

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9th July 2019 at 7.30 pm.

in the Church Room. Shebbear.

CHAIRMAN: Cllr R Clark'

Vice Chairman: Cllr N Whatley

Councillors: Cllr M Pearce. Cllr J Stupple. Cllr J Curtis. Cllr J Franklin.

Cllr C Styles-Power. Cllr Jax Curtis. Cllr J Quance. Cllr L Luxton

5 Members of the Public. D Cllr D Hurley. Clerk: M Whatley

AGENDA 2019.

-56. Apologies for Absence.

C Cllr B Parsons (other commitments).

056. (a) Co-option of New Councillors.

Chairman welcomed our new Co-opted Councillors to the meeting, Cllr Jax Curtis, Cllr Jason Quance and Cllr Lucy Luxton, and after Signing of Acceptance of Office and Code of Conduct Forms, invited them to take their seats.

057. Public Participation Period of 15 minutes. For speakers registered in advance, with the Clerk.

Little Bears – Fencing
Nick Alford (School Head Teacher)
Victoria Tonkin (Little Bears Chair)

Chairman welcomed Victoria Tonkin to the meeting. Victoria explained she was representing both the school and Little Bears in the absence of Nick Alford.

When Nick Alford was appointed Head Teacher last year, one of the things he put in place was to close the main school gates from 9.15am to 3.15pm, which put enormous pressure on Little Bears as parents pick up children at different times and every time a member of staff has to let them in leaving just one carer in charge of the children, which is totally unacceptable. We are currently allowed to take 8 children per day with two staff. Once a staff member leaves to attend to the gate we are exposed to only having one member of staff supervising up to eight children. We are at risk of losing our Ofsted Report if we continue to operate as we are and Ofsted are due to visit in the new school term. Nick Alford has obtained two quotes for the supply and erection of new fencing and gate, £3,115.00 and £2,555.00 respectively. D Cllr Hurley has kindly donated £500 to the project leaving a balance of £2,000. Shebbear School and Little Bears have agreed to split the cost of the project 50/50, and are looking for a donation from Shebbear Parish Council.

Chairman thanked Victoria for her presentation; the matter would be discussed later on in the evening,

058. Declarations of any Councillors Interests in Items on the Agenda.

(a) Discloseable pecuniary interests (Prejudicial).

Cllr Franklin and Cllr Quance declared a pecuniary interest in 063 (1) and would leave the room whilst this was discussed.

(b) Registerable Interests.

None.

© **Any variations to Members Registration of Interests.**

None.

059. Draft Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday June 11th 2019 having been previously circulated, to be approved and signed.

Proposed Cllr Whatley, Seconded Cllr Stupple, all in favour that the Minutes be recorded as a true record.

060. Any matters arising from the Minutes. Clerks Report.

Co-option

Dealt with co-option process so we now have a full house of Councillors. Sent letters to each member inviting them to take their seats this evening, and enclosing Register of Interests forms, Acceptance forms and Code of Conducts information.

Planning Applications

1/0414/2019/FUH. Mill Cottage, Shebbear.

4 No. rooflights.

1/0447/2019/FUL. Arlington Cottage, Shebbear.

Creation of 2 off-road parking spaces for dwelling.

1/0385/2019/FUL. Moor Town, Stibb Cross.

Agricultural Storage Shed.

Responded to TDC for all three applications that Shebbear Parish Council has no objections.

Japanese Knotweed.

Responded to John Bradbeer that the Council is no longer responsible for the control of Knotweed. It is down to the individual owners to control the weed on their property and not let it escape into neighbouring properties.

TDC Audit of Play Areas.

Responded to TDC up-dating them on the play areas.

Flood Warning System

Responded to Hock Lee informing him that the warning system was on the Agenda for this evening and requesting cost of a new maintenance and sim contract.

Received an email from Paul Isaacs, who tells me that having monitored the system there were occasions both in December 2018 and January 2019 that warned that Dipper Mill would be flooded and impassable and on all of those occasions the system was correct and the road was flooded. In February and March we were warned of possible flooding on multiple occasions but, in fact, this did not occur as the river had then receded and returned to normal. In his personal opinion Paul confirmed there has been a 100% reliability in the system as it now. This in no small part is thanks to Ron Lester for creating the website that provides this information constantly.

Paul also told me that Black Torrington view our website to determine whether there is any likelihood of flooding in their village.

Dog Bin Licence – Sheila's Folly.

Finally, I renewed the dog waste bin licence for Sheila's Folly and paid the landlord, Ted Lott, the £1.00 fee for the next twelve months.

061. To Agree any items to be dealt with in Part 2, closed session, of the Meeting.

None.

062. Any urgent Agenda business or correspondence brought forward with the approval of the Chairman.

(1) Corporate Working.

Chairman delivered some training to the members in corporate working and how part 2 affairs are conducted, a repeat of the material delivered at the previous meeting, for the benefit of the three new Co-optee Councillors.

(2) In-house Training.

The courses 'Being a Good Councillor' provided by DALC had proved very popular and over-subscribed. Chairman proposed we arrange for a course here in Shebbear and invite other parishes to join us. Clerk to organise.

(3) Hedge Cutting (Cllr Pearce).

Cllr Pearce reported that she had received concerns from parishioners about hedge-cutting in the nesting season. Cllr Quance pointed out that that it is illegal for farmers to cut hedges between 1st March and 31st August because this covers the period when the majority of birds can be expected to be nesting, **except for Health and Safety reasons.**

Members drew attention to three areas of overgrown roadside hedging, which could cause a safety issues. Clerk to send letter to the owners

(4) P3 Co-ordinator Rights of Way Officer, Shebbear.

