

Instow Parish Council Minutes – 16 January 2025

Instow Village Hall 19:30 pm

Attendees: - Cllrs: Cllrs Arthur, Bunclark, Foster, Johnson, McCrum, Scott, Yeadon.
D Cllr Coombs.

Parish Clerks J-A Middleton, R Levick & 20 members of the public

Apologies: - Cllrs: Hopkins, Edwards. C Cllr Biederman

113 The meeting was opened at 19:30 by the Chair

The chair welcomed Becky Coombs the new District Councillor & two new parish Councillors Bunclark & Yeadon

114 Councillors Disclosure of Interest – Whitecross Offshore Wind Farm – Ref 77576

115 Public Session –

A member of the public (James) expressed information on the Sand issues. Have any previous survey or plans with the Biosphere, Environment Agency, North Devon Council, which show any movement of sand over the past 30 years, or at least since the sand shifted from Crows point. Are there any mitigation plans from any of the agencies? There was a plan in 2020 now out of date. Carolyn Maynard asked about the time scale of moving the sand, what plan is in place going forward and how will this be paid for. Carolyn confirmed she and Jacqui Poole had a meeting with Andrew Woolacott of Christies early January 2025. Simon Goaman asked for an update of the meeting held with on the 16.01.2025 with all the agencies. See Appendix 3

Chair confirmed we are waiting for Highways - Devon County Council to finish the clearing of the sand from Marine Parade to The Glorious Oyster. The adverse weather has meant highways were called away to other higher priorities.

116 County & Ward Members See Appendix 2

117 Confirmation of Minutes from 12 December 2024 – all agreed

118 Any matters arising

The Instow Sand & Flood Action Group have supplied names of the group members.

The chair has asked C Cllr Biederman to call in Newstead, New Road, application 79401

119 Tracker update – see separate spreadsheet also available on IPC website

120 Correspondence

- a. David Stanning - Instow Garages Plot - Parking Spaces - Revised charges. See tracker
- b. Special Parish Forum in March at Brynsworthy Environment. Centre. Roundswell EX31 3NP Cllrs informed
- c. Nicholas Gard – Email Sand removal Instow beach – responded
- d. Carolyn Maynard & Jacqui Poole Meeting with Christies Estates. See tracker
- e. Philip Coles – Email Sand removal Instow beach - responded
- f. Joan Doors - Email Sand removal Instow beach - responded
- g. DCC - The cycleway will be closed for essential management between the Signal Box Instow and the M.O.D access for 1 day. When an exact date has been confirmed additional notices will be erected. An alternative route will be available.

121 Finance

Previous Clerk (CM) Back Pay - approved

All listed finances shown in appendix 1 – approved

122 Planning

1. 77576 Whitecross - Respond with objections to be updated on the NDC portal.
2. Instow Garages Plot - Parking Spaces - Revised charges. D Clls Coombs confirmed Planning ref. 79320 is going to the next planning committee. 12.02.25

123 AOB as raised by Chair.

124 Additional Agenda items for February meeting – Policies and procedures review

125 Next meeting – Thursday 20 February 2025, 19:00 - Instow Village Hall

Meeting closed – 21.15

Appendix 1**January Meeting 2025 - Finance – Invoices etc**

1. North Devon Council– Clerk’s salaries (SD 11578989) December	£1961.27
2. Previous Clerk (CM) Back Pay	£ 126.00
3. Peter Parker – December Bus shelters	£ 90.00
4. Flowbird (U100014042)	£ 163.30
5. Reimbursed MJ Scott	£ 26.12
6. Reimbursed MJ Scott	£ 205.29
7. Reimbursed MJ Scott	£ 75.10
8. Reimbursed MJ Scott	£ 73.27
9. Reimbursed MJ Scott	£ 27.98
10. Paul Fletcher – Pavement Cleaning 09/12/24 - 06/01/25	£ 707.79
11. Clerks monthly expenses (JAM)	£ 50.00
12. Reimbursed J Middleton - replacement phone	£ 134.99
13. Reimbursed J Middleton	£ 4.90
14. Clerks RL Additional Hours Dec	£ 172.50
15. Julie Braddick – Toilet Block, Bus shelters	£ 746.80
16. Tony Ross Invoice 3469 Car Park Toilets	£ 52.50
17. WesternWeb Ltd Annual Fee Emails	£ 86.40
18. Crown Estates	£ 750.00
19. Neil Nicholls Plumbing & Heating Ltd	£ 138.00
20. All Saints – Rent	£ 45.00
21. Flowbird (U100014462)	£ 164.23
22. M Williams	£ 45.00
23. Total	£ 5846.44

