

## **SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7.30 pm  
in the Church Room, Shebbear.

Chairman: Councillor R Clark.

Councillors: Vice Chairman A Maidment. J Dungeate. J Curtis.

G Quance. J Stupple. N Whatley. J Franklin. P Isaacs.

D Cllr D Hurley. Clerk M Whatley

### **AGENDA. 2018.**

#### **112. Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr Gliddon (flu). C Cllr Parsons (conflicting meetings).

#### **113. Public Participation Period of 15 minutes.** For speakers registered in advance, with the Clerk.

##### **Tracy Worth – Planning Application 1/1179/2017/FUL. Astrabenz, Shebbear.**

Retrospective application for retention of an extension, hard-standing and change of use of agricultural land and buildings for the repair, maintenance and sale of agricultural machinery, including the development of new vehicular access.

**Chairman welcomed Tracy and Michael Worth.** Tracy explained that they set up in 2004 to repair tractors and machinery, sell spare parts, oils, used machinery and grassland equipment. In 2009, they took on the first apprentice and secretary. The company has grown from there. In 2012, took on a sub-agency for Deutsch tractors, and in 2017 employed a second apprentice, now employ 8 staff, 6 full-time and 2 part-timers, all from the local area.

This planning application does not change anything, the only difference will be the development of a new vehicular access so that lorries delivering do not pass close by our bungalow.

##### **Chairman thanked Mrs Worth for her presentation and introduced the second speaker, Chris Vicary.**

Chris Vicary had only learned of this application on Saturday, and wished to raise certain issues which concerned him, his property being adjacent. Mr Vicary listed his concerns to include new access and environmental issues, i.e. various forms of hazardous waste and how these were to be managed.

**Chairman thanked Chris Vicary for his attendance.** Councillors would discuss this application under Planning, item 121 (2).

#### **114. Declarations of any Councillors Interests in Items on the Agenda.**

(a) Discloseable pecuniary interests (Prejudicial).

None.

(b) Registerable Interests.

None.

**Any variations to Members Registration of Interests. .**

None.

#### **115. Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday December 12th 2017, having been previously circulated, be approved and signed.**

Proposed by Cllr Stupple, Seconded Cllr Maidment, all in favour that the Minutes be recorded as a true record.

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

Christmas Tree. Firstly and most importantly, we have to thank Cllr Gliddon for erecting the Christmas tree, and for his help together with Cllr Whatley, in putting up the lights. There were enormous problems as one string failed and had to be replaced, and one string disappeared altogether!!!

Planning. 1/1214/2017/FUL. Ivy Cottage, Shebbear.

Responded to TDC that Shebbear Parish Council had no adverse comments on this application.

Helipad Finance. Sent second e-mail to Lee Duckworth requesting the £1,200 initial payment made to Community Aid – Shebbear be refunded.

Draft Budget. Finalised Draft Budget for Councillors' approval prior to submitting to TDC.

Council Grants. Wrote to all recipients awarded Grants at the last meeting, to be paid in May 2018.

Parish Footpath P3 Grants.

Completed the Annual Returns, we have £358 credit, applied for P3 rant for 2018-19.

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

None.

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

(1) Neighbourhood Plan.

Chairman reported little progress had been made. He had written to Ian Rowland at TDC before Christmas and had received a response that 23<sup>rd</sup> January was the earliest date for an appointment.

Chairman, Cllr Maidment and Clerk to attend. Chairman confirmed all Councillors welcome to attend.

(2) Transparency Code.

Letter received from Devon Communities advising that funding was still available for transparency funding, websites, training, and equipment. Clerk asked if she could apply for funding for a laptop to be dedicated to Council business. All in favour.

(3) Church Room.

Chairman reported that once again the mobile Post Office had failed to appear because it was having a new computer fitted. The Chairman and Cllr Whatley suggested the idea of a Post Office counter in the Church Room with broadband and all facilities. Cllr Maidment asked whom we should contact to take this further. Chairman to talk with Martin Warren.

**119. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.**

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

None.

**120. District Councillor's Report.**

**Chairman welcomed Cllr David Hurley to the Meeting.**

Community Governance Review.

TDC is starting the first round of consultation for a Community Governance Review of the Town and Parish Councils in the area. This gives local people the opportunity to have their views heard about whether current parish arrangements should be changed. TDC has 63 parishes for which the administration lies with 3 town councils (Bideford, Northam and Torrington).

So what is a CGR?

A CGR is the process used to consider whether existing parish arrangements should be changed. TDC is reviewing the entire area to consider – altering the boundaries or changing the names of existing parishes; creating a new parish or abolishing an existing parish; creating or abolishing parish councils; the electoral arrangements for parish councils; the grouping or de-grouping of parish councils and the style of a parish (enabling an area to be known as a town, community, neighbourhood or village rather than a parish). The first period of consultation is underway and will remain open until 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018. If you wish to comment write to Electoral Services, Riverbank House, Torrington District Council, Bideford, Devon, EX39 2QG or email [elections@torridge.gov.uk](mailto:elections@torridge.gov.uk). The Terms of Reference for the review are on the TDC website

[www.torridge.gov.uk/cgr](http://www.torridge.gov.uk/cgr)

Potholes

Am trying to arrange a meeting with the local Highways Officer, Steve Brockman. When I attended the Highways Conference last year we were told that if a road can be upgraded (on paper) it moves further up the pecking order when it comes to maintenance and funding. The current grading system was implemented

around 30 years ago, therefore out of date, and I am hoping to get a road upgraded and as such lift it up the repair route.

