

THURLESTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Date: 6 th June 2022		Venue & Time: Thurlestone Parish Hall, 19.30 hrs	
Present: Cllr Sue Crowther Cllr Jill Munn (Chairman) Cllr Sian Williams	In Attendance: Kathy Harrod (Parish Clerk) SHDC Cllr Judy Pearce Parishioners/guests 14	Apologies: DCC Cllr Rufus Gilbert SHDC Cllr Mark Long	

REF 2022/23 MINUTES

OPEN FORUM

There was an open forum of 15 minutes at the beginning of the meeting to allow members of the public to ask questions or make comment regarding the work of the Council or other items which affect the Parish. The following matters arose:

- a. A query was raised regarding the latest application for Bantham Estates and if this should have been submitted in four separate applications. A second parishioner concurred that there are four large areas to be covered within the application and insufficient information within the documents.
- b. Documents regarding the pre-application submission for Aunecliffe, Bantham were shown to the Councillors. The documents have been drawn with the Neighbourhood Plan policies in mind. The applicant has also taken into account comments made regarding a similar development. Materials, energy efficiency, night skies, footprint and height have all been considered. There is sympathetic new stone walling, which is capped with a thatch topping, this gives a more attractive finish. It was further noted that there is a garage/parking on site, the adjoining section is a glazed hallway link and the application also includes stone to the plinth, part timber cladding and smaller windows other than the lounge. The Councillors thanked the architect for attending with the applicant.
- c. Brown bins: The situation needs to be resolved; it is now a postcode lottery as to who gets their bins emptied. A request was made for Thurlestone Parish Council to continue to push for a resolution to this unacceptable situation.
- d. Congratulations were given to Jack Rhymes, the Jubilee Team and the Parish Council for the outstanding street party and entertainments provided for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.
- e. A letter regarding application 0915/22/FUL was read out. This contained another reference to four applications rolled into one. A request was made for the Council to defer a decision until a full complement of Parish Councillors is in place.
- f. Chris White – Broadband provision in the parish of Bantham, Buckland and Thurlestone. See **Appendix B**.
- g. Bantham Estate Application, this equates to mission creep, an industrial generator or small substation would need to be installed and power would run to the beach to feed the electric charge points. The cars parking in exact same space requiring tarmac to prevent erosion etc. Where does this end, do we end up with one way system in/out of Bantham? The Estate must supply a picture of what the end result is rather than continually putting through applications with incremental changes.

The Meeting Convened

44 Welcome & Apologies

45 Declarations of Interests and amendments to Members' Registers of Interests.

No declarations of interest were received.

46 To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 9th May 2022.

It was resolved to confirm the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

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47 Clerks Report:

- Election Update: An election is due to take place on 23rd June in respect of the four councillor vacancies. The new councillors will join the July meeting once they have signed their Registers of Interest and Acceptance of Office documents. It is understood that the cost of the election, which must be met by Thurlestone Parish Council will amount to approximately £2,000.
- Website: The website has now got all policies and procedures as well as financial documentation uploaded. Other documents may be added throughout the year. Monthly agendas and minutes are uploaded in accordance with procedural requirements.
- Internal Audit, Alison Marshall has undertaken the Internal Audit. Alison is highly qualified and sought after, we are lucky to have secured her services. All documents will be uploaded to the website shortly.
- Information Commissioner Subscription, this has been applied for, the discounted annual payment of £35 will be renewed via Direct Debit.
- Road Closure Information: Tuesday 14th June – Wednesday 15th June.
Excavation will be between Kerse Cross and Whitley Cross, Thurlestone. Access will be maintained for emergency services. If you have any suggestions or concerns regarding these works, please contact 01752 502021 or alternatively cpiper@westernpower.co.uk.
- Localities Funding Applications, £500 has been received from Cllr Long towards the hire of the Jubilee marquee, Cllr Pearce has provided £683 to pay for the water bottles, an application of £150 has been made to Cllr Gilbert, this payment remains outstanding.
- Letter from Anthony Mangnall MP: We have received a letter which included a request for village halls to consider becoming police hubs. A copy of the letter has been forwarded to the Parish Hall Committee for consideration.
- Heathfield Kerb: This has been reported to Devon County Council, reference W221516234
- Tree by Thurlestone bus shelter. Jack Rhymes will be reducing the dangerous elements of the tree to prevent damage to the bus shelter.
- Bantham Estate: The estate have advised there will be a shoot this year although it is possible that there will be fewer days and the diary has yet to be confirmed. No further information is available at this time.

