

**Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of Clovelly Parish Council held online
7.30pm on Tuesday 23rd March 2021**

Present: Chairman Cllr C West, Vice-Chair Cllr J Davey, D Garnett, J Goulding, C Huxtable, S Perham, P Slee, A Tucker

Torrige District Council (TDC) Cllrs A Dart & S Harding

Cllr C Leather (TDC lead member for waste & recycling)

Mr S Hearse(Chief Executive), Mr R Haste & Mr S Kearney (TDC)

15 members of the public

The Chair opened the meeting to the floor and hoped that a way forward could be found

1. Public and General Comments:

Cllr Harding:

- All households pay Council Tax but not everyone uses all the available services
- Many people in rural areas have to take bags of rubbish to a collection point

Cllr Garnett:

- Does Clovelly Estate have a full contract with TDC or a non-contractual agreement?
- What outcome do residents want and is CE failing to do the job of collecting waste and recycling from the village?

Mr S Hearse(TDC):

- Council Tax has to be paid to pay for council services
- Most of Torrige is in Bands A-D
- Banding is not changed by District Council and is based on the value of the individual property
- Recycling and waste collection takes around 20% of the Council budget
- Clovelly Estate is already subsidised by TDC to arrange collection of waste and recycling

Mr R Haste:

- TDC and CE have a Service Level Agreement for waste collection and street cleaning; no formal contract just an historical agreement
- Until 2018 no doorstep collection of recycling was carried out in the village
- Mr Haste suggested that very little recycling was done before that date: this was contested by Clovelly residents as the 'recycling pavilion' provided was always full
- TDC did not impose any time restrictions on the depositing of waste bags at the appointed collection point; this was done by CE
- The only change that TDC informed CE of was that waste would be collected from a central point fortnightly

Cllr West:

- Could waste bags be collected from the bottom of the hill?

Mr S Kearney:

- That is a decision for CE

Questions from the public:

- What is TDC telling CE to take away & what does TDC pay CE to take away?

Mr Haste:

- TDC had not asked CE to change anything and was not aware that residents could only take bags to collection point at a specific, restricted time. TDC does not specify what CE should do; the process of collection is under the control of CE

Resident Comments:

- Residents have contacted TDC about the waste collection on a number of occasions but have not received replies

Cllr West:

- This seems to be an issue for CE to resolve with residents

Cllr Garnett:

- What is TDC going to do to help residents?

Mr Hearse:

- This is an arrangement between CE and the residents; a subsidy is paid to CE to deal with waste and recycling collection. Members of TDC may decide not to pay that subsidy in the future.
- The Parish Council could decide to help subsidise the collection of waste but this would result in an increase in the Parish Precept and therefore the Council Tax rate

Resident's Comment:

- Other people in Torridge are not expected to carry heavy bags of waste up a steep hill; it may help if every household was issued with an ash bin which would then be emptied by CE

Cllr C Leather (TDC):

- Astonished that there was not a representative of CE at the meeting
- CE is paid by TDC to collect waste and clean the street
- The issues raised at this meeting should be resolved between CE and residents
- Could heavy bags be taken to the bottom of the hill for collection?
- CE arbitrarily changed the collection system without consulting the residents concerned
- There should not be a time limit on depositing waste bags

Resident's question:

- Could TDC talk to CE about this?

Cllr Leather:

- A senior TDC Officer will contact CE

Resident's comment:

- If CE had carried out a proper consultation she thinks most people would have preferred to continue with original system of having waste collected every week and carrying recycling to a collection point

Cllr Garnett:

- Could TDC Officers visit Clovelly to see how the current system is operated?

Mr Hearse will contact CE

Open session ended

2. Apologies: Cllr Sanders

3. Collection of waste and recycling from Clovelly village

The collection of waste and recycling included on the April meeting agenda

Letter to Mr Rous of Clovelly Estate outlining comments and suggestions made during this meeting, to which he had been invited

Date of next meeting: 13th April 2021