Cllr Franklin readily agreed to take on this task. His dogs would love it!

(5) Shebbear PC Facebook Administrator.

There were varying views on whether this should be kept on. To be discussed at the next meeting.

063. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

(1) Any matters raised during the Public Participation period.

Cllr Quance and Cllr Franklin left the room.

Little Bears. Cllr Whatley proposed the Council donate the full £2,000 required, Seconded Cllr Stuppel, all in favour. Chairman pointed out that there might well be additional expenses in erection of the fencing, also VAT was not included in the quotation. Little Bears and the School would have to raise this money themselves as there would be no 'coming back'. Victoria Tonkin thanked the Council for their generosity.

Cllr Quance and Cllr Franklin returned to the meeting.

In the absence of D Cllr Hurley, Chairman proposed item 066 be brought forward.

066. Planning.

(1) New Applications.

(a) **1/0503/2019/FUL. Little Meadows, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon.**

Creation of driveway and erection of carport, porch and rear two storey extension.

Proposed by Cllr Whatley that the application is a little too large for the site, Seconded Cllr Luxton, all in favour that Clerk respond to TDC along these lines.

(b) **1/0449/2019/FUH. South Rise, College Road, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon.**

Single storey ground floor extension to south elevation, new pitched roof to accommodate new First Floor.

Cllr Curtis proposed no objections, Seconded Cllr Whatley, all in favour that Clerk respond to TDC 'No Objections'.

Received after the Agenda was circulated.

(c) **1/0588/2019/FUH. Little East Badworthy, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon.**

Two-storey extension to the rear.

Proposed Cllr Stuppel, Seconded Cllr Pearce, that the Council has 'No Objections', all in favour. Clerk to respond to TDC.

(2) Applications Granted.

(a) **1/0414/2019/FUH. Mill Cottage, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon.**

4 No. Rooflights.

Received by Councillors.

Received after the Agenda was circulated.

(b) **1/0385/2019/FUL. Land at Moor Town, Stibbs Cross, Shebbear, Devon.**

Agricultural Storage Shed.

Received by Councillors.

(3) Applications Refused

None.

(4) Any relevant adjacent applications.

064. District Councillor's Report.

Chairman welcomed David Hurley to the meeting.

Proposed Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Changes – 12 Week Consultation Safer Together Programme <safertogetherprogramme@dsfire.gov.uk>

Under the new proposals, the Service would seek to move underused resources from where the risk is low and invest more into work to reach the most vulnerable members of society and help keep them safe. This includes proposed closures of a number of fire stations where risk and activity is low and the removal of fire engines that are underused.

It is appreciated that any suggestion of removing stations or fire engines can be unsettling for residents and they want to ensure that residents feel informed and supported as a community.

Consultation commenced 3rd July and ends on 22nd September.

For more information around the consultation, proposals and to take part in the consultation online please follow the link <https://tinyurl.com/y2tcrrc>

Annual Canvass

Shortly all Torridge residents will receive through the post important registration details. These forms should be returned to TDC to report any changes since you last registered. Otherwise visit www.householdresponse.com/torridge to confirm that your details haven't changed. If you want to register, the easiest way is online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote (or information can be sent to you explaining how to do this in the post). Answers to further questions can be obtained by contacting the Elections Team on 01237 428739

Electric car Charging Points

I reported last month about the new electric charging points that have been installed in car parks in Torridge. I said that the points could be used to charge any electric car (different systems of connection) and I have physically checked that this is the case.

Climate Change

Councillors **had** a Notice of Motion to consider at the full Council meeting held on July 1st, which would ask them to consider a pledge to make the Council carbon neutral by 2030. A new position at this Council is Lead Member for Climate Change filled by Cllr Peter Hames of the Green Party. The motion was supported.

Bideford Skatepark

The newly developed Bideford Skate Park will have its official opening on Saturday the 13th July 2019. This facility replaces the skate ramps that were at Bank End in Bideford and means that users will no longer have to travel miles to take part in this sporting activity.

Caute to Rowden road

I was told a short while ago that the Caute to Rowden road had been marked in preparation for maintenance work to be done. This work is long overdue. Let's hope it takes place prior to the markings fading away over time.

065. County Councillor's Report

No Report.

067. Finance.

(1) Bank Signatories.

Clerk explained there were currently two signatories, namely Chairman and Cllr Whatley, and we needed two more. Cllr Luxton and Cllr Jax Curtis agreed to become signatories. Clerk to provide the necessary application forms.

(2) Approval of Items for Payment.

(a) Adrian Caudwell – Grasscutting - £296.00

Proposed Cllr Joan Curtis, Seconded Cllr Stuppel, that item (a) be paid, all in favour.

Bank Balances:

Current Account: £8,869.26

Reserve Account: £19,763.83

Clerk pointed out that whilst we have a very healthy bank balance, nonetheless, £11,600 of this has already been allocated in favour of SSSG, Memorial Seating, Little Bears fencing and wages.

068. Correspondence.

- (a) Police Report Melissa Baker.
No Report received.
- (b) Littlejohn Auditors.
Received by Councillors.

Circulation File.

Council Planning Lists. Police Report. Littlejohn Auditors. HAGS. Clerks & Councils Direct. Creative Play. Vegetation Cutting and its impact on Birds. Community Landing Sites (C Cllr Parsons). Parish Paths Partnership Summer Newsletter (Ros Davies). Wicksteep Stadium. Glasdon. HAGS.

069. Agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting, which will be held on Tuesday August 13th 2019 at 7- 30 pm, and any other matters, for discussion only, at the Chairman's discretion.

There being no other business, Chairman closed the meeting at 9.58pm

Signed

Dated

Two minor amendments in bold.