#### Westward Ho!

By-election won by Nick Laws who is an Independent. Nick was a former Torridge District Councillor many years ago.

#### Budget Meeting

Special meetings of both the C&R Committee and Full Council will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> February respectively to set the budget and Council Tax base. After the announcements of the August Statement the proposals are that any increase is capped at 3% or £5 (3.25%) whichever is higher for Band D. No thresholds for Parish or Town Council precepts. Fire Authorities levels confirmed as 3% for 2018/19 and 2019/20. Police and Crime Commissioners, the higher of 3% or £12 per Band D property (6.8%).

#### PO Van and Geoffrey Cox.

Geoffrey has received a response from the Post Office as follows: "The reason for the mobile van not calling at the villages is due to the same IT problem which impacted on recent services to Buckland Brewer, provided by the same vehicle. This required several engineer visits, but the problem was fixed and services restored to the outreach locations from w/c 27 November.

**Chairman thanked Cllr Hurley for his comprehensive report.**

## **121. Planning**

### (a) New Applications.

#### (1) **1/1120/2017/FUL. Land to the Rear of Tor View, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon.**

Closure of access and creation of new access, demolition of existing building and shed and erection of new holiday unit and shed.

Councillors discussed the application at length and whilst there were no objections, there were one or two points of concern. Clerk to respond to TDC that Shebbear Parish Council has no objections to this application, but would raise concerns with access from the road and parking, which we feel should be looked at.

#### (2) **1179/2017/FUL. Astrabenz, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon.**

Retrospective application for retention of an extension, hard-standing and change of use of agricultural land and buildings for the repair maintenance and sale of agricultural machinery, including the development of new vehicular access.

After exhaustive discussions, Councillors agreed that there were too many discrepancies on the application for serious consideration;. Chairman suggested Mr and Mrs Worth withdraw this application and re-submit it to TDC having addressed all the issues raised. Clerk to respond to TDC. Shebbear Parish Council are informed that there will be a re-submission and therefore make no comment at this time.

### (b) Applications Granted

None.

### © Applications Refused.

None.

### (d) Applications Pending

#### **1/0795/2017/OUT. Known as Dougies Field, Shebbear.**

Outline planning permission for up to 8 dwellings with all matters reserved. To be presented at Plans Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2018 in the Town Hall, Bideford at 9.30am.

### (e) Any relevant adjacent applications.

None.

## **122. Finance.**

### (1) To Approve 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Income & Expenditure Account.

Received by the Councillors.

- (2) To Approve the provisional Precept amount of £13,480.00 for forwarding to TDC.  
Proposed Cllr Stupple, Seconded Cllr Dungate, all in favour.
- (3) Tap Funding.  
Clerk to report at next Meeting.
- (4) Approval of Items for payment.
  - (a) Re-Imburse Cllr Whatley for Christmas Tree Lights - £14.00
  - (b) Re-Imburse Clerk for stationary expenses £28.78  
Proposed Cllr Dungate, Seconded Cllr Stupple, all in favour that items (a) and (b) be paid.
- (5) Chairman raised the question of bank signatories. Following the resignation of Cllr Haste who was a bank signatory, it was agreed another signatory was required. Cllr Dungate agreed. All in favour. Clerk to provide the necessary application forms.

Bank Balances.

Current Account: £12,754.99

Reserve Account: £9,736.01

**123. Correspondence.**

- (1) PCSO Melissa Baker – Police Report.
- (2) Letter from the Office of Geoffrey Cox, MP – Mobile Post Van Service.
- (3) Thank You Letters re Council Grants.
  - (a) Shebbear Youth Club. (b) TNMWD Citizens Advice. (c) Shebbear Football Club. (d) SSSG.
- (4) Letter from Ron Lester re Dipper Mill.

Clerk read letter from Ron Lester which complained bitterly that there was no change to the Dipper Mill Flood Warning system following the meeting on Andrew Quance’s field in May 2017. It looks as if there is no change to the triggering regime for the signs, there is also no change to the cynicism, expressed on our facebook page. There have been 8 triggers of the flood warning signs over the last few months, yet I am unaware of the river flooding the road once. It was of course out in the fields. Analysis of the logger records for that period show of the 8594 logs, on 329 occasions the river was 1.5m or greater, of these on 226 occasions it was 1.6m, greater. I suggest two options – a) increase the triggering level to say 1.8m, as an experiment, also change the sign to read ‘Flood Risk’. b) power down the signs and possibly rip them out!

Circulation File.

Parish Council Weekly Lists. PCSO Melissa Baker Police Report. Transparency Code Devon Communities. Heat Devon. LAPU.

- 124. Agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting which will be held on Tuesday February 6<sup>th</sup> 2018 (brought forward by one week for planning discussion).  
at 7-30 pm, and any other matters, for discussion only, at the Chairman's discretion.**

There being no further Business, Chairman closed the Meeting at 10.05pm

Signed .....

Dated .....