

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8th December 2015 in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor R Clark.

G. Quance. A Maidment. J Dungate. K. Dymond

District Councillor D Hurley.

1 member of the public. Clerk M Whatley. Clerk. D Walker.

AGENDA. 2015. Commenced at 7-30 pm.

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

147. Apologies for Absence.

Vice Chairman Councillor E Haste (Away on business). Councillor J Curtis (Hospital). Councillor J Stupple (Hospital). Councillor R Gliddon (Absence without Apologies). County Councillor B Parsons (Meeting) PCSO M Baker (Committed elsewhere).

148. Public Participation Period.

No requests to speak received.

149. 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 157 (1) they would not participate in any debate or decision where their interests in individual local organisations were relevant. Councillor Clark (Shebbear Shooters). Councillor Quance (Lake Chapel). Councilor Maidment (Shebbear Youth Club). Proposed and Agreed that Councillor Dungate take the chair when Shebbear Shooters grant was discussed.

(b) Registerable interests. None received.

© Any variations to Members Registration of Interests. None received.

150. Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday November 10th 2015, having been previously circulated, to be approved and signed.

Proposed Councillor Dungate, seconded by Councillor Maidment with all in favour, that the draft Minutes of November 10th Meeting be approved and signed as a correct record.

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

Clerk reported that he had contacted TDC Planners seeking advice on how Parish Council suggestions could be included in the process of agreeing Section 106 contributions when applications for developments are processed and Section 106's are fixed. He had received a response from Rachel Webdell at Torridge 'there is no mechanism to oblige Planners to consult Parish Councils when S106 agreements are being agreed,' but if we have any suggestions in relation to a particular application then let her know and she will endeavour to have the suggestion included in the process".

TAP Funding. Clerk reported that he had contacted Buckland Filleigh, who confirmed they will be donating to The Long House Appeal with Thornbury. Clerk reminded Councillors that Shebbear Parish Council had received a request for funding from Holsworthy Rural Community Transport. No decision taken.

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

None.

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

Councillor Maidment raised the availability of a FREE IT training package from DALC to explore how digital technology can be used to support parish councils and community groups alike. She suggested that Shebbear Parish Council might join with other organisations in the parish, such as the village hall Committee. The Chairman asked Councillor Maidment to make further enquiries.

154. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

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

None.

(2) To consider applications for the vacancy for co-opted Councillor and approve a new Member. Members preferred to take this item in private session and Cllr Hurley and the member of the public left the room for the duration.

Chairman asked members that although we were quorate we would be taking this decision with a significant number of members absent, and asked if it was felt that we should defer. It was unanimously decided it proceed.

An application had been received from 1 parishioner, Nicholas Whatley, which was received by the Meeting. After consideration of the applicant's submission, Councillor Dungate proposed and Councillor Dymond seconded and following a vote by show of hands it was agreed that Nicholas Whatley be invited to attend the January Council Meeting as the new co-opted Member.

District Councillors Report.

Recycling. District Councillor David Hurley reported that the newly introduced Torridge District Council in-house recycling service was proving positive with different coloured bags and boxes for the waste – green box for cans, glass and plastic, green bag for paper and brown bag for cardboard, thus limiting the kerbside separation and waste being left behind.

Public Toilets. There continues to be some speculation and concern regarding the future of public convenience provision across the District. In recent years the Council has undertaken a substantial programme of public toilet works incorporating the refurbishment of old facilities, the building of new one's and in a small number of cases the disposal of redundant sites. Councils across the country are being prompted to take a more strategic view on which assets they hold and which they retain, and concerns were raised that public toilets would either be closed, to save money, or offered to Town and Parish Councils to look after. Subject to an ongoing review there are no immediate plans or intentions to close any toilet facilities across the District.

S215 Officer. Torridge has appointed a part time S215 Officer with the task of implementing a process that is intended to be used by local authorities to tackle untidy land and buildings within their administrative district. Cllr Hurley invited members to let him know of any local properties that may fall into this category.

Enforcement Plan for the Planning Service. The Enforcement Plan for the Planning Service of TDC is now available on the web site.

Car Parking Charges 2016-17. The only charges for car parks in Torridge to increase are the Bideford and Westward Ho! Short stay parks from 90p per hour charge to £1.00 per hour.

Chairman thanked David for attending and bringing us up to date.

156. Planning.

(a) New Applications.

(1) **1137/2015/AGMB.** Alscott Farm, Shebbear. Prior notification for change of use of agricultural building to dwelling under Clause Q (a).

Shebbear Parish Council have no objections to the proposal.

(b) Applications Granted

1/0728/2015/FUL. Garage at Mill Cottage, Ladford Mill, Shebbear.

(c) Applications Refused.

None

(d) Any relevant adjacent applications.

None.

157. Finance.

(1) To Consider applications for Local Grants. Councillors who had declared an interest left the meeting individually for the duration of their interest,

Grants, for payment in early May 2016, were agreed for 9 local organisations:-

Little Bears £450. Shebbear AFC. £200. History Society £100. Citizens Advice Bureau £100.

Shebbear Youth Club £500. **The Chairman left the room whilst Shebbear Shooters grant was discussed and Cllr Dungate took the Chair.** Shebbear Shooters £50. **The Chairman returned to the room and took the chair .** Lake Chapel Graveyard £100. Shebbear School Support Group £550. Shebbear Village Hall £500. The Village Hall had received £500 last year ring fenced to be spent on improving the toilets. Members heard that this remains unspent and the VH committee sought another £1000 this year to add to it, for the same purpose. Members agreed it would be appropriate to award £500 this year, ring fenced for the toilet improvement and to be paid over on sight of invoices for the works having been done.-
Some organisations had not responded to reminders and were excluded from the grant list. Cllr Dungate proposed that those funds which might have been used in those areas should instead be added to Little Bears, Shebbear YC and SSSG, being organisations supporting the young folk of the parish.

- (2) To Agree the budget for the financial year 2016-2017.
Councillors agreed a budget based on last year's budget of £12,960.00 plus 2% = £13,220.00 for the coming year, and that 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 £13,220.00.
- (4) Change of bank signatories.
Review next meeting
- (5) Approval of Items for payment.
 - (1) Torridge District Council (£819.87 inc VAT) Election costs.
 - (2) DALC £30.00 Clerk's Course.

Proposed Maidment, seconded Councillor Dungate, with all in favour, that Items 157 (5) (1 & 2) be paid. Clerk to obtain counter signature from Cllr Haste after the meeting as only one current signatory was present.

Bank balances.

Current Account £9,228.60 Reserve Account £14,051.31. Received by Councillors.

158. Correspondence.

- (1) Letter from TDC re dog bins.
Torridge are not supplying any extra dog bins at present, but will keep our request on file for the future
Councillors asked that David Hurley follow this up.
- (2) PCSO Baker. Police logs for November. - 1 burglary 2 criminal damage.

159. Any Items for the next Council Meeting Agenda which will be held on Tuesday January 12th 2016 at 7-30 pm, and any other matters, for discussion only, at the Chairman's discretion.

- (1) Digital Training
- (2) Bank Signatories

There being no other Business Chairman closed the Meeting at 9-55 pm.