

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 13 NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7:30PM
IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM OF BOW VILLAGE HALL

Present: Mr C D Nicks in the Chair,

Messrs R A Cook, P P W Edworthy, R P Edworthy, S A Pengelly, V Steer and
T J Vanstone.

Members of the Public: One.

Clerk: Miss B D Ware.

Apologies: Mr T J Hamilton, DCC rep. Cllr Letch, MDDC reps. Cllr White and Cllr Mrs Letch.

1. **Public Open Forum.**

A local resident, addressing Parish Council, expressed concern about a small (five animals) flock of sheep being pastured in a small field adjacent to the river at the west end of Bow, saying that several local people were also concerned; the field, within a flood zone, was prone to flooding in adverse weather conditions. The owner, of field and sheep, had been contacted but reportedly he lived in Wiltshire. During recent heavy rainfall, local people had referred the matter to the police, the RSPCA and a veterinarian but the situation remained unresolved. Concerns had also been expressed via a social media (Facebook) site. Livestock required daily inspection. Mr Steer offered to establish the owner's contact detail and make contact.

The resident asked about the river Yeo water testing, for pollutants, as only one fish had been seen this year. The resident also enquired about the provision of lighting from the west end of Bow to the Coop shop. Parish Council had investigated provision some years previous but cost (region of £50k/£60k), to be borne by Parish Council, was prohibitive, in part because the scheme's power needed to be sourced from different directions.

2. **Minutes.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2024, having been circulated in advance were taken as read, confirmed as a complete and accurate record and were signed.

3. **Matters Arising:-**

Nil.

4. **The Late Mrs Linnette Hamilton.**

The sudden passing of Parish Councillor, the late Mrs Linnette Hamilton, which had occurred on 23 October 2024, had been a shock to all. A minute's silence was observed. Mrs Hamilton had served some twenty-two years on Bow Parish Council. She had loved the village and had recently been elected as the Chairman of Bow Village Hall and Bow Village Field Management Committee. Funeral arrangements had been circulated. Mrs Hamilton's passing created a casual vacancy on Parish Council.

5. **Planning**

APPLICATIONS

[24/01554/HOUSE](#)

Proposal: Installation of 12KW air source heat pump.

Location: Kenaden House, Bow, Crediton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 272207 / 101748

Information had been conveyed electronically to Bow Parish Councillors on 22 October 2024.

Application approved.

[24/01595/HOUSE](#)

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension and installation of rooflight in existing roof

Location: 8 Godfreys Garden, Bow, Crediton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 272158 / 101557

Information had been conveyed electronically to Bow Parish Councillors on 29 October 2024. Application approved.

REVISED DRAWINGS

[24/01295/FULL](#)

Proposal: Erection of dwelling following demolition of redundant commercial building

Location: Land and Building at NGR 273316 100828 (Nymet Cottage) Bow, Crediton.

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 273317 / 100829

Information had been conveyed electronically to Bow Parish Councillors on 30 October 2024. Approved.

6. **DCC (Crediton Rural Division) Monthly Report.**

Cllr Letch's report for October 2024 had been electronically circulated to Members, email dated 29 October 2024. The forthcoming budget (30/10/2024) would impact all employers; all councils being employers of varying numbers, thus an increase in employer's National Insurance contribution would likely impact council tax bills. The publishing of the recent OFSTED inspection of the county's children's services was anticipated shortly. When the first full OFSTED was published the service was deemed very poor and was put into special measures – there had been many changes and improvements but whether that would be sufficient to put the service into 'requires improvement' would soon be known. Whilst it might be felt that children's services had little impact on the public, in fact it had a huge budget, much larger than Highways.

Cllr Letch was really disappointed that the repainting of much white lining had not taken place – he would continue to press the DCC officer, who was constrained by his budget and staff availability. Certain areas which lacked lining/arrows posed a hazard, so Cllr Letch would continue to press for the work to be carried out.

As MDDC Chairman, a highlight had been Mid Devon District Council Chairman's civic service (St Paul's Tiverton on 20/10/2024), Cllr Letch had chosen, as his central theme, Devon Young Carers. The impressive group, with caring responsibilities for family members, comprised over 2,000 registered youngsters within an age range of four(!) to eighteen years.

Cllr Letch concluded his report with some sage advice for 5 November, urging care and being mindful of the time when setting off fireworks, also protecting pets from unexpected sounds.

7. **MDDC (Upper Yeo & Taw Ward) Monthly Report.**

Cllr Mrs Letch's report for October 2024 had been electronically circulated to Members, email dated 4 Nov. 2024. Cllr Mrs Letch advised that the Household Support Fund (HSF) had been extended for a further six months, to 31 March 2025, including Direct Awards (Energy Voucher) for pensioners who MDDC identified and believed that do not qualify for the Government scheme but may suffer hardship, more information available on MDDC website <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/residents/residents-financial-support/>

The new Community Risks Register had a twofold aim:

- (i) allow MDDC to keep track of key risks, identifying and putting in place mitigating actions to reduce risk/impact
- (ii) give MDDC Resilience officer a structure as to location of highest risk communities enabling engagement and creation of a community emergency plan (with Devon Communities Together).

The Residents' Survey 2024, open for views on MDDC's services and for council priorities, to be shared. Residents' survey link <https://letstalk.middevon.gov.uk/residents-survey-2024>

8. **Banking Arrangements, Change of Signatories.**

Change of signatory documentation submitted to Santander Bank had prompted a letter requesting that the signatories being removed, namely Mr Ronald J Yelland and Mr Maurice C Williams, both of whom had retired as Parish Councillors, also be included in the minutes. Therefore, new signatories Mr Paul P W Edworthy and Mr Tristan J Hamilton to be added, the removal of Mr Yelland and Mr Williams, with existing signatories Mr Reginald P Edworthy and Mr Christopher D Nicks, would comprise the four signatories.

