

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th November 2018 at 7.30 pm.

in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Chairman: Cllr Franklin

Councillors: R Clark. A Maidment. R Gliddon.

G Quance. J Curtis. J Stupple. N Whatley. P Isaacs.

C Cllr B Parsons. D Cllr D Hurley. 2 Members of the Public. Clerk: M Whatley

AGENDA. 2018.

Chairman's Opening Remarks.

Chairman thanked Cllr Clark for organising the arrangements for Armistice Sunday. There was the right balance of pomp and ceremony.

Cllr Clark welcomed Cllr Franklin in the Chair to the inaugural meeting.

99. Apologies for Absence.

Chairman Cllr Dungate (Funeral).

100. Public Participation Period of 15 minutes. For speakers registered in advance, with the Clerk. None.

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

(a) Discloseable pecuniary interests (Prejudicial).

None.

(b) Registerable Interests

Cllr Gliddon declared a Registerable Interest in Southcombe Farm, Shebbear, Item 108 (1) and would leave the room whilst the application was discussed.

Any variations to Members Registration of Interests.

None.

102. Draft Minutes of the Council Meeting held on November 13th 2018 having been previously circulated, to be approved and signed.

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

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

Dr's Surgery.

Sent letter to NHSE (Mr Proctor) regarding the impractical timing of the free patient bus service, copied to RCMG, and received a response, Item 110b on the Agenda.

Sent copy of Special Sub Group Meeting Minutes re Dr's Surgery to Geoffrey Cox, and received standard acknowledgement.

Flood Warning System.

Sent email to Hock Lee of DCC once again confirming Shebbear Parish Council will not take over ownership of the floor warning system, and that this is our final decision. No further correspondence.

Sent email to Julian Parkin regarding how Shebbear PC wishes the detection system to operate. Councillors agreed on Option 2 – set it up so that when an alarm threshold has been exceeded the system will increase the data sending intervals so that the rising levels can be followed via the website.

Hedging.

Wrote letter to Bursar (Sharon Day) regarding the overgrown hedge bordering the field scheduled for development running towards Battledown Cross. No acknowledgement – hedge not yet cut.

Planning.

1/0978/2018/OUT Land adjacent to Lake House, Shebbear.

Outline application with all matters reserved (affected by a Public Right of Way)

Responded to TDC, Shebbear PC has no objections but one of concern that the access could be changed so as not to cause risk to the safety of children on the way to school.

1/1015/2018/REM. Land at Highfield, Shebbear.

Reserved Matters for one dwelling (access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale pursuant to application 1/0927/2015/OUT. Responded to TDC. No Comments.

Telephone Kiosk – Caute.

Inspected the telephone kiosk with Adrian Caudwell, which needed hedge cutting back and strimming around it. Discussed painting the inside, which was in a bad state and gave him the ‘go ahead’ to do this extra work including cleaning the windows (not on the original instruction).

Flowers for War Memorial. Finally, with Keith Nixon’s help planted the War Memorial for Remembrance Sunday.

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

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

(1) Parish Projects.

(a) Little Bears.

The new Headmaster has identified areas on the perimeter of the school grounds, which he is unhappy about and the School now locks all gates at 9.15am and unlocks them at 3.15pm. The Pre-School (Little Bears) has been asked by the School to use the small gate at the top of the school site, and to keep it locked at all times. Parents dropping off or collecting children from Little Bears go to the small gate and ring the school and a member of staff lets them in. Cllr Clark had talked to the Master, who proposes to erect a fence and had received a quote for £2,500.

Chairman to raise this at the full Governor’s meeting later in the month.

(b) Cllr Clark raised the subject of the ‘Shebbear 2000’ book produced in 1999, which was in essence a great success. He suggested the PC might consider sponsoring a new book ‘Shebbear 2020 Vision’ following all the changes we have seen in this parish in the last 20 years.

(c) Further suggestions included a covered seat; Notice boards to be put on the bus shelter; replacing the bus shelter with a more substantial option; maintenance to be given to the graveyards, in particular St Michaels Church,.

Chairman proposed that between now and the next meeting in December, serious thought should be given as to what projects need to be considered, villagers should be involved and invited to comment through Reflecting Shebbear. All agreed. Clerk to put a piece in Reflecting Shebbear.

(2) Dr’s Surgery.

(a) Chairman had been handed a letter from a parishioner, which had been sent to Geoffrey Cox MP, detailing the chain of events which led to her Mother’s passing and the alleged failings of RCMG. Clerk to write a letter of sympathy and forward copies of the letter to Barry Parsons and David Hurley.

(b) Free Patient Bus Service, Shebbear.

Chairman read a letter received from Mark Proctor (Primary Care Team (Medical)NHSE in response to a letter from the Clerk regarding ‘wrong timing’ of the service as it is quite impossible to collect patients from Shebbear Village Hall at 10.15am and travel to the Medical Centre at Holsworthy by 10.30am. Mr Proctor to review the system.

No further reports on a new doctor’s surgery in Shebbear.

Chairman welcomed County Cllr Parsons to the meeting

There is an issue here with the doctor’s surgery and lack of quality care in the community. He felt a petition should be raised and handed to the Council Leader, it was time to rev things up. When Holsworthy Hospital was closed, they sold all the beds. Now it is going to open to patients, they are having to re-equip and staff it. Social Services has short-fall of £10 million.

