

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday 5th January 2016
in the Village Hall, Shebbear, at 7.30pm.**

Present:

Chairman: Councillor R Clark.

G Quance. J Stupple. A Maidment. J Curtis. J Dungate.
K. Dymond. N Whatley.

District Councillor D Hurley. County Councillor B Parsons.

15 members of the public. Clerk M Whatley.

AGENDA. 2016. Commenced at 7-30 pm.

Chairman R Clark opened the Meeting, and welcomed all present. He said that due to the number of parishioners interested in one particular planning application, he would alter the sequence of the Agenda and cover 1), 3), 2) and 10 b) first before continuing with the core of the business, thus enabling those residents to leave if they so wished.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr E Haste (Vice Chairman - away), Cllr R Gliddon (working). PCSO Melissa Baker (On Leave)

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

(a) Discloseable pecuniary interests (Prejudicial)

None received.

(b) Registerable interests. None received.

Any variations to Members Registration of Interests. None received.

2. Public Participation Period of 15 minutes.

The Chairman declared that there were five persons wishing to speak, who had registered with the Parish Clerk and stated their intended subject as Item 10) (b) on the Agenda, namely the planning application for land east of Meadow Park, Shebbear.

Application No. 1/1226/2015/OUTM. Land East of Meadow Park, Shebbear.

The Chairman introduced Mr Jason Wickett from Trewin Design Architects, Holsworthy, who was representing the owner of the proposed site, Mr Chamberlain.

Mr Wickett outlined the proposal to develop 20 dwellings on 0.91 hectares of agricultural land to the east of Meadow Park. He produced an enlarged site plan and read the Design and Access statement (DAS). Four residents of the village gave their reasons for opposing the development. After discussion by Councillors and comments from members of the public present all were in agreement that the proposal could not be supported – 1) The proposed development site was not one of the six SHLAA site identified in the survey of 2013. At that time, there was unanimous support for the Endford Concrete Works site to be developed. 2) Green-field site outside of village envelope. 3) Lack of capacity in the sewage works. 4) Lack of infrastructure, traffic and congestion. 4) Health and Safety.

The Chairman asked for a proposal to support the scheme. **None.**

Cllr Stupple proposed that the Parish Council objected and recommended TDC to refuse the application. Seconded Cllr Curtis, all in favour that the application be refused.

10. (1) (a) 1/0619/2015/FUL. North Furze Farm, Shebbear.

Proposed conversion of former dairy to annexe. (Observation period extended to 21/01/16). It was reported that all the other units had already been converted, and the owners wished to convert this former dairy for independent relatives. Cllr Quance proposed in favour to support annexe, seconded Cllr Dymond, all in favour.

- (2) Applications Granted
None received.
- (3) Applications Refused/Withdrawn
- (a) **1/1101/2015/FUL. Proposed dwelling adjacent to 2 Halwill Cottages, Shebbear.**
Withdrawn.
- (b) **1/1137/2015/AGMB. Alscott Farm, Shebbear.**
Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 1 No. dwelling under Class Q (a).
Refused.
- © Any relevant adjacent applications
None received.

Some members of the public left the Hall.

4. Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday January 5th 2016, having been previously circulated, to be approved and signed.

All in favour that the draft Minutes of the January 5th Meeting be approved and signed as a correct record.

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

Clerk wished to record her appreciation to ex clerk, David Walker, for his support over the past two months, and also Ann for her company and support delivering 'Summons'. She also thanked Keith and his staff in the shop for maintaining a folder in the shop for noticeboard information. For the time being, David is going to continue with the general noticeboards, and Clerk has taken on the Council board.

Christmas Tree. Clerk mentioned that the usual Christmas tree from the College was not forthcoming (a bonsai tree of 7ft). After searching around she arranged for Grasscut to deliver and help erect the tree, and Cllrs Gliddon and Whatley gallantly decorated it. Clerk thanked them both.

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

None.

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

(a) Free Digital Training

Cllr Maidment reported that she had that morning received an e-mail from Martin Parkes, who was responsible for organising the courses, informing her that the digital training had been discontinued.

8. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

None.

9. District Councillors Report.

Dipper Mill

District Cllr David Hurley reported there has been some erosion of the banks at Dipper Mill and it is felt that the roadway could possibly become unusable or even washed away sometime in the future if remedial work is not undertaken. He is in the process of trying to arrange a meeting whereby he can bring together interested parties including C Cllr Barry Parsons, D Cllr Philip Hackett, Shebbear PC and Bradford and Cookbury PC together with the landowner and Mr Mark Elliott of Devon Wild Life Trust to plan the way forward.