Santander had also rejected a combined utility invoice as evidence of address ID – an alternative (council tax bill, water bill or bank statement) would be required, arrangements for same were in hand.

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

Speeding A3072 western approach to village (DCC suggested highway works), Burston Cross area. Nothing had been received/heard from DCC.

Community Speed Watch (A3072 western approach to village, eastbound traffic). No further data received from Bow Community Speed Watch.

Vehicle Activated Speed Sign (VAS). Despite reminders, DCC had not responded to the revised application, risk assessment or provided the quotation requested in July. Neither had DCC responded to the submission reference the appointment of a local Road Warden (nor had Mr Cook received any DCC contact).

Other Highway matters. A bollard at School Hill (opp. Tozers) was missing and would be reported.

Tarmac surrounding a storm water grating, nr Sutherlands on the A3072, was breaking up and would be reported.

A gully on south side of road approx. 50 yards from Bow Pound towards Bow Church, was collapsing, to report.

Repainting yellow/white lining throughout Bow, reported previously over last few years, still needed and awaited.

Members also commented that the lack of an arrow on the A377 just west of Crediton, approaching the roundabout, near Tesco towards Joseph Locke Way, was proving problematic and potentially hazardous.

10. **Monitoring of Services**

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

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

11. **Parish Precept 2025-2026.**

MDDC precept documentation received – precept request to be submitted to MDDC by 22 January 2025.

Mr Steer said he would like to see info (the late Mrs Hamilton had indicated her intention to prepare a spreadsheet with costs of running the village hall and the village field against costs of just running the village field), suggesting that the Parish Precept item be deferred to the January Parish Council meeting by which time information should be available from the treasurer of Bow Village Hall and Bow Village Field Management Committee. Agreed to defer.

12. **Correspondence**

MDDC, latest side waste statistics late September to Mid-October 2024, recycling and residual performance, site tour and drop in surgery, 21/10/24.

MDDC, latest side waste statistics mid-October to early November (99.6% compliance), information plus another tour of Carlu waste depot on 28/11/24 at 3:00pm.

MDDC, Community Action Groups CAG Devon SkillShare24 event for community groups, 9/11/24.

MDDC Press Release, Let's Talk Mid Devon, [Residents' Survey 2024](#) Refer email dated 31/10/2024.

MDDC Press Release, observance of Armistice Day, Monday 11 November, with the Royal British Legion, [full press release](#)

MDDC Press Release, Mid Devon Leisure to host open day at Exe Valley Leisure Centre, 26/10/2024.

MDDC Press Release, Mid Devon Housing participating in Damp and Mould Awareness Week 28/10 - 3/11/24.

MDDC Press Release, Mid Devon Leisure's summer family membership success.

MDDC Press Release, Tiverton's Swan Trail (The Flock That Rock) finale, auctioning art to raise funds 7/11/24.

MDDC Press Release, MDDC has welcomed a new rapid charger, part of county-wide scheme, at William Street car park, Tiverton, with Crediton and Cullompton next in line to receive one.

MDDC Press Release, Cullompton relief road update (Tesco support).

MDDC Press Release, Mid Devon District Council shines at South West Challenge 2024.

MDDC Press Release, Council's social housing win at British Construction Industry Awards for 'Carbon Net Zero Initiative of the Year' for development at St Andrews, Cullompton.

Kier, notification of road closure, nr junction for Mill Lane to nr Grantlands, 04/02/2025 and 06/02/2025.

DCC, The Devon Countryside Access Forum (DCAF) inviting applications from those with interests in land management, recreational access or other relevant interests, to become members.

NALC, new website launch.

Churches Housing Action Team (CHAT) Mid Devon, request for Parish Council support.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, South West police join forces to target drug criminality.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Police take a stand against retail crime following national rise.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, warning, scam calls from fraudsters purporting to be from bank/building society.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, ONS statistics confirm Devon & Cornwall has sixth lowest crime rate in England & Wales.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, fraud alert, scam texts alleging a parking fine.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, newsletter [OUR NEWS](#) November edition.

Publications: Clerks and Councils Direct, DALC E-bulletin, Healthwatch Devon E-bulletin, NALC newsletter, NALC chief executive bulletin, NALC chief executive bulletin special edition (incl. deputy prime minister's announcements for consultations on changes to the standards regime and allowing councils to use virtual attendance at council meetings), NALC Events newsletter, Devon Climate Emergency November [newsletter](#) and DCC news round-up Connectme.

13. **Finance.**

Bank balances brought forward: Deposit a/c £8,105.07, Current a/c £27,280.27

MDDC 50% of Precept for 2024-25 (of £12,000) credited to current a/c £6,000.00

ACCOUNTS AUTHORISED FOR PAYMENT

GDM Cleaning (clean bus shelter glass 14/10/2024) £8.00

First Rescue Training and Supplies Ltd (two sets of adult pads, AED village hall) £148.80 (chq. issued 24/10/24)

EDF Energy (electricity for DAAT community landing light) £0.00 (account in credit)

14. **Any Other Business.**

(i) MDDC Community Risk Register. Cllr Mrs Letch had invited Bow to submit any perceived community risks to her for passing on to the MDDC Resilience Officer. Members considered but did not suggest any perceived risks; if/when the MDDC officer requested, the issue would be given further consideration.

15. **Date of Next Meeting.**

Wednesday 8 January 2025 at 7:30pm at the Community Room of Bow Village Hall.

This completed the business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:30pm.