48 Planning & Enforcement

a) LIST OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED/FOR DISCUSSION:

1. 1139/22/HHO, The Meadows, Court Park, Thurlestone, Conservatory roof replacement (16/6) **TPC Support**
2. 1601/22/FUL, The Pillars, Eddystone Rd, ground & lower ground floor extension/alterations (16/6) **TPC Support**
Thurlestone Parish Council supported this application. Councillors considered that the proposed works to modernise the building would improve the state and appearance of the existing property. The proposed extensions were subordinate in scale and form to the dwelling (NP Policy TP7.2.i.); there were no neighbouring amenity issues (NP Policy TP1.1); the style, scale and character of the proposed development, using materials to match the existing, would be proportionate and appropriate in the location (NP Policy TP1.2); and would not have an unacceptable impact on light pollution and the wider AONB (NP Policies TP1.4 and TP1.5).
3. 0942/22/HHO, Thurle House, Warren Rd, demolition of existing porch & reconstruction to include porch, extended utility room & WC/Shower room with bay window (23/6). **TPC Support**
Thurlestone Parish Council supported this application. Councillors considered that the proposed minor alterations and extensions were subordinate in scale and form to the existing dwelling (NP Policy TP7.2.i.); there were no neighbouring amenity issues (NP Policy TP1.1); the style, scale and character of the proposed development, using materials to match the existing (painted render, timber and grey natural slate on pitched roofs), would be proportionate and appropriate in the location (NP Policy TP1.2); and would not have an

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unacceptable impact on light pollution, on the setting of Thurlestone Conservation Area and the wider AONB (NP Policies TP1.4 and TP1.5).

4. 0915/22/FUL, Land off Bantham Beach Road, Erection of replacement beach shower/toilet block, replacement village sewage treatment plant, new residents/mooring holders car park and new parking, ANPR system and associated signage on the beach road and car park (23/6)
Councillors agreed that there would be a site visit and following a number of parishioners' requests in Open Forum, the Clerk would request an extension of time from SHDC until after the next Parish Council meeting on 4 July 2022 to enable the four new councillors to be elected on 23 June 2022 to contribute to the Parish Council's consultation response to this planning application.
5. 1441/22/FUL, 29 Eddystone Rd, Thurlestone, Temporary use of existing garage as accommodation for 2yrs & associated extensions and alterations (retrospective) (23/6). **TPC Object**
Thurlestone Parish Council objected to this application. The purpose of the application is to obtain permission for temporary use of the existing garage as a residential unit and retrospective permission for extensions and alterations. This would be a new 1bed dwelling and, as such, Councillors were of the view that it would be subject to a principal residence requirement (NP Policies TP4.1 & TP6.1). They were also concerned that the proposed development is not tied to the approved scheme (3632/19/ARM), nor to the variation application (1689/22/VAR) currently under consideration. Councillors therefore felt that this type of piecemeal development was not appropriate and that the application should be refused.
6. 1633/22/FUL, 21 Eddystone Rd, Thurlestone, Demolition of existing house & garage & erection of replacement house & garage with associated landscaping works (Re-submission of 4754/21/FUL) (30/6). **TPC Support**
Thurlestone Parish Council supported this re-submitted application. Councillors considered that while the proposed property is still large due to the first floor extensions on the two side elevations, the ridge height is the same as the existing dwelling and the total floor area of the proposed dwelling complies with the 25% replacement limit, provided the garden storage building (approx. 11 sqm) is removed from the application (NP Policy TP7.1.ii). They recognised that efforts had been made to address neighbouring amenity by removing 14 roof lights and 4 longitudinal first floor windows from the East and West elevations (NP Policies TP1.1 & TP1.4); the spiral staircase to the front balcony had been removed; and the North elevation had been redesigned with less glazing on the ground floor (NP Policies TP1.4 & TP1.5). They did, however, remain concerned about the length and depth of the first-floor balcony and requested that this is reduced to address potential noise/overlooking concerns and privacy screens are used (NP Policy TP1.1 & JLP SPD 2020 App1, para 13.22); and also, that light reducing film is used on the larger windows on the North and South elevations to reduce light spill (NP Policies TP1.4 & TP1.5).
7. 1420/22/FUL, Upton Grange, Bantham, Side & rear extensions to existing dwelling & extension of residential curtilage (part retrospective & resubmission of 3431/21/HHO) (30/6). **DEFERRED TO JULY**
8. 1689/22/VAR, 29 Highfield, Eddystone Road, Application for variation of condition 1 (approved drawings), 5 (PV panel installation) & 8 (stonework detail) of planning consent 3632/19/ARM (30/6). **TPC Support**
Thurlestone Parish Council supported this re-submitted application. Councillors recognised that efforts had been made to address neighbouring amenity issues raised on previous applications by sloping the roof line at the rear of the building to create a hipped end in order to reduce the bulk of the building on the East elevation and by reducing the size of the rear balcony and including a privacy screen (NP Policy TP1.1). In terms of potential light spill, the roof lights on the East elevation had been removed and the three first floor windows are obscured. Similarly, on the West elevation, there are fewer windows on the first floor and full length windows have been replaced with smaller windows on the ground floor (NP Policies TP1.4 & 5). In terms of the L-shaped design (NP Policy TP1.2), it was noted that the Yarmer estate consists of a mix of architectural styles and being a sizeable corner plot, there is the opportunity for an individual architectural design provided the footprint is comparable with the approved consent (3632/19/ARM), and there is no harm to the street scene and no unacceptable outstanding neighbouring amenity issues.

