

Instow Parish Council Minutes – 20 March 2025

Instow Village Hall 19:00 pm

Attendees: - Cllrs Arthur, Bunclark, Foster, Hopkins, Johnson, McCrum, Scott.
Parish Clerk J-A Middleton, 1 members of the public.

Apologies: - Cllr Edwards, Yeaman, C Cllr Biederman, D Cllr Coombs.

138 The meeting was opened at 19:00 by the Chair

139 Councillors Disclosure of Interest – Cllr. Arthur – 77576 White Cross Offshore Windfarm

140 Public Session –

Lenice Forman asked when the rest of the sand clear up will be completed - Bus Stops, pavements, and drains. Highways to be contact by the Clerk ref pavements and drains. Contacted Cleaner for the Bus stops. Cllr Johnson stated he is in dialogue with the Sand Management and will suggest to them that they help sort, meeting booked for w/c 24/03/25

Lenice also thanked all for the hard work so far. Lenice informed her concerned with Land rovers and Jet Ski's weekend of 15th 16th March 2025 Photos sent to IPC to monitor and forward to Christies. EA to be asked to reinstate the Barrier on ramp.

141 County & Ward Members *No updates other than under correspondence*

142 Confirmation of Minutes 20 February 2025 *amendment on finance section 13 add costed under Section 137 then approved.*

143 Any matters arising

- a. 7 Councillors booked in for training 7th April 2025 online evening course.
- b. Sewage Southwest Water are not aware. Cllr Arthur to contact Jeff May.

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

145 Correspondence

- a) Permission is requested to set up a St John Ambulance stall on part of Instow Beach at the base of the access slipway by the kiosk. *IPC approved and forwarded to Christies for final approval.* The date requested is Saturday 05 April 2025 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- b) Instow Beach Fires raised with NDC Cllr Coombs Via email 09/03/2025 NDC Cllr informed IPC and Christies. *Awaiting update*
- c) Speeding & Constant lorry traffic along Anstey Way (DCC Cllr Biederman informed) From M. Champion via email on 06/03/2025. *DCC Cllr Biederman informed and dealing with issue.*
- d) Dune Pen Trial 2020 update responded with whom to contact. *Andy at North Devon Biosphere* received from Mr Fowler via email 05/03/2025 *IPC responded with contact details.*
- e) Xlinks Morocco-UK Power project ('the Project'). Next level of consultation to be confirmed 2025 For details. www.xlinks.co/devon *Cllr Bunclark and IPC clerk attended the online presentation. Both to report back at the next IPC meeting 17/04/2025*

146 Finance

All listed finances shown in appendix 1 – Approved. Item 3 & 11 removed

Add Bank charges to direct debit section. Recalculation required.

147 Emergency Planning

Cllrs to look at emergency scenarios and email the Cllr Scott (chair) and bring other information /information to the next IPC meeting 17.04.2025

148 Planning

a) a. 77576 White Cross Offshore Windfarm (Onshore project) (starting at Saunton Sands) NDC Site Visit 19/03/2025 (before our meeting info. only). No updated received before the IPC meeting.

149 AOB as raised by Chair

Bank charges from Lloyds Business Banking. Updated Cllrs.

150 Urgent items raised between the publication of the agenda and the meeting.

79401 at Newstead New Road Instow Devon EX39 4LN - *increase in access width (amended plans)* D Cllr Coombs to call in application. IPC to comment. Outside affordability criteria, Holiday Apartments, Highway visibility concerns.

151 Next meeting – Thursday 17 April 2025, 19:00 - Instow Village Hall

Meeting closed – 20:10

Appendix 1

March 2025 Finance – Invoices etc

1. North Devon Council (SD11587623) – Clerk’s salary Feb JAM	£ 1059.82
2. Clerks monthly expenses	£ 50.00
3. DALC Training <i>Essential Clerk 1 & New Clerk Finance (JAM)</i>	£ 78.00
4. Roger Locum Clerk	£ 203.40
5. Reimbursed MJ Scott from Red 17 – Notice boards x 3	£ 590.40
6. Reimbursed MJ Scott Bideford Cobblers 5 lock Keyrings	£ 7.50
7. Reimbursed MJ Scott M Williams – Clearing Kiln Close 05/03	£ 45.00
8. Reimbursed MJ Scott M Williams – Clearing Kiln Close 12/03	£ 37.50
9. Flowbird (UI00015869)	£ 145.04
10. Flowbird (Parking ticket rolls For the Machine)	£ 312.00
11. Paul Fletcher – Pavement Cleaning	£ 457.60
12. Julie Braddick – Toilet Block, Bus shelters	£ 732.11
13. Tony ROSS – Replacement roll holder & Adjust lock in disabled toilet	£ 60.00
14. NDC Trade Waste SD11581550 (dog bins)October – December 2024	£ 369.25
15. Source for Business Water Bill Toilet block 15/10/24-27/02/25	£ 460.47
16. Total	£4608.09

