

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at 7-30 pm on Tuesday July 14th 2009 in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present: Chairman: R Johns.

Cllrs: H Davis. G Slade. P Lomax. R Clark. J Dungate. J Curtis. L Quance. E Haste.

District Cllr: A Saywell. Clerk: David Walker.

2 Members of the Public.

Agenda. 2009. Commenced at 7-30 pm.

62. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr R Gliddon. (Bad back.) PCSO M.Baker.

63. Chairman welcomed Cllrs Joan Curtis and John Dungate and wished them an enjoyable and productive period in Office.

64. Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda/ Any variations to Members Registration of Interests.

None.

65. **Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday June 9th 2009.** Proposed by Cllr Clark and seconded by Cllr Lomax with all in agreement that the Draft Minutes, which had been previously circulated, be approved and signed as a correct record.

66. Any matters arising from the Minutes.

Cllr Davis had read in the local press that the proposed floodlights at the new sports pitch at Lake were to be operated no later than 2130 hrs and that this conflicted with the time recommended. Clerk had also noticed this and had verified that the agreed curfew time had been set as a condition for planning approval at 8-30pm. The newspaper had got it wrong.

67. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

(a) The Green, Ackland Close. Following Midas Homes suggestion that the parish council take ownership of the space in the centre of the development which will eventually be put down to grass, councillors had inspected the site and discussed the implications. It was said that a similar situation in Langtree had caused problems relating to grasscutting. It was feared that the way the existing hedgebank bordering the Green had been undermined may cause it to collapse. The general opinion was that the area would be better used as a parking area as it was already apparent that there was insufficient parking provided by the developers. Proposed by Cllr Quance, seconded by Cllr Haste with all in agreement, that Midas be informed that the parish council did not wish to take over the site.

(b) Bus Shelter & Village Sign maintenance. Agreed that Clerk would approach Mr Paulger to see if he was willing to take on the job using an appropriate preservative, the small quantity left over from the last treatment by Mrs Hillier being unuseable.

(c) Parish Lengthsman visit. There had been no more additions to the surprisingly short list for the lengthsman's visit. Cllr Davis raised the matter of the Meadow Park roadside verge which, although having been cut once by a local worker who had apparently been paid by a resident, was again in an overgrown state. Clerk said that it had been put on the list. D/Cllr Saywell will try and establish who is responsible for looking after it. Councillors also queried whether there was a drain opposite Valley View where surface water frequently gathers. Cllr Clark suggested that a new gully would be beneficial in catching water running out of the football field onto the road. Clerk will follow these matters up.

68. District Councillors report.

Mr Saywell congratulated new Cllrs Joan Curtis and John Dungate on their election. He had unearthed some facts relating to affordable housing at Ackland Close. Devon & Cornwall Housing Association are now in possession of 13 of the completed units. There are 3 shared ownership "affordable" dwellings, which are a 2 bedroom coach house, a 1 bed groundfloor apartment, and a 2 bed 1st floor apartment with a garage. The remaining 10 are, 1 x 1 bed, 2 x 2 bed and 7 x 3 bed houses. The policy is to house local people and not to "import" occupiers from outside the parish.

Page 2.....

68 (cont)

However if there is insufficient local take-up outsiders will be considered, starting with neighbouring parishes. Any more detailed information is hard to come by as D & C Housing Ass'n are not easy to confer with. Mr Saywell had checked on the road surface between Highworthy and Hay Cross and found that repairs were in progress.

The SMC consultation period had now ended but any further submissions will still be considered up to the point of decision. It is likely that a permit will be issued with conditions which SMC will be obliged to comply with.

The Boundary Commission enquiry is being delayed by challenges and it seems likely that a general election will occur before any decision is made. Chairman thanked Andrew for his attendance and report.

69. Planning.

(a) New Applications.

1/0543/2009/FUL. Roofed Silage Clamp. Battledown Farm. It was agreed that Clerk would return the parish council decision form with the recommendation that the applicant be asked to provide concrete movement areas between the new silage clamp and the livestock shedding so that it was not necessary to exit onto the highway and back into the yard all the time, as there has been problems with muck on the road for many years. Similarly, it is hoped that the new clamp will take the place of the existing which is a quarter of a mile away along the Buckland Filleigh road and has also been a source of nuisance in the past. Otherwise, No Objections.

(b) Application Refused.

Details of 1/0311/2009/CPE received by Cllrs.

(c) There were no relevant, adjacent applications.

(d) Correspondence from the occupier of Way House, Mr Wright, to TDC concerning the floodlights around the new sports pitch at Lake was received by councillors, no parish council comment required.

70. Finance.

Cllr Clark drew attention to item (c) and pointed out that, although 58.7 pence per mile was the correct allowance set down by national agreement, 40 pence p.m. was the amount local councillors had decided to be an appropriate reimbursement at the present time. The amount claimed was to therefore be adjusted to £36.80.

Proposed by Cllr Lomax, seconded by Cllr Davis with all in agreement, that items 70 (a) (b) (c) (d) and (e) be paid.

Bank Balances Previously circulated and received by councillors.

71. Correspondence.

Items (a) (b) and (c) received by Cllrs.

(d) New proposals re Dog Control Order. District Cllr Saywell had been on the working party. The main issue had been the insufficient number of enforcement officers. However, there was not so much of a problem in the rural areas as in the urban districts. There had been widescale objections to the requirement that dogs be on leads when in public areas, it was therefore proposed that the requirement be changed to dogs being placed on the lead when directed to by an "authorised" officer. It was also necessary to modify the original dog exclusion order in enclosed play and recreation areas to permit exceptions for police, rescue, hunting, pest control and dogs at the time being employed in agriculture.

While on the subject of dogs, Cllr Clark suggested that the dog litter bin at the far end of Lake Ind Estate be relocated to a position nearer the road entrance where it would be more likely to be used. Clerk will contact TDC.

Councillors received the July Information Folder.

72. Items for the next Council Meeting Agenda on Tuesday August 11th 2009, and any other business at the Chairmans discretion.

Barnstaple & District Civic Society Conservation Awards 2009. Clerk was pleased to report that, following the parish council informal recommendation, Mr & Mrs Ted Lott had been awarded the Endymion Shield and Scroll in recognition of the creation of Rowden Wood (Sheila's Folly). As Ted and Sheila had been on holiday at the time of the award ceremony Clerk had been holding the awards in readiness for a fitting occasion for a proper presentation. It was suggested that, with the approval of the Flower Show Committee, the presentation could be made on July 25th by Chairman R. Johns at the Flower Show.

72. cont.

Caute phonebox Clerk was in the process of arranging the electricity supply to the adopted box and the annual cost of the unmetered supply would be approximately £21, not as previously estimated £8. This being a result of recent increases. As to whether this would be acceptable could be compared with the £250 cost of having the supply disconnected. All agreed that the cost of retaining the lighting supply would be the best option under the circumstances.

Barn Close play area. Clerk asked to notify TDC that the equipment needs cleaning.

Lake Ind Estate. Clerk asked to contact the owners of the industrial estate to cut back and tidy the mainroad hedge which has been neglected for some years.

Valley View bungalows. Cllr Curtis reported that numbers 5 & 6, which are currently unoccupied due to subsidence, are causing concern to neighbouring residents as a result of the derelict state of the buildings and gardens attracting intruders and vermin. D/Cllr Saywell will enquire as to the situation. Cllr Slade said that in relation to this there was now no resident warden for the old peoples bungalows, the service now being provided by a mobile warden covering a wider area.

There being no other Business the Meeting ended at 9-07 pm.