

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th June 2017
in the Church Room, Shebbear at 7.30pm

Present:

Chairman: Councillor R Clark.

Vice Chairman: A Maidment J Dungate J Curtis. J Stupple.

K Dymond R Gliddon N Whatley.

District Cllr D Hurley. C Cllr B Parsons 2 members of the public. Clerk M Whatley.

AGENDA. 2017. Commenced at 7-30pm.

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

015. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr Quance (Working).

Chairman said there was a second vacant seat this evening, that of Cllr Haste. He had received a letter, which he would read out later on in the evening, but he was changing the order of the Agenda as Cllr Parsons had another meeting to attend and wished to address the meeting.

Chairman welcomed Cllr Parsons.

Cllr Parsons reported that it had been a very tiring period. Following the election he was now covering 30 parishes within the Holsworthy Rural, the largest of all Wards in Devon. He thanked Shebbear for their support having achieved the highest number of votes in the election.

Highways. He had invited Cllr Hurley along with two other District Councillors to meet our new Interim Head of Highways, Meg Booth. Meeting next week with new directors of Skanska, who do not like the way the system had been run historically.

Local Care. With regard Care Homes where people who have mental health difficulties suffer greatly, two near Holsworthy have been closed, we are now guarding their interests more closely.

Cllr Parsons congratulated Cllr Hurley on becoming Deputy Leader of Torridge.

Chairman thanked Cllr Parsons for his attendance.

016. Public Participation Period of 15 minutes. For speakers registered in advance, with the Clerk.
None.

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

(a) Discloseable pecuniary interests (Prejudicial).

Cllr Dymond declared a pecuniary interest in the planning application for Holroyd Farm, and would leave the room whilst this was discussed.

(b) Registerable Interests. None.

Any variations to Members Registration of Interests. None.

018. Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday May 9th 2016, having been previously circulated, to be approved and signed.

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

Chairman brought us back to the letter from Cllr Haste, who was resigning from the Council with immediate effect. Ted Haste was our current longest serving Councillor, having been elected as the only new Councillor in May 1999, when the Minutes show he was welcomed by the then Chairman, Mr John Dart. All agreed a letter should be sent thanking him for his contribution over the past 18 years.

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

Auditor has approved the final year end accounts, which have now been sent off to the external Auditors, Grant Thornton.

Arranged a meeting between Julian Parkin, Engineer at Hydro-Logic, Andrew Quance, owner of the land, Ron Lester and Cllr Hurley, who met on the bridge at Dipper Mill on 26th May to discuss the flood warning system.

The lamp outside Dr's house has been taken down as it was held on by one screw and leaning precariously. The housing will be cut away from the bracket and serviced, and the wrought iron back which fixes to the building will be sent for grit blasting, galvanizing and painting and then put back up again.

Instructed Adrian Caudwell to power wash the plastic seats around the village and apply a coat of Sadolin to the wooden ones and the village sign.

Asked Mark Gallear to inspect the notice boards and report back on whether it would be possible and cost effective to make the doors side opening instead of top opening.

Responded to TDC regarding planning application at Highfield, Shebbear. Submitted planning application for night landing zone for Helipad, delivered to TDC by our Chairman.

Distributed all the local Grant cheques with a little letter.

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

None.

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

(1) Flood Meeting Report.

Julian Parkin, Engineer at Hydro-Logic, had met at Dipper Mill with Andrew Quance, Ron Lester and Cllr Hurley. Discussed how the water rises across the fields and up to the road, and where it comes from, as it has been seen that the land downstream of the road can fill up before the upstream land. Decided there was no need to move the water level sensor from its current location. Undertook a short survey of the road surface levels to relate these back to the water level sensor in the river to enable to refine the trigger level. He turned off the errant signs, replaced the faulty modem and also, eventually, will replace the PAYG sims with contract ones (mobile providers disable them if they don't send messages for a number of months. Networks will be selected from the strongest signal from the survey, which showed Vodafone and O2 would be the optimum networks. Once all sorted and tested over time, a communications programme to all explaining what has changed and how it all works, strengths and limitations communication process.

(2) Training.

New Vice Chairman and Clerk to attend training courses later in the year.

(3) Shebbear Notice Boards.

Clerk had received a quote from Mark Gallear to supply and fit three pairs of side hung hinges to the general notice board, move and adapt the locking mechanisms, etc. all for the sum of £198.00.

Proposed Cllr Curtis, Seconded Cllr Gliddon, all in favour.

(4) Tiner Legacy

Received offer of a legacy from Peter Tiner, son of the late Richard Tiner, who was heavily involved in Community Aid – Shebbear's work with the defib and landing site. Offering to make a one off payment of £400 followed by regular monthly payments of £50 to the PC with a view to the funds being ring-fenced for the ongoing costs of the Community Access Public Defibrillator and Safe Landing Site (maintenance of trees, litter, etc). Councillors of the opinion that £150 paid quarterly would be easier to set up and agreed to seek legal advice.

022. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

(1) Any matters raised during the Public Participation period

None.

023. District Councillor's Report.

Chairman welcomed Cllr Hurley to the meeting.

Highways.