Direct Debits – already paid

1. Booker	£ 236.72
2. AIMBS	£ 115.85
3. Total	£ 352.57

Total Outgoings **£6199.01**

Monies In	Card Payments	£ 2901.00
	Cash (>13January 2025)	£ 1582.50

Total In **£ 4483.50**

Bank Accounts	Treasurers	£78603.19
	Business	£ 9465.46
	Deposit	£ 43000.00

Appendix 2

Report January Meeting 2025

C Cllr Becky Coombs

Thanks for bearing with me as I enter my new role complete my induction.

My e-mail details are now available. Becky.coombs@northdevon.org.uk.

I am expecting high volume of emails but welcome them to my inbox.

A special parish forum will be hold on the 12th of March 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM at Brynsworthy looking at community emergency planning. If anybody would like to attend, they need to let the council know by the 28th of February whether you would like to attend in person or via teams

Devon and Cornwall police and crime plan for 2025 to 2029 has now been published on the Devon and Cornwall website and you can access this there

Flourishing culture awards is inviting communities to nominate persons groups or organisations that have, demonstrated culture through the arts more can be found on the NDC website

A section 106 agreement has been made to allocate £65,000 to Tarka leisure centre for a new cycle and pedestrian path

North Devon council has adopted a plan that no new casinos will be considered in North Devon

We have as a council now received notification of our funding announcement for 2025 to 2026.

A draft budget will be presented to full council on the 20th of February once it has been through various other committees

I would like to respond to the reports of the sand on the highways I am fully aware of this issue and have had several emails, I've have already had a conversation with County Councillor Frank Biederman. I am going to continue to engage with him on this matter. The issue does not fall under the remit of NDC.

Appendix 3

Cllr Johnson Report

Representatives from:

Christie Estate, Natural England, the North Devon Biosphere, the Environment Agency, Devon County Highways plus their safety contractor, North Devon District Council's engineering team and Cllr Johnson from IPC council all attended the meeting held at All Saints Community Centre in the village on January 16th 2025.

The meeting agreed that there are several stage's.

Immediate work to be done.

An emergency license for 6-months has been applied for to clear away down below the levels of the drains and for executing short term actions to remove sand, which has built up as a result of winter storms. All parties agreed to the fast tracking of permissions to allow for more flexibility for a short-term fixed period to allow the issue to be alleviated. This process is now underway while plans are being developed and resources identified to carry out the agreed sand movement project.

An action plan for better managing problems with sand build up and flooding in Instow was agreed at a recent meeting.

What plans for the future of certain period time.

The meeting reviewed the historical reports previously developed and agreed that rather than re-inventing the wheel these would be used as the basis of developing future options but the time scale would be extended to 50 years rather than the 20-year basis previously used.

Meeting attendees acknowledged the complexity of the situation.

Instow beach is owned in part by the Christie Estate and, has a protected SSSI designation covering part of the site, and under the jurisdiction of Natural England, while forming part of the North Devon Biosphere. Historically this has created confusion around the removal and relocation of sand build-up on the roads by DDC Highways.

Notes

DCC are due to attend a second visit, to clear up the sand on the road and pavement's however, it is a triage system. Other issues within the County have taken priority. They can come along and just close the road. The 6-month licence would then see the parish through to the storms and spring high tides. If there is a need to apply for a longer licence this would be actioned. This team will be working closely outside these meetings, Cllr Johnson will be engaging as duty liaison officer with all parties on a regular basis.

Cost implications

A budget costing will be developed for the operations once it is agreed on the scope of the activities – amount of sand, current location, approved relocation shite - as agreed in the consents issued.

Updates – When new information is available on the IPC website and at February Parish Council Meeting on 20.02.25 at 19:00