

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 12 MARCH 2025 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, T J Hamilton, S A Pengelly,  
D Pocock and V Steer  
Members of the Public: Nil.  
Clerk: Miss B D Ware.

**Apologies:** DCC rep. Cllr Letch and MDDC reps. Cllr Mrs Letch and Cllr White

1. **Public Open Forum.**

No members of the public present; no matters raised.

2. **Minutes.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2025, having been circulated in advance were taken as read, confirmed as a complete and accurate record and were signed.

3. **Matters Arising:-**

Nil

4. **Planning**

APPLICATIONS

REVISED DRAWINGS

[24/01739/HOUSE](#)

Proposal: Erection of single storey side/rear extension and internal alterations to existing ground floor layout following demolition of existing single storey extension.

Location: Paddocks Cottage, Bow, Crediton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 273352 / 100832

Information had been conveyed electronically to Bow Parish Councillors on 28 February 2025.

Application approved.

REVISED DRAWINGS

[24/01742/LBC](#)

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for the erection of single storey side/rear extension and internal alterations to existing ground floor layout following demolition of existing single storey extension.

Location: Paddocks Cottage, Bow, Crediton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 273352 / 100832

Information had been conveyed electronically to Bow Parish Councillors on 28 February 2025.

Application approved.

MDDC DECISIONS

APPROVALS

[24/01839/PNCOU](#)

Proposal: Prior notification for the change of use of two agricultural buildings to four dwellings under Class Q

Location: Blue Violet, Bow, Crediton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 273157 / 98333

[24/01477/FULL](#)

Proposal: Erection of a lean-to extension to provide storage for vintage tractors

Location: Central Garage Workshop, Bow, Crediton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 272125 : 101806

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

Cllr Letch's report for February 2025 had been electronically circulated to Members, email dated 4 March 2025. Budgets. Cllr Letch was a member of Crediton Town Council, Mid Devon District Council and Devon County Council, all of which had wrestled to produce a balanced budget and to safeguard services: Crediton Town Council had made a small increase in it's precept, MDDC had to factor in it's statutory commitments as well as a number of

voluntary services, and had produced a budget without going into reserves, DCC had been more difficult given such large numbers involved and different groups of councillors who did not always agree but, pleasingly, the Locality Fund had been retained at £8,000.

OFSTED. This remained an area of concern, the first inspection had been disappointing for several reasons (results, the way officers conducted the inspection, etc) with the decision made to set up a new OFSTED but that had yet to publish its report.

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

Cllr Mrs Letch's report for February 2025 had been electronically circulated to Members, email dated 4 March 2025 Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) Interim Plan. Following consultation, a joint statement conveyed that the interests of the people of Devon would not be best served by one 'mega' council covering the whole area, so, as districts, they had reached initial agreement to work towards formation of two councils, viz.

a Unitary combining the South Hams, Teignbridge and West Devon areas with Torbay and

a Unitary including East, Mid and North Devon alongside Torridge District and the City of Exeter

The statement, signed by all District Council Leaders except Torbay and Exeter, was posted on MDDC's website

<https://www.middevon.gov.uk/devolution-and-local-government-reorganisation-joint-statement/> The document proposed a structure but Government could make an alternative decision. The LRG was a long, complicated, process, likely to take a couple of years.

Environment Services Award. MDDC had been shortlisted by Local Government Chronicle's (LGC) for the Environment Services Award in recognition of its work to increase recycling rates, and reduce fly-tipping and littering. Given that progress, MDDC was among the top 10% of authorities nationally.

Housing Technology Awards. Mid Devon Housing (MDH), in collaboration with Aico, a leader in home safety technology, had been nominated for the Housing Technology Awards.

The Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSMs). The survey, to be completed by MDDC social tenants, results would be submitted to the Regulator of Social Housing.

Planning Enforcement News. A new form for reporting alleged planning breaches was available online, <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/residents/planning/planning-enforcement/>

Business Information Point (BIP). Support for new businesses, part of a business support programme, Prosper, was available to organisations in Exeter, East Devon & Mid Devon, with online link <https://businessinfopoint.co.uk>

7. **Local Government Reorganisation, English Devolution White Paper.**

Working collaboratively, the seven district councils had produced a joint statement, signed by the Leaders of the seven district councils (East Devon, Mid Devon, North Devon, South Hams, Teignbridge, Torridge & West Devon). A copy of the published, joint statement had been received and been circulated to Bow Parish Councillors, on 28 February 2025. Leaders were united in their belief that the interests of the almost 1 million people of Devon and Torbay would not best be served by a single 'mega' Council. The statement set out their proposal for local government reorganisation, essentially, it proposed -

- A Unitary combining the South Hams, Teignbridge and West Devon areas with Torbay
  - A Unitary including East, Mid and North Devon alongside Torridge District and the City of Exeter
- It would fit the government criteria of replacing the current system of District and County Councils and smaller unitary authorities with unitary Councils covering much larger areas with a guideline minimum population of 500,000 people.