9. 1610/22/HHO, 31 Court Park, Thurlestone, proposed extensions & general refurbishment (30/6). **TPC Object**
Thurlestone Parish Council objected to this application which relates to a site occupying a prominent location on the edge of the settlement within the AONB. Councillors considered that the proposed extensions and alterations, arranged on three floors, did not reflect the style, scale and character appropriate and proportionate to the location and the street scene (contrary to NP Policy TP1.2); and that the new bi-fold doors and increased amount of glazing on the South, East and West elevations would have an unacceptable impact on light pollution and the wider AONB (NP Policies TP1.4 and TP1.5).

10. Aunecliffe, Bantham, Pre-application

In response to planning consultant Mark Allen's presentation in Open Forum, Councillors raised a number of questions about his client's proposal and commented on a 'without prejudice' basis. The proposal seeks to replace the existing house with a cluster of cottages, reminiscent of a series of fishing cottages, designed to sit on a stone plinth. Councillors asked for clarification regarding some of the materials proposed, specifically, the timber-cladding on the front NW elevation overlooking the estuary and the glass corridor linking two parts of the building. Councillors considered the design to be attractive and liked the staggered arrangement of the building, arranged over three storeys, following the topography of the land leading down to the estuary. Councillors also asked about parking provision and this will be provided in a new garage as part of the new proposal. Reference was also made to the number and size of windows and glass which Councillors feel to be important due to the parish's dark skies policy and sensitive location within the AONB. They also requested that details should be provided to show how the 25% replacement limit had been calculated.

b) DECISIONS:

1. 1116/22/HHO, 6 Meadfoot, Thurlestone, Enlargement of patio/deck area. **SHDC Conditional Approval.**
2. 1100/22/HHO, Byeways, Warren Rd, Thurlestone, Proposed replacement garage/store (26/5). **SHDC No Decision Yet.**
3. 1017/22/HHO, 24 Court Park, Thurlestone, demolition of deck area and existing garage, erection of new two-storey rear extension and extended deck area with double garage and accommodation below, new side entrance, resubmission of 2346/21/HHO (19/5). **SHDC No Decision Yet.**
4. 1338/22/HHO, Worthy, Bantham, Restoration & refurbishment of farmhouse (9/6). **SHDC No Decision Yet.**
5. 1339/22/LBC, Worthy, Bantham, Restoration & refurbishment of farmhouse (9/6). **SHDC No Decision Yet.**
6. 1357/22/TCA, All Saints Church, Application to fell two diseased Corsican Pines. **SHDC No Objections Raised.**
7. 0257/22/VAR, Units 1 & 2Whimbrels Edge, TQ7 3LE. **SHDC Conditional Approval.**
8. 4301/21/HHO, Appledore, Island View, Thurlestone. **SHDC No Decision Yet**
9. 2786/20/FUL, West Buckland Barn, TQ7 3AJ. **SHDC No Decision Yet**
10. 3026/21/FUL & 3027/21/FUL Vineyard temporary fencing, Buckland & Bantham. **SHDC No Decision Yet**

c) ENFORCEMENT

Please note that the Enforcement Lists are confidential and issues concerning Enforcement cannot be discussed at a public meeting.

South Hams District Council are responsible for the enforcement of all planning breaches, the Parish Council have no authority to deal with issues of this nature.