Boundary Commission

On 18th of this month the Leadership Team will receive a presentation from the Local Government Boundary Commission on the review of Torridge District Council Ward boundaries as agreed at Full Council. Members will then discuss the Ward Boundaries and also as a possible result of changes, the number of Councillors to be elected at the next Election in 2019.

Brunswick Wharf

The Planning Manager has said that most of the concerns previously expressed have been resolved especially as the Retail Units are now back in the plan. It is felt that the proposals now on the table would be acceptable to Bideford Town Council, and would reflect the regeneration aspect of the whole development.

Rockpool at Westward Ho!

A scheduled programme of repair to the historic Rockpool at Westward Ho!, which was initially damaged during the fierce storms of 2013/14 when the concrete to the pool surround was severely breached and in some areas, the reinforcing steel had been exposed. Repairs to the flap and mechanism which controls the water levels and drainage in the pool will also be necessary.

Cash Payments to be Phased out at TDC

The Council will stop taking cash payments at its offices with effect from 31st March 2016. It will still be possible to make payments by cash but only at local Post Offices in the future and not at Council offices. It should be noted that at the end of February it should be possible to pay bills etc. via the Pay point service.

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

11. Finance.

- (1) To approve the provisional Precept and Support Funding amount for forwarding to TDC.
Clerk had received a letter from Torridge informing us that the level of Support Grant is being halved in 2016/17 and to zero in 2017/18. The Chairman proposed that we keep the Precept at the same level as last year £12,960. Seconded Cllr Dungate. All in favour.
- (2) To Agree Tap Funding
Having discussed this at the previous meeting, the members were asked to choose to whom they wished to donate the funding between The Long House Appeal and HRTC. Cllr Dungate proposed The Long House Appeal, seconded Cllr Stupple. All in favour.
Cllr Dungate suggested the Council might consider giving a donation to HRTC, and it was agreed to discuss this at a future meeting.
- (3) Third quarter account summary
Clerk produced the Expenditure Account to the members.
 - (a) Grasscut (Christmas tree) £65.00
 - (b) Old Clerk's Expenses £294.61 (Phone rental/Broadband £272.11, delivery mileage £22.50)
 - © New Clerk's Expenses (Mileage South Molton £22.50, Bideford £13.50), stationery £16.58.Proposed by Cllr Curtis, seconded Cllr Dymond that items (a) (b) and (c) be paid,
- (5) Change of bank signatories
The Chairman stated that we need two signatures on each cheque but at the last two meetings there had not been two signatories present. He proposed that Cllrs Dungate, Whatley, Stupple, Quance, Dymond, Curtis and Maidment become signatories in addition to Cllrs Clark, Haste and Gliddon. All in favour that the authorised signatories in the current mandate be changed to include the above and the current mandate continue as amended with any two signatures on each cheque. Clerk was asked to complete the necessary paperwork with the bank

Bank balances.

Current Account £8,075.73 Received by Councillors. Reserve Account TBC

12. Correspondence.

- (1) PCSO Baker. Police logs for December. – 2 x road traffic accidents and 1 x suspicious circumstances
Crimes – 3 x thefts, 2 x use threatening/abusive/insulting words/behavior to cause harassment and alarm.
- (2) Proposal for North Devon Heritage (circ)
- (3) Service Pressure, North Devon Healthcare (circ)

13. Any Items for the next Council Meeting Agenda which will be held on Tuesday February 9th 2016 at 7-30 pm, and any other matters, for discussion only, at the Chairman's discretion.

- (1) Set the date for the Annual Parish Meeting
- (2) Dipper Mill Warning

The Chairman asked C Cllr Parsons if he would like to say a few words. Cllr Parsons wished everyone a Happy New Year and all the best in 2016. He congratulated the Chairman on the way he had conducted the business at the Parish Council Meetings, well supported by Cllr Hurley and himself.

Flooding. He is supporting Cllr Hurley in his efforts at Dipper Mill, but it is the landowner as the riparian owner, who has the responsibility relating to his land and the management of any river or stream that flows through including maintenance of the banks and bed of the watercourse (including tree and shrubs growing on the banks). There is only 8% of the national funds that actually goes to the local authority to deal with flooding issues, the rest goes to the Environment, etc.

Schools. One of the real issues I am concerned about as County Councillor is that we do not have younger people.

What we have in Holsworthy is Federation Schools. Numbers of pupils have dwindled in the villages, but had schools been part of that federation and the schools were in partnership, then perhaps schools such as Sutcombe would still be here today.

There being no other Business Chairman closed the Meeting at 21.50 pm.

Signed Dated.....