Cllr Parsons raised the question of Councils giving grants for the maintenance of churchyards. The 1984 Act transferred powers from the Vestry and Churchwardens to the newly formed parish councils, but did not allow the councils to support any church related activities, such as maintenance or improvement to church property. Whilst it is not permitted for Councils to give grants for the maintenance of churches, local councils have been giving grants to help with the maintenance of churchyards for over 100 years, but that now appears open to legal challenge. It will be up to the parish council as to what action they decide to take.

Clerk confirmed she had asked NALC for clarification on this issue earlier in the week.

Chairman thanked Cllr Parsons for his report.

(3) Grants.

Chairman proposed Shebbear Lunch Club be re-imbursed for costs towards Armistice catering, seconded Cllr Clark, all in favour. Chairman asked that the payment be made immediately.

Clerk confirmed the closing date for grants is 30th November 2018.

(4) Christmas Tree.

Alistair Nethercott had offered a Christmas tree free of charge. Cllr Franklin to organise this with Cllr Gliddon and Cllr Stuppel on Friday 7th December. Cllr Whatley to help with decorations.

(5) Christmas Tree Decorations.

Proposed Cllr Quance, Seconded Cllr Stuppel that a budget of £60 is allocated for Christmas tree lights. Cllr Whatley to purchase same.

(6) New Dog Waste Bin, Church Fields.

Clerk reported that a new dog bin would cost £140 including VAT. Proposed Cllr Curtis, Seconded Cllr Stuppel, all in favour. Clerk to order and arrange for the bin to be placed back to back with the existing.

106. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

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

None.

107. District Councillor's Report.

Chairman welcomed District Cllr Hurley to the meeting.

Holsworthy Be-Election.

The by-election at Holsworthy to elect a successor to Cllr Ken Carroll took place last Thursday, and the present Mayor of Holsworthy was successful and duly sworn in at Torridge this morning. Torridge are now back to the full complement of 36 Councillors.

Bideford Cattle Market.

The Cattle/Livestock market has now been demolished and the area cleared. A small building was exposed, which belonged to N Devon Water Board (SWW predecessor) built in the 1950's and was a pumping station prior to the existing one being built around 100 metres away.

Holsworthy Hospital.

In the latest edition of Pulse (a newsletter for staff and friends of NDHT) it is stated that an agreement to implement a plan with NHS NEW Devon CCG to reopen the inpatient beds at Holsworthy Hospital has been reached and that the plan is now being actioned. The former matron at the hospital has returned to post and is prioritising the plan to reopen the beds, which includes recruiting to their vacancies so that they can safely run the services. Staff recruitment has been a major stumbling block all along as there would appear to be a shortage of doctors and nurses, nationwide. Meanwhile no positive news has emerged about a surgery in Shebbear.

Transforming Torridge

The final pieces of the jigsaw are now falling into place. The Finance Department have moved into RBH as has the Legal team. The Customer Services team move back this coming weekend and the new Customer Service Area will be open to the public after a short ceremony by the Chairman of the Council, Cllr Simon Inch, next Tuesday.

Enforcement Action.

A resident in Westward Ho! Who was taken to court by the Enforcement team at Torridge as a result of noise issues, i.e. playing loud music and causing aggravation for his neighbours. A further breach resulted in the equipment that he was using being confiscated. He has since bought new equipment and the process has started again.

Air Quality.

The annual air quality report for Torridge has been reviewed and accepted by DEFRA and is now on the TDC website. (Search for Air Quality Status Report).
<https://www.torridge.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=18915&p=0>. The main pollutant is nitrogen dioxide (NO2) from vehicle exhausts. The highest NO2 annual mean concentration in 2017 was recorded at site H16 (Chapel Street, Holsworthy) which is the turn off to Waitrose. In December 2017, Devon CC put in place a parking order to restrict parking along part of Chapel Street, which will reduce waiting vehicles in this uphill section.

108. Planning.

(1) New Applications.

1/1105/2018/FUL. Southcombe Farm, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon.

Retrospective subdivision of a farmhouse, lean-to and ancillary accommodation into three separate dwellings.

Proposed by Chairman, Seconded Cllr Maidment, that we respond with 'No Objections'. All in favour. Clerk to respond to TDC.

(2) Applications Granted. - None.

(3) Applications Refused

Received after the Agenda was circulated.

1/0978/2018/OUT. Land Adjacent to Lake House, Shebbear, Devon.

Outline application with all matters reserved for 1 no. dwelling (Affecting a public right of way).

Received by Councillors.

(4) Any relevant adjacent applications. - None.

Cllr Maidment left the meeting.

109. Finance.

(1) Approval of Items for Payment.

(a) Muriel Johns – Flowers for Memorial - £37.50.

(b) Donation to Help the Heroes (Mins Item 66 (3a) £100.00.

£122.70 had been collected and paid to Council. All in favour the cheque be issued in the sum of £222.70.

© Val Caudwell cutting back and strimming, repainting telephone kiosk - £470.00.

Proposed Cllr Stupple, Seconded Cllr Whatley that items (a, b, c and d) be paid, all in favour.

Bank Balances.

Current Account: £12,188.16

Reserve Account: £19,744.25

110. Correspondence.

(a) PCSO Melissa Baker – Police Report.

No Report received.

(b) NHSE Response Letter regarding free patient bus service. (See Mins 105 (2b).

Circulation File.

Council Planning Lists. Police Report. Email Geoff Chapman. Devon Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Update. Kompan leaflet. Rough Sleeper Estimate. Local Plan Adopted. HAGS 2018. Sunshine Gym. Holsworthy Rural Update (Cllr Parsons).

111. Agenda items for the Parish Council Meeting which will be held on Tuesday January 8th 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 9.12pm.

Signed

Dated