Please will all parishioners continue to report full details of any violations that do not adhere to the original application for which permission was granted. ALL violations can be reported to Enforcement via

www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3043/Report-a-Planning-Breach

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- a. Platinum Jubilee: Cllr Munn thanked Jack Rhymes and the team of volunteers for all the events organised for the Jubilee. The Parish Hall also put on a well-attended party and family fun. A huge thank you to everyone for all their efforts in making the events such a huge success.

50. To receive reports from County and District Councillors and to ask any questions arising:

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: See Appendix C
Cllr Rufus Gilbert, Email: Rufus.Gilbert@devon.gov.uk

REPORT IT:

Members of the public are requested to report all Highways issues through the Highways Website, enabling faster assessment of problem areas which can then be added to the repair/maintenance schedules. You can report potholes, overgrown vegetation, defective signs/lighting and much more.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS:

Email Cllr Judy Pearce: cllr.judy.pearce@southhams.gov.uk

Email Cllr Mark Long: cllr.mark.long@southhams.gov.uk

- a. Homes for Ukraine – guests continue to come to the South Hams, SHDC are inspecting premises, processing monies out to hosts and visitors as well as trying to deal with any issues that arise. All hosts and guests are now connected to SHDC & Govt websites. Everything is currently running smoothly.
- b. Council tax rebates – continues successfully but there are 25% of residents who do not pay via direct debit and they have not all been in contact to claim their refunds. If you do not pay directly, please contact SHDC and complete their form to enable the payment to be processed. PLEASE NOTE: Scam callers are trying to obtain account information. SHDC will never ask you to provide your personal and account information over the telephone. If you are contacted by someone asking for personal information, please do not share any details.
- c. Bin Collections: The service has worsened over the month, FCC are sending out fewer brown bin rounds. There are developments behind the scenes and FCC will be making a statement on Wednesday. A full update will be provided by our Ward Councillors at the July meeting.
All missed collections MUST be reported.

It takes two minutes to report a problem, please help keep our community beautiful.

<https://apps.southhams.gov.uk/webreportit>

Abandoned Vehicle, Damaged or Full Dog Bin, Damaged/Full Litter Bin, Damaged/Full Recycling Bank, Dead Animal, Dirty Beach, Fly Tipping, Litter/Dog Mess, Planning Breach, Stray Dogs, AND MORE...

51 Receipts & Payments – see Appendix A:

- a. **Receipts & Payments:** Month 3.
Accounts to pay – Clerk Salary & HMRC, June Parish Hall Hire £14, EDF Energy £7, Do it all Services £125, Barrell & Still £521.46, South Hams Brewery £393.86, P Martin Phone Box plants/compost, fuel for strimming/mowing and plants/compost for welcome sign £48.85, M Horne Decoration of Phone Box £79.32, Alison Marshall Internal Audit £175, SLCC Training Seminar £102. **For approval & ratification at the July meeting:** Rob Congdon Music Performance £600, Thurlestone Parish Website Domain Renewal £135.37, Ansvar Insurance Renewal £1,560.01, Information Commissioners Office £35, Julian Lee £340, J E Roberts £281.29, K Harrod Postage £1.29, Public Toilets Water £112, Salcombe Dairy Ice Cream £155.52, Thurlestone PO & Stores £1,133.42

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The Councillors resolved to accept the payments, a mandate sheet was produced and signed accordingly.

b. Governance:

1. Delegated Authority Review:

Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows a council to delegate the power to make decisions to an officer, a committee, a sub-committee or another council.

It was resolved to allow the Parish Clerk the authority to respond to planning/payments and other works as required on the proviso that a majority approval has been received in writing from the Councillors prior to proceeding. This resolution applies in the event of any future meetings having to be cancelled or deferred for reasons outside the control of the Parish Council. This agreement will be reviewed in May 2023.

2. Insurance Renewal: -Due to a hardening market and our existing Insurer pulling out of the market we have reviewed the current insurance requirements and the best quotation we have found was one of £1,560.01. It was resolved to accept this quote with no long-term agreement to ensure that we can undertake a full review of the policy next year.
3. Annual Governance & Accountability AGAR Part 3: With gross income in excess of £25,000 in the year of account ended 31 March 2022, Thurlestone Parish Council are required to submit Part 3 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return.
4. Annual Governance & Accountability, Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2021/22 was reviewed, completed, and approved unanimously.
5. Annual Governance & Accountability. Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2021/22 was reviewed and approved unanimously as being a true record of the 2021/22 accounts.

52 Close of Meeting:

At 21.14hrs the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.

