

## **SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday March 12th 2013 in the Church Room. Shebbear.**

#### **Present:**

Chairman: Councillor R Clark

Councillors: E Haste. J Curtis. J Stupple. H Davis. P Lomax. M A Wells. T Carr.

1 Member of the public. Clerk. D Walker.

#### **AGENDA. 2013. Commenced at 7-30 pm.**

##### **27. Apologies for Absence.**

Councillor J Dungate (Family commitment). Councillor R Gliddon (Burst water pipes). PCSO M Baker.

##### **28. Public Participation Period.**

No requests to speak received.

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

(a) Discloseable pecuniary interests.

None received.

(b) Registerable interests.

None received.

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

None received.

##### **30. Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday February 12th 2013.**

All in agreement, that the Draft Minutes, which had been previously circulated, be approved and signed by Chairman as a correct record.

##### **31. Before Clerks Report, Chairman approved, with all in favour, that the business relating to the Parish Plan, commenced at Item 20(11) of the February Meeting, be continued.**

Councillor Lomax reported details of the Parish Plan Meeting held on February 20th and read a message from the Acting Chairman Ralph Human.

It was apparent from these reports that there was disagreement among the Plan Committee members as to how the process should proceed, with a significant opinion in favour of an informal approach to the way in which the task is to be tackled. This opinion was expressed in no uncertain terms in a message from Scott Powell which was received by Councillors, who were disappointed that the Parish Council participation was viewed negatively, particularly as every effort had been made to ensure that the structure of the Plan Committee had followed guidelines to ensure that the majority of members, and the Chairman, were parishioners of a number of age groups and interests, and not Councillors.

On a more positive note however, Ralph Human, Scott Powell and Councillor Lomax all commented that there was considerable support from the Committee members for the project to continue, probably with a revised structure and research method agreeable to all. It was also noted that over 80 local people had made it known that they supported the aims of the Plan project.

Councillors agreed that there would be no problem in a more informal approach being taken in future by the participants, but that there would have to be some degree of formal administration by the members themselves in order to co-ordinate individual contributions and concentrate the results into the completed Plan. There would also need to be evidence that any taxpayers money put into the production of the Parish Plan was being satisfactorily accounted for.

Councillors hoped that these views could be taken forward to the next Plan Meeting when it is hoped a fresh initiative can be agreed by the members.

**Clerks Report.**

Clerk reported that *Lightsource Renewable Energy Ltd* has notified us of their proposal to instal a solar panel array at Chalhanger Farm, Buckland Filleigh commencing with a public consultation and meeting which they hoped to arrange with the cooperation of the 2 parishes sometime during the week commencing March 25th. To date no further details had been made known.

*The Fire Service* were consulting on their plans to restructure in the light of Government funding reductions although this area was not directly included in the plans but would no doubt be affected by any cut backs.

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

Agreed - all items to be Part 1.

**33. Any urgent agenda business or correspondence brought forward with the approval of the Chairman.**

Chairman had been speaking with Adrian Pett, Chairman of Buckland Filleigh Parish Council, who were keen to acquire a salt grit spreader and suggested that the two parishes cooperate. Councillors felt that it would be impractical to share an appliance as we would both inevitably want to use it at the same time. Comments were made that, in any case, the gritter supplied to us by DCC was proving troublesome in operation due to clogging up. All Agreed that we would offer what assistance we could under the circumstances.

**34. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.****(1) Parish Projects for 2013.**

The following items were put forward as being worthy of further investigation as parish projects.

- New Signs and Entry Points at the village approaches.
- Replace the Bus Shelter. (With the suggestion that the War Memorial be relocated in the process, subject to the necessary consultation).
- The possibility of Public Toilets in the village.
- Play Equipment for older children on the playing field.

**(2) Draft N Devon & Torridge Local Plan - Rural Development Opportunities**

The draft document had been circulated to Councillors before the Meeting and the ensuing discussion revealed that members felt that it was a fundamentally better document than had been issued on previous occasions and contained some positive points. There were ample suggestions as to what was hoped to be achieved but unfortunately no indications as to how. Members understand that the Plan is in its early stages but would like to see how proposals are to be actioned.

