

## SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

### Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday April 12th 2011 in the Church Room. Shebbear.

#### **Present:**

Chairman: Cllr R Johns.

Cllrs: G Slade. H Davis. R Clark. J Curtis. J Dungate. P Lomax. E Haste. J Stupple. R Gliddon.  
D/Cllr A Saywell.  
25 members of the public. Clerk. David Walker.

#### **Agenda. 2011. Commenced at 7-58 pm after the Annual Parish Meeting.**

##### **31. Apologies for Absence.**

PCSO Baker. The April Police newsletter with information on the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme was received by the Meeting in the absence of Melissa. Cllrs also heard that over the last 30 days 3 crimes were reported in Shebbear also 12 phone calls received. 3 safety concerns. 2 calls re nuisance. 1 admin. 1 related to crime. 1 sheep worrying and 4 anti social behaviour. Newsletter to notice board.

##### **36. District Councillors Report.**

Heard earlier in the agenda with Chairmans approval to allow Andrew to attend another appointment. Andrew reported that the District budget had gone through and the council tax has been frozen. Unfortunately the Councillors community fund has been halved to £1000, but the County Cllrs grant funding has increased. A problem regarding the grasscutting on the area between Balleroy and Ackland Close has arisen due to D & C Housing Ass'n not cutting their share and the situation may have to be resolved by TDC cutting the whole plot. On a personal note Andrew said that he was not standing for re-election, a decision he had not taken lightly. He is still young and needs to broaden his horizons. Since graduation he has done a number of different things but not what he so far hoped to achieve in his career. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve the ward where he grew up and he has tried hard to assist local organisations and was pleased to hear the positive reports during the Parish Meeting earlier. On a final note Andrew stated that he considers Devon & Cornwall Police Authority to be incompetent. After thanking Chairman and Cllrs for their support and allowing him to present his report earlier in the agenda, Andrew left the Meeting, with the best wishes and thanks of the Cllrs.

##### **32. Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda/ Any variations to Members Registration of Interests.**

None received.

##### **33. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday March 8th 2011.**

All in agreement that the Draft Minutes, which had been previously circulated, be approved and signed as a correct record.

##### **34. Clerks Report. Any matters arising from the Minutes.**

(1) Clerk reported that he had been in touch with Midas Homes again since the last meeting and had received no reply. The signs were still in situ. Clerk had established from TDC planning that a developer does not have any right to put up signs as part of a planning approval and that a report should be submitted to TDC Enforcement Officer who will investigate the matter. Cllrs agreed that this course of action should be taken as the 2 remaining unsold houses are being handled by estate agents and Midas signs are not now required. Clerk to contact TDC Enforcement Officer.

(2) Cllr Clark reported that, following the visit of Mr Barnard of Tarka Housing, to the Parish Council, an article had been carried in Reflecting Shebbear on that topic, and Mr Barnard had been in agreement to this.

##### **35. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.**

(1) Back Lane. Clerk had made enquiries about the ownership of, or responsibility for, Back Lane and had drawn a blank. Tim Freeman, the Rights of way Officer at DCC has said that DCC has no title to Back Lane but as it is a registered footpath, has a legal obligation to maintain the whole width in a safe condition for its legal use. The general rule being, in cases where there is no recorded owner, that each adjacent property owner owns that part of the lane fronting their property, and if there are opposite owners, then each to the centre. There would be no objection to money being spent to maintain the surface for walkers but some

discretion would need to be exercised as the lane is also being used by motor vehicles. Cllr Lomax, as P3 Coordinator, offered to invite Mr Freeman to see the lane for himself. All in agreement that this be done, and Peter to report back next month.

### 37. Planning.

(a) New Applications.

(1) 1/0223/2011/FUL. New dwelling adjacent to Fairview, Hay Hill. For Mrs S Page. No Objections.

(b) Applications Granted.

1/0027/2011/FUL. Conversion/extension of barn for garaging. Rowden Farm. Received by Cllrs.

(c) There were no relevant, adjacent applications.

Received after Agenda issued. Application 1/0054/2011/FUL. Demolition of agricultural building and erection of annexe. Proposal refused. Received by Cllrs.

### 38. Finance.

(a) Cllrs were all in agreement that the system of financial control currently in place was satisfactory and not at present in need of amendment. Cllr Davis reminded members that after the new Council was in place in May, that the list of approved bank signatories would have to be replaced.

(b) Accounts for payment. Proposed Cllr Lomax, seconded Cllr Stupple with all in favour that items (1) (2) (3) and (4) be paid. Clerk reported that the DALC subscription, Item (4), is being paid by cheque this year and in future, rather than paid by TDC from the precept as has been the method in the past, which has not been popular with the auditor since it now attracts VAT.

Bank Balances to March 31st, received by Cllrs. Current a/c - £1581.34 Reserve a/c £12,518.74 (Includes P3 reserve balance of £1634.36)

### 39. Correspondence.

(a) TDC. PAYE and Clerks remuneration. Following the recent directive from HMRC that parish councils had to operate PAYE from April 6th 2011, TDC are offering to carry out the task for councils (for a fee). Clerk has already said he is willing to include the work in his normal duties and is attending an HMRC tuition course in Exeter, and has registered Shebbear Parish Council with HMRC in readiness.

(b) TDC. Revised Local List consultation. To Circulation folder.

(c) NHS Devon. Transforming Community Services. To Circulation folder.

(d) Mr & Mrs Harris. Re West Country Concrete. Further complaints concerning dust and noise at Endford Works which is already being dealt with by TDC. Heard by Cllrs.

(e) DCC. Tithe Map. Volunteers are sought to transcribe the 1840 document details onto computer disc to enable on-line public access. Cllr Davis expressed an interest in assisting.

(f) Advice that Torrington police officers will be present at Hatherleigh Market on Tuesday April 19th all day to give advice and offer property marking.

(g) and (h). As both letters related to the remedial roadworks at Berry Park Barn Corner and were critical, at some length and complexity, of the actions of the Parish Council and Clerk, it was suggested that the matter be deferred to the May Council Meeting in order that Cllrs have time to appraise themselves of the details, and that a period for public participation be included in the May agenda for the matter to be dealt with. All in agreement that this be done. Both correspondents were present in the public gallery to hear this decision.

In addition, Cllrs heard a recently received letter from Northern Devon Healthcare describing the efforts to improve the standard of meals in the Community Hospitals.

Circulation Folder Including: Letters (g) and (h) from Mr Brock and Mr Harrup. Recently received from TDC - Advice re co-options to the new Council in May. Received by Cllrs.

### 40. Items for the Annual Council Meeting Agenda on Tuesday May 10th 2011 and any other business at the Chairmans discretion.

(1) Election of Officers.

There being no other Business the Meeting ended at 10-03pm.