MDDC Chief Executive Officer, Mr Walford, had issued a message to towns/parishes on Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). It stressed that the content of the statement was not binding and that there was not yet unanimity of support for one proposition. To also be mindful that after the DCC elections (1 May 2025), the new DCC would need to give consideration to LGR. MDDC Leader, Cllr Luke Taylor, had called an extraordinary meeting, for 12 March 2025, to update the Council. A copy of the CEO's message would be circulated to Bow Parish Councillors.

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

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

*Vehicle Activated Speed Sign (VAS).* DCC Highway Engineer Mr Short, responded advising Parish Council to refer back to the local Neighbourhood Highway Officer, Mr Tucker, to whom a further email, setting out dates of the application, risk assessment, quotation request, etc of the process had been sent.

*Other Highway matters.*

*Fly tipping, Spreyton Wood Water.* To report (2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> recent incidents), rumoured to be drugs related.

*Layby A3072 Nr Clannaborough Cross.* Excavation spoil has been left/dumped in the layby a few months previous. To report.

9. **Monitoring of Services**

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

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

10. **Correspondence**

MDDC Press Release, issued by the seven district councils in Devon [Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation - Joint Statement](#) Please see email dtd 28/2/2025.

MDDC Press Release, NMD Building Control (partnership between North Devon and Mid Devon District Councils) re-secures accreditation.

MDDC Press Release, celebrate 40 years of Culm Valley Sports Centre at an Open Day.

MDDC Press Release, major poolside upgrades coming to Lords Meadow Leisure Centre, Crediton.

MDDC Press Release, 172 trees being planted across the district following bid to the Urban Tree Challenge Fund.

MDDC, Willand Neighbourhood Plan approved at Referendum.

MDDC, latest side waste data, review of unauthorised bins, pots & pans trial 28/2/25–23/5/25 Willand & Uffculme Zoll Medical Corporation, correction for Powerheart® G5 semi-automatic and automatic AEDs (some Powerheart G5 AEDs have displayed an Error Code and cannot deliver lifesaving therapy). Local guardians notified.

Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, [newsletter](#) for members and stakeholders (February).

Devon Communities Together, Devon Community Learning (DCT's training department), course info.

Devon Communities Together, Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) training course, info.

Devon Communities Together, latest [Impact Report](#) October–December 2024.

Devon Communities Together, Devon cancer screening programme info.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, [OUR NEWS](#) March 2025.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, community visits info.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, holiday (online holiday deals) fraud warning.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, looking for volunteers to help support the Volunteer Police Cadet (VPC) groups.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, re-opening police stations, Ivybridge, Liskeard and Tavistock, now open.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Illegal parking can be dangerous for other road users and pedestrians - who to report it to, information (Police or DCC dependent on type of illegal parking).

Devon and Cornwall Alert, message from the Commissioner: standing united against sexual abuse and violence.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Horse safety, road incident statistics for 2024 from British Horse Society.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Burglaries in local village communities February 2025.

*Publications:* Clerks & Councils Direct, DALC E-bulletin, Healthwatch Devon E-bulletin, NALC newsletter, NALC chief executive bulletin, NALC Events newsletter, [One Devon Bulletin](#) February 2025 and DCC news round-up Connectme.

11. **Finance.**

Bank balances brought forward: Deposit a/c £8,105.07, Current a/c £24,926.78

ACCOUNTS AUTHORISED FOR PAYMENT

The Defib Pad (one pair of adult pads, AED Nymet Tracey) £173.75

Bow Village Hall (to hire of meeting venue October 2024 to March 2025 inclusive) £46.90

EDF Energy (electricity for DAAT landing site) £26.20

Clerk (salary £749.00 + admin/expenses £163.38 qtr. ending 31/03/25 £912.38

H.M.R.&C. (P.A.Y.E. income tax, Jan-Mar 2025) £187.25

Bow Village Hall (to hire of venue CPR training Oct. '24) £11.25

12. **Any Other Business.**

(i) Unauthorised residential mobile home, field abutting A3072, east of Burston Caravan Sales. Members reported that a caravan had also been parked at the site (plus a couple of small fixed sheds). The unauthorised mobile home, reported to MDDC six months previous, was in hand with Planning Enforcement. To request update of MDDC Planning Enforcement and report the presence of the caravan.

13. **Date of Next Meeting (Annual Assembly).** Wednesday 9 April 2025 at 7:30pm at the Community Room of Bow Village Hall.

This completed the business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:00pm.