

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday December 9th 2014 in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor E Haste.

Councillors: M Wells. R Clark. J Stupple. J Curtis. P Mingham. G Quance.

District Councillor D Hurley. Clerk. D Walker.

AGENDA. 2014. Commenced at 7-30 pm.

Chairman E Haste opened the Meeting, and welcomed all present, particularly Graeme Quance who was attending his first Meeting as newly Co-opted Councillor.

146. Apologies for Absence.

Councillor Dymond,(Unwell). Councillor Gliddon. (Family commitment). PCSO Baker.(Off duty).

147. Public Participation Period.

(1) *Mr Kim Rumsam. West Country Concrete (Endford Works)*. In relation to the intention to relocate the Company to a more suitable site to cope with the expansion of the business Mr Rumsam was keen to sound out the views of Councillors and answer any questions about the proposal and the draft plan of what could be built on the works site. The firm employs local staff where possible and sells products all over the country. He is aware that the HGV traffic is a nuisance on occasion and apologised for that. He has great difficulty getting staff to work due to the poor early morning bus service and would appreciate it if the Parish Council would take issue with the bus company over the matter. This has made it necessary to site a mobile home at the works which has led to a dispute with the Planners.

Councillor Clark reminded that the Local Plan survey had shown that the WCC site was the preferred option as a development site and that about 20 houses was agreed as the village expansion requirement. The size of the site could accommodate 30 houses and presumably as the sale of the site has to fund the relocation this will have some bearing on the number proposed. The provision of live/work units and the possibility of self build plots has been discussed previously.

Mr Rumsam said that the plans do allow for these suggestions and TDC have given provisional agreement, including for the site access design.

Councillor Clark stated that there would likely be a need for a play park on the site and that the number of affordable homes should be considered.

Councillor Quance queried whether there was sufficient sewage disposal capacity.

Mr Rumsam said that there were no problems with sewage disposal or power supplies.

7-50pm. Chairman thanked Mr Rumsam for attending.

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

(a) Discloseable pecuniary interests (Prejudicial).

A number of Councillors stated that when the Local Grants were to be decided at Item 156(1) they would not participate in any debate or decision where their interests in individual local organisations were relevant. Councillor Clark. (Shebbear Shooters). Councillor Curtis (History Society). Councillor Quance (Lake Chapel). Councillor Mingham (St Michaels Church).

(b) Registerable interests. None received.

(c) Any variations to Members Registration of Interests. None received.

149. Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday November 11th 2014, having been previously circulated, to be approved and signed.

All in favour, that the November 11th Minutes be approved and signed as a correct record after wording changes in Item 140, suggested by Councillor Clark and Councillor Wells, were agreed.

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

Councillor Clark reported that a small quantity of green recycling boxes had been obtained should anyone require a replacement as a number had been reported missing recently.

TDC had circulated their adopted guidelines regarding the recording of Council Meetings. As these varied from the DALC version in some respects, due to differing legal interpretations, which Shebbear had already adopted, it was agreed that the matter be discussed at the next Meeting.

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

None.

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

Councillor Clark reported that the TDC Monitoring Officer intends to instigate Code of Conduct training.

153. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

(1) *Any matters raised during the Public Participation Period.* Nothing further to Item 147(1) raised.

154. District Councillors Report.

David Hurley reported that TDC have granted permission for the development of Brunswick Wharf in Bideford which will be a mixture of flats, business premises, cafe's and a marina. It is hoped that this will entice people, particularly visitors in summer when late night opening is envisaged, to cross the bridge to East the Water.

Major refurbishments are under way at Torridge Pool, Torrington with £185,000 being spent to improve the heating and ventilation of the Pool plus a new sauna. This funding by TDC is in partnership with a leisure provider and comes on top of the approximately half a million pounds spent in 2012. The Pool is expected to reopen on Saturday December 27th. This major investment programme in leisure facilities also includes the £175,000 spent on Holsworthy Pool earlier this year.

The Chancellors Autumn Statement announced that local councils would not be receiving further cuts to Government Funding, but the cuts already announced mean that it is "business as usual" for prudence. The NatWest in Torrington is to close next year, according to the Journal on Nov 20th.

There will be free parking on selected dates in Torrington, Holsworthy and Bideford before Christmas. David Morgan, the newly appointed Regulatory Services Manager for TDC, has decided that the job was not to his liking and will leave on December 19th.

The TDC office in Torrington, which opens for 2 days per week, costs £29,000 a year to run and has, on average 10 visitors a day, may be closed, as a consultation revealed that the public were indifferent as to whether the office stayed open or not.

Chairman thanked District Councillor Hurley for attending and presenting his report.

155. Planning.

(a) *New Applications.* None received.

(b) *Application Granted.* None received.

(c) *Any relevant adjacent applications.* None received.

(d) *TDC - Going paperless in the planning process, from April 1st 2015.*

Shebbear Parish Council will not be greatly affected by the proposed changes as most of the information between TDC Planning and the Parish Council is already exchanged online although the presentation of applications to Councillors and the public at Meetings will require the necessary display equipment, and, importantly, for TDC to put everything on line that will be needed. This to be on the agenda nearer the time.

156. Finance.

(1) *To Consider and Agree applications for Local Grants.*

Grants, for payment in early May 2015, were agreed for 12 local organisations:-

Little Bears £300. Shebbear AFC £200. History Society £100. Citizens Advice Bureau £100.

Shebbear Youth Club £550. Shebbear Shooters £50. Lake Chapel Graveyard £100.

St Michaels Church Graveyard £150. Rowden Graveyard Fund £50.

Shebbear Village Hall. Contribution towards the refurbishments of the toilets. £500.

Shebbear School Support Group. Match funding towards new staging. £350.

Holsworthy Rural Community Transport £100. (Shebbear Parish Council to pay for the 2015 HRCT advertisements in Reflecting Shebbear magazine).

156 (Cont).

(2) *To Agree the budget for the financial year 2015 - 2016.*

Councillors agreed a budget of £12,960.00 for the coming financial year, and that the costs of any further parish projects or improvements be met from the reserves.

(3) *To Agree the provisional Precept in advance of details re Gov't support funding to be received from TDC.*

Councillors agreed the provisional Precept as £12,960.00

(4) *Approval of Items for payment.*

(a) *Clerks wage. £239.37*

(b) *PAYE. £59.80*

(c) *Pitts Presentation. New noticeboard for New Inn. £217-86*

(d) *Reimburse Clerk for purchases. (Stationery. Christmas tree decorations). £34-64.*

All in favour that 4 Items (a) to (d) inclusive be paid.

Bank Balances to November 28th 2014.

Current a/c £6,884-60. Reserve a/c £14,044-82. Received by the Councillors.

157. Correspondence.

(1) *Ms Kate Rivers. Japanese knotweed.* Received by Councillors.

(2) *MCTI Parish Meeting.* Received by Councillors.

(3) *DALC. Training Dates.* Received by Councillors.

Councillors Circulation

N Devon Hospice newsletter. TDC Emergency Planning. N/Watch Autumn Bulletin.

158. Items for the next Council Meeting Agenda which will be held on Tuesday January 13th 2015 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 10-20pm.