53 2022 Meeting Dates: 4th Jul, 5th Sept, 3rd Oct, 7th Nov. Thurlestone Parish Hall 7.30pm

Signed as a true record: _____

Print Name & Date: _____

Agenda Items and Updates; where possible please submit to the Clerk one week prior to the meeting to ensure time for inclusion, circulation, and study. If a Council Member is unable to attend a meeting it would be appreciated if they could submit a brief précis of progress on their actions, if applicable, (to the Clerk for distribution) together with their apologies.

Distribution List : Cllrs Crowther, Munn, Rhymes & Williams. **For Information to:** County Cllr R Gilbert, Dist. Cllr Judy Pearce, Dist. Cllr Mark Long, Thurlestone Parish Website: <https://www.thurlestoneparish.co.uk/>

Broadband provision in the Parish of Bantham, Buckland and Thurlestone

At the Parish Council meeting held on 9th May 2022, I updated the Council on the current situation regarding the Airband contract to bring Fibre To The Premises (FTTP) to the Parish.

Cllr Gilbert then responded with a homage to Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS), detailing all the wonderful things they had done for broadband provision in the Parish, whilst airbrushing out all the inconvenient facts that did not fit his narrative. In the process he made it clear that he thought I didn't know what I was talking about.

As Broadband provision in the Parish has been my specialist subject for about 15 years, I know more about it than anyone else in the Parish, but as I can only speak in Open Forum, and was not allowed to reply, I have had to wait until this meeting to redress the balance.

The facts are that in 2015, after three years work, we had a viable project, put together by leading experts in the Telecomms Industry, to bring FTTP to the Parish at no cost to the Parish, or the Government. This project had been submitted to and approved by no less a body than Broadband Development UK, the entity in charge of all Broadband provision in the Country.

The only thing stopping us from going live was the fact that we needed CDS to release us from their contract with BT, to bring Fibre To The Cabinet (FTTC) to the Parish – a vastly inferior technology. They were so determined to stop us, that they even organised a public meeting in the Thurlestone Hotel, which was addressed by one of BT's biggest guns, Bill Murphy. The parishioners were unimpressed by him describing his presentation as "Flim Flam".

In spite of that, CDS refused to release us. At the time, we thought that Cllr Gilbert was fighting our corner at County Hall, but the fact that he now claims the kudos for bringing FTTC to the Parish, calls that belief into question.

We then waited two years, during which time we could have completed the installation of FTTP ourselves, before CDS and BT finally brought in FTTC. The results were exactly as we predicted.

In his response last month, Cllr Gilbert stated that the purpose of Phase two (the current Airband contract), was to connect the properties that had not been connected in Phase one. That is totally incorrect.

The Parish is served by three BT cabinets. All three of them were connected to Fibre, so all the properties in the Parish with a landline, were connected in Phase one. The problem is that the effectiveness of that connection was governed entirely by geography, as we knew it would be.

The majority of properties connected to cabinet 5 did indeed enjoy an improvement to their broadband, as the cabinet happens to be sited in the centre of the area that it serves. The majority of the properties connected to cabinets 4, and 6, received no benefit at all, as the cabinets are located on the very edge, or even outside of the areas that they serve. Because of that, Phase one was not the huge success that was claimed. For the majority of those connected to cabinets 4 and 6, it was a complete waste of time and money.

Phase two is therefore about correcting the failure of Phase one, by bringing FTTP to all those properties that still do not receive superfast Broadband, in spite of being connected in Phase one. The totally infuriating aspect of Phase two is that because some properties received crumbs of improvement from Phase one, they are now barred from receiving the cake of Phase two.

To consider the specific case of the Mead Estate, I know full well that the properties on the Estate are excluded from Phase two as they already get superfast FTTC (of varying reliability), but that doesn't stop Airband from bringing FTTP to the Estate at their own cost.

It is a fact that I have one email from Airband which states that they were looking at a project to bring FTTP to the whole of Thurlestone, and another which says "for your peace of mind, we are definitely bringing Fibre to the Mead".

They had no reason to lie to me, so it's clear they were planning to do just that. Indeed, it makes huge commercial sense for them to do so, as they would be bringing FTTP to the full time residents, rather than mainly second homes. Unfortunately, they are now well behind on their contract with CDS, and it's clear from a conversation I've had, and a Webinar that I attended, that they are under pressure from CDS to concentrate all their resources on the contracted properties and to ignore all those not in contract. CDS are only interested in ticking boxes, not on the best outcome for parishioners.