Cllr Hurley had attended a meeting at Exeter, arranged by C Cllr Barry Parsons with Head of Highways, Meg Booth and two other District Councillors, and the object of the meeting was to hear from Meg how the

future of Highways will shape up now that Skanska have taken over. Meg Booth reported that there had been a “wind of change” since Skanska had taken over the contract on 1st April. They had identified inefficiencies and were addressing areas of concern as to how safety defects were looked at with a cultural change in the workforce. Cllr Hurley asked why some roads that have little traffic on them are repaired/resurfaced and other more important roads are not touched, and she replied that this may be the result of a system that is 25 years old and the grading of roads are being looked at and regrading will take place as is appropriate. It may be that Highways will approach Parish Councils for suggestions as to which roads should take priority for repairs. Barry Parsons had already arranged a couple of sessions for PC’s to express their views and the results of these meetings appear to have been overlooked due to the changeover period.

Cllr Hurley mentioned the Caute to Rowden road past Shebbear Pottery as it was inspected and via a FOI Request from a resident it was discovered that a verdict of “no defects were found” when the road was actually treacherous. Meg Booth explained that this was a misinterpretation of terminology. Cllr Parsons said the road was in his top 8 priorities for repair. As yet I am unable to find any reference to a repair to be performed on this road. Have asked Barry to chase this. Since discovered that the road was inspected on 1st September 2016 and is due for re-inspection on 31st August this year.

Dipper Mill Flood Warning System

Met with Julian Parkin (engineer who works for Hydro-Logic, the Company that installed the flood warning system at Dipper Mill) together with Andrew Quance and Ron Lester. He has listened to the complaints with regard to incorrect readings and hence false warnings. I mentioned and he agreed completely, that it is important that the high water warnings are true for the public to have confidence in the system. He has given the info to send a text message to alter the state of incorrect warning signs to Ron, Andrew and I suggested Anita, (Cllr Maidment). It was also noted that to this date PAYG Sims are used in the signs to allow communication to take place between Hydro-Logic and the devices. Unfortunately, because the Sims are not used to make a call the providers turn them off rendering the warning signs inoperative. The Sims are to be replaced with contract Sims.

Torridge AGM in May

New Chairman of the Council was elected Cllr John Himan and a couple of new Committee Chairmen and Vice Chairs were also elected.

024. Planning.

(a) 1/0007/2017/NMAT. Rowden Methodist Church, Shebbear, Devon.

Amendment to plans schedule pursuant to application 1/0343/2015FUL.

The application has gone back to the flat roof extension, which does not blend with the existing building. Clerk to respond to TDC that Shebbear Parish Council do not approve the design of the proposed extension with the flat roof, which will be in a prominent position in a rural landscape and totally at variance with the surrounding architecture. Councillors are of the opinion that the character of the original building should be retained with a pitched roof extension and windows shaped in sympathy with the main building. Shebbear Parish Council objects to this application.

(b) 1/0538/2017/FUL. Holroyd Farm, Shebbear.

Clerk to respond to TDC that Shebbear Parish Council has no objections to this application.

(2) Applications Granted

(a) 1/0203/2017/FUL. Aish Barn, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon.

Proposed porch extension with roof canopy overhang and new window to north gable.
Received by the Councillors.

(b) 1/0305/2017/REM.

Proposed Dwelling Reserved Matters pursuant to 1/0927/2015/OUT.

Highfield, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon.

Received by the Councillors.

Received after the Agenda had been circulated.

© 1/0795/2016/FUL. Brambley Barton, Shebbear.

Removal of Condition 1 Agricultural Occupancy Condition.

Granted at Appeal. The Inspector felt he would remove the tie at Brambley Barton because it was no longer needed as a farmhouse and that TDC was deficient in its housing supply.

Received by the Councillors.

(3) Applications Refused.

None.

(4) Any relevant adjacent applications

(a) **1/0044/2017/OUT.**

Field Known as ‘Dougies Field’, Shebbear, Devon.

Outline planning permission for up to 5 dwellings with all matters reserved.

Withdrawn.

Received by the Councillors.

025. Finance.

(1) Approval of Items for payment.

(a) Shebbear Village Hall & Playing Fields – Village Hall Hire for APM - £16.87

(b) Re-imburse Chairman for OS maps from Matrix Design for Planning Application – £67.20

Chairman reminded Clerk that the £67.20 is taken out of the Helipad Reserve.

(c) Re-imburse Clerk for stationery £8.98, inkjet cartridges - £26.18, Postage £11.66 = £46.82

Proposed by Cllr Gliddon, Seconded by Cllr Stupple, all in favour that items (a) (b) and (c) be paid.

Bank balances.

Current Account: £12,254.19

Reserve Account: £14,059.34

(Includes £4,702.50 ring-fenced for Helipad Fund
£1,200 paid + £97.50 Planning Fee)

026. Correspondence.

(1) PCSO Melissa Baker – Police Report

No Report.

(2) Council Grants – Thank You Letters.

(a) Shebbear Lunch Club.

(b) TNMWD Citizens Advice.

(3) Fly the Red Ensign for Merchant Navy Day 03/09/17

Received by Councillors.

Circulation File.

Emails re Dipper Mill from Julian Parkin & Ron Lester. Parish Council Weekly Lists. Fly the Red Ensign.

Clerks & Councils Direct. Local Grant Thank You letters Shebbear Lunch Club and Citizens Advice.

Holsworthy Rural Parish & Town Notes June 2017 – Barry Parsons.

027. Agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting which will be held on Tuesday July 11th 2017 at 7-30 pm, and any other matters, for discussion only, at the Chairman's discretion.

The meeting closed at 8.57pm.

Signed

Dated