These observations to be forwarded by Clerk to TDC before the consultation ends.

Chairman and the Clerk are due to attend a briefing at Barnstaple Civic Centre on the progress of the Plan on March 14th when more information should be made available in advance of parishioners opinions being sought.

**35. District Councillors Report.**

None received from D/Councillor Lewis.

**36. Planning.****(1) (a) New Applications. 1/0068/2013/FUL. Biomass boiler house and loading ramp. At Shebbear College.**

Councillors agreed that the only factor likely to affect the public and which should be considered was the amount of traffic the project would generate bearing in mind that biomass was a bulky material and likely to be consumed in considerable quantities. The application only referred to this by stating that there would be "occasional deliveries". Clerk to reply stating that there were unlikely to be any objections in principal but a better estimate of vehicle movements and the size of lorries was required.

**(b) Applications Refused. None.**

**(c) Applications Granted. None.**

**(d) Refused Applications to Appeal None.**

**(e) Any relevant adjacent applications. None.**

**36. (Cont).**

- (2) *To approve draft letters to TDC Planning Management, Planning Committee Members and Geoffrey Cox QC MP, re Objection to the Battledown Farm turbine application in accordance with Shebbear Wind Turbine Policy Statement. (Drafts previously circulated).*

All in agreement that the drafts, including latest amendments, were ready to be forwarded at the appropriate time, to the relevant recipients.

**37. Finance.**

- (1) Approval of Items for payment

Clerk reported that, in addition to Items (a) and (b), he had received an invoice from the Parish Plan Committee to the amount of £8.00 for the hire of the village hall committee room on Feb 20th and requested that payment be agreed for all 3 items.

Proposed Cllr Lomax, seconded Cllr Davis, with all in favour, the 3 items to be paid.

Bank Balances to February 28th 2013.

Received by Councillors

Twining Funds.

Ted and Sheila Lott had asked that their appreciation be passed on regarding the work Richard Clark had put in to locate and retrieve the residual Twining Funds from various accounts and investments.

The recipient of the resulting amount of £2,186.63, held by the Parish Council, is yet to be decided.

**38. Correspondence.**

- (1) *Holsworthy Area Advisory Group. Next Meeting - April 29th 2013, 7pm in the Memorial Hall, Holsworthy.*  
Received by Councillors.

- (2) *Jackson Stops & Staff. Joint Local Plan. Land in Shebbear. (Previously circulated to Councillors).*

Agents acting for the Goaman family giving early notice of their intention to seek to support Shebbear as a Local Centre during the consultation process of the new Local Plan, and to promote 3 parcels of land within the village for future potential development. The 3 parcels of land being:

- Land at the rear of dwellings on the East side of Haycross Hill.
- Land at the rear of Devonport House and Balkwill Cottages.
- Land at the rear of Coronation Place and St Michaels View.

Suggestions are invited as to what community benefits might be identified in conjunction with any developments.

Initial ideas put forward were to increase the area of the trading estate and to transfer ownership of the Football Field. Also looking to the future, to increase the development area to the triangle within the Battledown, New Inn and Hay Hill points.

Councillors agreed that, in order that this matter be considered in more detail that the writer be invited to a future Council meeting in either April or May. Clerk to arrange.

- (3) *TDC. Devon County Council Election - 2nd May 2013.*

Received By Councillors.

- (4) *Stags Estate Agents. Removal of Agricultural Occupancy Restriction. Hidgets Field. Newton St Petrock.*

Councillors had no knowledge of any Shebbear interest in this property.

Councillors Circulation

Received by Councillors.

**39. Items for the next Council Meeting Agenda which will be held on Tuesday April 9th 2013, and any other matters, for discussion only, at the Chairmans discretion.**

None received.

There being no other Business the Meeting ended at 10 pm.