All of the above are indisputable facts, so it's clear that CDS are not the saviours of the Parish, but are actually the cause of all our problems.

As I stated last month, after two bites at the cherry by CDS, we still need a third contract, to bring the Parish up to the Government's original stated objective of a Gigabit capable connection for all the country.

If CDS had left us to our own devices in 2015, we would have achieved that goal soon after, and we wouldn't be having this discussion.

Chris White

Parish Broadband Champion

**Report of the Cabinet Member for
Public Health, Communities and Equality**

Introduction

I will be reporting as follows for Full Council on 26 May 2022:

1. By Councillor Wrigley as follows:

On the Homes for Ukraine Scheme across Devon, highlighting the numbers of families arrived in each area; the number still waiting for visas, especially visas for children; the support to be provided by Devon, including the provision of school places at the most appropriate local school; and the split of funding and responsibility between County and the Districts.

Planned arrivals

The Department for Levelling Up Housing & Communities shares data with DCC that indicates the number of sponsors in Devon who have been matched with guests travelling from Ukraine. Subject to successful visa application, currently 1603 people are identified to potentially arrive in Devon as part of the scheme (938 adults/665 children) hosted by 640 sponsors/properties. These numbers have remained relatively static for a few weeks.

Actual arrivals

Confirming actual arrivals data is complicated by the fact that local councils are reliant on sponsors notifying them that their guests have arrived under the Homes for Ukraine scheme.

Government data provides us with the following information (available at [Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme: Visa data by country, upper and lower tier local authority - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/ukraine-sponsorship-scheme-visa-data-by-country-upper-and-lower-tier-local-authority))

Area	Visa applications	Visas issued	Arrivals
East Devon	233	202	87
Exeter	152	135	62
Mid Devon	173	131	70
North Devon	110	94	60
South Hams	160	140	75
Teignbridge	203	192	112
Torridge	105	89	56
West Devon	128	117	69

In addition, some people have travelled to Devon as part of the Ukraine Family scheme. The numbers now arriving in UK through this scheme is slowing significantly. It is difficult to confirm the exact numbers who have arrived through this route locally as currently that information is not available to local authorities, but it is likely to be around 200 people.

School places

There have been 214 applications for school places to date with 59 pupils confirmed to be on roll (although we anticipate this might be higher).

Funding will go directly to schools for additional students at the following rates:

- Early years (ages 2 to 4) - £3,000
- Primary (ages 5 -11) - £6,580
- Secondary (ages 11-18) - £8,755

Support provided by Team Devon

We have taken a partnership approach, working closely with our Team Devon District and City Council colleagues, to deliver our shared local responsibilities under the scheme. Our work involves;

- Establishing an operational team within the DCC Communities team to oversee the overall process and to manage the flow of sponsor/guest/application data.
- Enhanced DBS checks (on all within the Sponsor household over 16 years) carried out by DCC Safer Recruitment Team
- Property checks on all sponsor households delivered by district council teams
- Background checks of Childrens and Adults service systems are undertaken to highlight any concerns regarding individual applications and their suitability
- A decision-making panel including Childrens and Adults services, district colleagues and facilitated by the Communities team has been established to consider potential 'failed' sponsor applications
- District councils are making payments to guests on arrival and monthly payments to sponsors
- Initial 'welcome' visits (required by Government) are delivered through district commissioned VCSE organisations (and some district council teams) who in turn will develop a level of signposting to key services and some wraparound support.
- Children's Services have taken a local policy decision to visit all arrivals that include children 0-8 years carry out 'Infant and children's health and wellbeing checks'
- An emergent ESOL offer has been established across Devon drawing on existing resources at colleges and with Learn Devon alongside a range of local community offers from groups and individuals

Funding split

Government guidance describes the funding available to support the resettlement of the Ukrainian guests, which is as follows:

- £10,500 per individual arrival (to include £350 per month to the homeowner/sponsor and an initial £200 for each guest)

Latest guidance confirms that drawdown will be quarterly in areas to top tier authorities and relies on accurate data returns. Funding will be top sliced by County to cover central costs (maximum is expected to be 20% of funds), then the rest would be distributed to District and City councils- with a contingent amount for homelessness presentations.

DCC is producing a budget for the first 6 months of the scheme to show the costs we are incurring – direct staff costs and direct other costs e.g. DBS and any commissioned services such as ESOL. This should inform the % top slice.

Councillor Roger Croad
Cabinet Member for Public Health, Communities and Equality