence**

MDDC, Household Support Fund, Government announced two new support schemes, info.

MDDC Press Release, New Mid Devon District Council Chair, Cllr Letch, vows to be “the face of the Council”.

MDDC Press Release, Substantial improvements made to Mid Devon waste collection rates.

MDDC Press Release, Community partnerships celebrated as part of climate emergency declaration anniversary.

MDDC Press Release, New leisure hub launched, transforming and streamlining bookings.

MDDC Press Release, pointing the way around town, new fingerposts in Tiverton (£106 funded).

MDDC Press Release, Council issues reminder about cold callers and no win no fee firms, following legal win.

MDDC Press Release, Love Your Town Centre: vibrant town centres fund opens for applications.

MDDC Press Release, job fair supporting local business careers to be held at Tiverton Market.

MDDC Press Release, Opportunity to tender for business support services (funded via UK Shared Prosperity Fund), runs until 31 March 2025.

MDDC Press Release, Electric vehicles join the council's fleet – Mid Devon acquires three electric vehicles in a drive to cut emissions.

Bow Village Hall and Field Management Committee, hire charges revision, effective 1/9/23.

South West Coastal LPIP, South-West coastal communities funding bid.

Devon Local Nature Partnership, hosting awards ceremony as part of Wild About Devon initiative, info.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, silent 999 calls: please don't just hang up – tell us you are safe.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, 35 days to reach the fundraising goal for youth (16-24 yr old) work, Crowdfunder.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, staff sought as police force prepares to reopen a further six enquiry offices.  
Devon and Cornwall Alert, Devon & Cornwall Police launch scheme to protect local heritage sites, info. Devon and Cornwall Alert, Devon and Cornwall's high visitor numbers likely to influence police funding formula, info.  
Devon Communities Together, Only £1,500 left of the Wild About Devon grant fund.  
EDF, energy prices reducing from July 2023.  
Healthwatch Devon, Annual Report 2022-2023.  
MDDC, introducing Mid Devon's First Walking Festival, 14<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2024, info.  
*Publications:* Clerks and Councils Direct, DALC E-bulletin, Healthwatch Devon E-bulletin, NALC newsletter, NALC chief executive bulletin,-NALC Events, Devon Climate Emergency July newsletter, One Devon bulletin June 2023, Devon and Cornwall Alert OUR NEWS July and DCC Connectme.

12. **Finance.**

Bank balances brought forward: Deposit a/c £7,995.81, Current a/c £31,322.53

ACCOUNTS AUTHORISED FOR PAYMENT

MDDC (play area Bow Village Field annual RoSPA inspection 2022) £72.00

GDM Cleaning (bus shelter glass clean 12/6/23) £8.00

Clerk (salary £749.00 + admin/expenses £152.76 qtr. ending 30/06/23) £901.76

H.M.R.&C. (P.A.Y.E. income tax, Apr-Jun 2023) £187.25

13. **Any Other Business.**

No matters raised.

14. **Date of Next Meeting.**

Wednesday 13 September 2023 at 7:30pm at the Community Room of Bow Village Hall.

This concluded the business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.10p.m.