

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday August 11th 2015 in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor R Clark.

Councillors:

Vice Chairman E Haste. J Stupple. A Maidment. J Curtis. J Dungate. K Dymond. R Gliddon.

District Councillor D Hurley. No members of the public. Clerk. D Walker.

AGENDA. 2015. Commenced at 7-30 pm.

Chairman R Clark opened the Meeting, and welcomed all present.

92. Apologies for Absence.

Councillor G Quance (Work) . County Councillor B Parsons (On leave). PCSO Baker. (Off duty). Correspondence had been received from Councillor Margaret Wells, dated August 9th, announcing her resignation from the Parish Council with immediate effect.

93. Public Participation Period.

No requests to speak received.

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

(a) Discloseable pecuniary interests (Prejudicial).

Councillors Dymond and Maidment declared an Interest in Item 101(e) (1), the notification of an appeal against the refusal of Application 1/0947/2014/FUL. Single wind turbine at Battledown Farm.

(b) Registerable interests. None received.

Any variations to Members Registration of Interests. None received.

95. Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday July 14th 2015, having been previously circulated, to be approved and signed.

Prop Councillor Stupple, sec by Councillor Dungate, with all in favour, that the July 14th Minutes 2015 be approved and signed as a correct record.

Draft Minutes of Extraordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday July 28th 2015, having been previously circulated, to be approved and signed. Prop Councillor Dungate, sec by Councillor Stupple, with all in favour that the July 28th Minutes be approved and signed as a correct record after deletion of "support the application, particularly as there are" was replaced with "object to the application, but to raise", in Item 90 (1).

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

Clerk reported that he intended to carry out the annual fixed asset check accompanied, as usual, by a Councillor. Chairman offered to assist this year on a date to be arranged.

The Dropbox facility linked to TDC enabling agendas, minutes, finance and Councillor details to be available online to comply with the latest Transparency requirements is now up and running. Paul Watts will still carry the minutes on the Villages website and has kindly inserted a link to the TDC Dropbox on the Shebbear Parish Council page. Many thanks to Paul.

Flood Warning System at Dipper Mill. Councillors received an update on the scheme as requested. Matters are proceeding, albeit slowly, with the final positioning of the warning signs being agreed at the moment.

PCSO Baker had supplied Clerk with details of the Police involvement in the parish during the past 30 days. These comprised 4 Road Traffic Accidents, 1 domestic incident, 1 anti-social behaviour incident, 2 highway disruptions and 1 concern for welfare. Also 1 fraud related crime was reported.

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

None.

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

None.

99. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

(1) Community Speed Watch.

Councillors had already been circulated with details arising from the meeting of the Speed Watch Group on July 23rd. More volunteers had expressed an interest in joining the Group. It is expected that the matter will be taken forward by PCSO Baker on her return from leave in September.

(2) P3 Footpaths.

Councillor Dungate reported that he had volunteered to take on the job of P3 Councillor last year but due to pressure of work had been unable to commit fully. He wondered if the task could be shared among the Councillors. A number of members were willing to assist and chose a footpath which they could monitor. Full details will be collated and included in the annual return later in the year.

(3) Disposal of old "Shebbear" signs.

As one of the founding members of the Twinning scheme Councillor Haste asked to have one of the signs as a memento. All in favour of this, also that Ted Lott should be offered one for the same reason, and Ron Ackland for the History Society. Clerk to arrange.

(4) Training.

Councillor Maidment gave a summary of the main points from her DALC New Councillor training event at Filleigh recently from which she had compiled a full report.

Chairman suggested that as training was a matter for all parishes there might be the possibility of using Anita's document to encourage others to participate in training.

(5) Notification of the Clerk's intention to retire.

Received by the Councillors. Clerk stated that it was not a decision he had taken lightly but it is becoming more difficult for him to balance Clerk's duties with personal commitments, and with the new Council settled in after the election now is as good a time as any to retire. Councillors approved that the procedure to recruit a new Clerk be started with the writing up of a Job Specification in readiness for advertising the vacancy, with a target date for starting the new Clerk at the November 10th Meeting.

100. District Councillors Report.

David Hurley was following up on matters he had been asked about. The layby at Holemoor is still the subject of legal process and it looks like it is going to be a long job. Planning training for Parish Councillors is still being looked in to.

David had noted that the only Parish Council to be placing Minutes etc on the TDC website so far is Shebbear.

As mentioned at an earlier meeting the Locality Scheme is the way Local Government is heading. This will involve local councils taking over tasks currently being carried out by DCC who will instead make a financial contribution towards the work. As an example, Barnstaple Town Council will take responsibility for all the grass and planted areas in the town with effect from April 2016. David believes that more Town and Parish Councils will follow this course of action in future.

Another scam has been reported, this time someone purporting to be from the Valuation Agency offering to help reduce your Council Tax. TDC and the Valuation Office stress that they do not contact people by phone or ask for bank details. Any queries relating to lowering of Council Tax banding is free by getting in touch with the Valuation Office either on-line or by phone.

The new recycling collection service is settling down. As the collections are carried out by larger lorries they are unable to travel down some narrow private lanes which means the recyclables are having to be brought to the public highway. Also the timings have changed in some cases so recyclables need to be put out by 7am.

Chairman thanked David for compiling his report and presenting it to the Meeting.

101. Planning.

(a) New Applications.

1/0577/2015/FUL. Sheep shelter. Field at rear of North View. Shebbear. (Response date: Aug 13th).
All in favour that No Objections be reported to TDC Planning.

(b) Applications Granted

None received.

(c) Applications Refused.

None received.

(d) Any relevant adjacent applications.

None.

(e) Notification of Appeals against Refusals.

(1) Reference 1/0947/2014/FUL. Single wind turbine. Land at Battledown Farm. Shebbear.
Received by Councillors.

(2) Reference 1/1138/2013/FUL. Single wind turbine. Land near Badworthy Farm. Shebbear.
Received by Councillors who suggested that TDC be asked if any further contributions would be of assistance in relation to noise levels. District Councillor Hurley will enquire.

102. Finance.

(1) Approval of Items for payment.

(a) Grant Thornton. Audit fee. £120.00

(b) DALC. Training Course fee. (July 21st). £30.00

(c) Councillor Maidment. Mileage to training course, July 21st. £22.50

Proposed Councillor Haste, seconded Councillor Curtis, with all in favour, that Items (a) (b) and (c) be paid.

Bank balances.

As at July 30th 2015. Current a/c - £5,812.03 Reserve a/c - £14,048.95

103. Correspondence.

(1) *N Devon Hospice. Completion of, and open days at, The Long House, Holsworthy.*
Received by Councillors.

(2) *Rowden Graveyard. Receipt of grant cheque.*

Acknowledgement of receipt of grant cheque, with thanks, from Torridge Methodist Circuit also assurance that the grant will be paid into the Rowden Graveyard Fund.

(3) *Councillor Margaret Ann Wells.* Letter of resignation from Shebbear Parish Council with immediate effect as she is leaving the area. Clerk to write to Margaret and pass on Chairman and Councillors' appreciation for the contribution she has made over the past 4 years. Also to notify TDC Electoral Services Officer of the resignation and resulting vacancy.

104. Any Items for the next Council Meeting Agenda which will be held on Tuesday September 8th 2015 at 7-30 pm, and any other matters, for discussion only, at the Chairman's discretion.

Chairman reported that the replies to the Housing Needs Survey were being assessed at DCC and that there had been a good response. The full results are not yet available.

Routine review of Standing Orders.

There being no other Business Chairman closed the Meeting at 9-23 pm.