Direct Debits – already paid

1. AIMBS	£ 105.70
2. Nest (Clerk)	£ 72.03
3. Bank Charges	£ 5.29
4. Total	£ 183.02

Total Outgoings **£4791.11**

Monies In

Tapeley Donation towards Beach Clean	£ 800.00
Car Parking Permits renewals (4) (>19.03.2025)	£ 1209.60
Card Payments	£ 2475.00
Cash (>17.03.2025)	£ 1663.05

Total In **£ 6147.65**

Bank Accounts	<i>Treasurers</i>	£74041.40
	<i>Business</i>	£ 9481.03
	<i>Deposit</i>	£43000.00

Appendix 2

Eliot Johnson Beach Sand Report to IPC 20th March 2025

Since the report to the last meeting 20 February 2025 there has been a marked change thank in the main to Mother Nature, the Marines, and the community.

Mother Nature

My previous report, based on the situation at that time, envisaged large-scale works to move a high volume of sand. As this was considered financially unworkable contingency plans were being worked up and resource marshalled.

However, Mother Nature is more for action than planning and fortunately she was on our side and dramatically reducing the volume of sand on the beach over the high tide weekend.

Drains Cleared

A team of from DCC cleared the drain on the road and the sand from the outfalls on the beach side. This assisted in not only freeing up the drains but also letting the tide get into the banked sand.

Their appearance, although greatly appreciated, was unannounced and clashed with similar work planned by the community. Communication will have to be improved to avoid this in the future.

Community Team

On the back of a beach walk with members of the ISAFAG and CDE it was proposed that a day of action be planned where the community would take up tools to continue the clean-up past the past stop.

The community group had around 30 volunteers come forward vastly improved the area they were working on. Thank you to Jacqui and Carolyn for organising this.

Beach

About two weeks ago myself, and reps from the CDE visited the beach and observed the works of Mother Nature, the community clean-up team, and the Highways a magical change of scenery in such a short time.

The revised plan was agreed to clear either side of the 'Hopkins Highway' at the bus stop end to expose the drains and gullies to allow that end of the village to drain.

We also walked the path from the bus stop to the car park where the sand spills on the road.

Minor work to bind the sand and stop blow over were discussed and CDE will look to action these.

NB The main observation was that the sand here appeared to be blown down the beach rather than over the dunes - this will need following up (Biosphere / NE) with potentially sand breaks put in place to both develop another dune and stop the sand movement....

What a Week

This week the heavy lifting has been carried out by the Marines with assistance from Tim and Will of Hudson Marine and Simon Goaman. They cleared the bus stop drains and a large section of the sand bank on the other side of the Hopkins Highways.

Then, as marines do, continued up the beach clearing the remaining banked sand from the Commodore Slipway area. The hope is that shortly the remaining sand islands will also be removed. I wish to again express my gratitude to all parties for coming to our assistance when asked.

CDE were put together a formal Scope of Work but unfortunately this was not supplied in time, so the team work off the verbal arrangement.

Forward

Hopefully, CDE will shortly supply the follow-on programme to cover maintaining the drainage outlets, removal of the sand islands and the proposed work for the foot path i.e. Sand clearance, fence removal, and planting programme to bind the loose sand.

Longer Term

Building on the success so far, the next stage will be to re-engage with the authorities to agree the way forward for the longer-term solution and understanding how all the stakeholders can contribute.

CDE has already written to Biosphere to start the engagement process for developing the longer-term beach management plan.

CIC

I have proposed setting up a CIC to co-ordinate the work programmes, hold the funding. The remit of the CIC will not be limited to the beach but could also cover 'good works' around the village This entity could then look for funds from the IPC, CDE Government bodies, lotteries, local funding, etc. not just for the beach but for the village as a whole.

Close

I am thankful to all those who have taken part in the various actions over the last month and you should all be very proud of yourselves for the dramatic change in the beach front you have been part of.

Mother Nature willing, we can move into a beach management phase while we wait for the long-term strategy from NE / Biosphere.