

Present

Apologies

Absent

D Millar (Acting Chairman) F Courtenay (Due to illness)

H Bolton

D Easterbrook

T Goldstone

P Ley

E Staines

Mrs L Helyer (County Councillor)

Mrs R Lock (District Councillor)

1 member of the Public

The Acting Chairman (as requested to be addressed by Mrs Wall of Huntshaw Water) noting a quorum was present declared the meeting open.

He welcomed everyone to the zoom meeting, most attended from their own homes but Councillor Staines kindly offered his facilities to those who had inadequate internet to be able to attend the zoom meeting at his office in Huntshaw. Acting Chairman thanked him for his assistance.

Acting Chairman informed the councillors that due to his haste to get the Agenda out and arranged to be within the 6 month rule, not so many items were included on the Agenda that he had intended, so asked for consent to add:

Public Participation

Councillor Hellyer

Councillor Lock

Also to be included:

1. Councillor Courtenay will remain on the Parish Council and all agreed the 6 month rule does not apply due to ill health.
2. Resignation of Parish Clerk, after some persuasion from the Acting Chairman, Parish Clerk had agreed to continue until next May unless anyone wishes to take on the role.
3. Acting Chairman – Councillor Millar pointed out he would continue as Chairman if everyone in agreement. All in favour.
4. Acting Chairman pointed out he had hastily organised the meeting to get within the 6 month Rule which would have ended on 10 September, it was a Parish Council meeting, just so all Councillors could say they had all attended a meeting and would all be able to carry on. Councillor Bolton "the decision to elect the 3 Candidates at the previous meeting should be RATIFIED as TDC had assured us that our Quorum was 3, so all business carried out and decisions made was done in the belief that the meeting was 'legal'. The candidates had met all the criteria to be considered for election and had been democratically elected, and it would have been the right, moral course of action to endorse

the previous decision to co-opt them as Councillors." Acting Chairman disagreed and pointed out the last meeting was null & void as a Quorum was not present so they were unable to be elected but it would be on the Agenda of the next meeting and this would give time for the vacancies to be re-advertised. Councillors Bolton & Goldstone felt they should be able to be elected at this zoom meeting. Discussions went on for sometime. Acting Chairman still maintained it would be October.

5. Mrs Meaney (one of the previous candidates) added she was also disappointed not to be able to remain elected and would she have to read her statement why she wished to join the Parish Council at the October meeting, Acting Chairman replied he would like every one who applies to say a few words.
6. Councillor Lock said she had received an email from Mrs Wall at Huntshaw Water and asked the Acting Chairman permission to read it. There were no comments to add. Apart from the comments for the planning application discussed at the last meeting:
  - 1/0624/20 Nethercott Farm cou CQ agric.building to dwelling
  - 1/0542/20 Foxdown Wood erection of 4 holiday lodges
  - 1/0596/20 Nethercott Farm cou.agric.store to meat store/cutting roomCouncillor Goldstone asked for his comments he had submitted to be minuted had been accepted and approved. It was agreed these were approved at the last zoom meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020. Acting Chairman thanked him for all his hard work.
7. Parish Council Accounts for the year ended 31.03.20. Councillor Lock asked Parish Clerk why return had not been submitted and why there was a gap in cheque numbers. Parish Clerk was not able to be heard on zoom and said she would email it. Reason was: Unable to complete Return and Councillor Lock kindly offered to assist which was gratefully received. There was a gap in cheques, as Parish Clerk had gone to the window of Councillor Easterbrook & Councillor Ley to get several cheques signed in order to pay the grants that had been agreed to be paid to assist the different organisations during Lockdown, as there was only about 2 cheques left in the older cheque book, thought it easier to take the new cheque book to save having to fiddle about with two cheque books. The invoice to PKF Littlejohn the external auditors had been paid by the Parish Clerk, accepts it should have been approved first, but as 2 returns had not been completed due to four changes of Chairman in 2 years, pressure of work, personal life problems and had become overlooked, for which she apologises.
8. Acting Chairman welcomed Councillor Hellyer to the meeting and apologised for there not being an actual Agenda Item. Councillor Hellyer pointed out she had not been invited to the last zoom meeting, so supplied the Parish Council with her two reports, last months and this month. Acting Chairman thanked her for the work she had done on the speeding at Alverdiscott, she said the speeding restriction sign would have to be purchased by the Parish Council, some villages join with a neighbouring village and buy it together, said she would find out a price. Devon County Council do have some mobile units they lend out but it takes ages to obtain one. Sat Nav signs will need planning permission. Councillor Lock said she had spoken to Lesley Wall on the matter and they wished to put it on Devon County Council land, Councillor Hellyer said it would not be permitted to go there. The Locality Funding already paid

to the Parish Council for the signs would have to be refunded in the new year if not used or it might be able to be used for the speeding sign if that is to be purchased. Councillor Bolton confirmed Lesley Wall still wanted to proceed, so will need planning permission but it might be able to fall under permitted development. Will need speed surveys done, then goes to SCARF meeting, Police & Devon County Council for permission. The speed signs, some say "Slow Down" others show Speed Limit. Councillor Hellyer said a pole would also be required to put the sign on. The Speed Watch, would need a few people, one to hold the gun, one to write down the speeds and one to be overseeing it all. Would email the Acting Chairman with information. Councillor Lock was going to find out where Dolton obtained their grant money.

9. Councillor Lock reported there has been 7 new cases of Covid19 in North Devon with 3 in Torrridge since September. If anyone wishes to go on Devon County Council website it shows how many are in the area.

10. It was suggested to put each Parish, County & District Councillor email on the website and Local Rag.

Signed:

This Day of

2020