

## **SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017  
in the Church Room. Shebbear.

### **Present:**

Chairman: Councillor R Clark.

Vice Chairman: E Haste. J Curtis. J Stupple.

R. Gliddon. G Quance. N Whatley.

C Cllr B Parsons. District Councillor D Hurley.

Four members of the public. Clerk M Whatley.

### **AGENDA. 2017. Commenced at 7-30 pm.**

**Chairman R Clark** opened the Meeting, and welcomed all present.

#### **191. Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr Dungate (holiday). Cllr Maidment (holiday). Cllr Dymond (working). PCSO Melissa Baker (working).

#### **192. Public Participation Period.**

None.

#### **193. 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.

#### **194. Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday February 14th 2017, having been previously circulated, to be approved and signed.**

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

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

Have made the necessary arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2017 to be followed by the Parish Council Meeting. However, please note the venue has changed from the Church Room to the Village Hall as the Lands Trust have their three monthly meeting this same evening. As three of our Councillors are members of the Lands Trust Committee, their meeting will be held in the Committee Room, and the Parish Meeting in the Main Hall will commence at 7.15pm, not 7.00pm. I have invited all the Local Grant recipients to give a report, and also invited Dr Fernandez as Guest Speaker, but so far have received no response.

Confirmed with Toby Russell and Lee Duckworth that Shebbear PC members are in favour of Location A for siting of the 10m lighting column for Helipad night landing site, which is nearer the Village Hall for supply of electricity, and less of a temptation to children hopping over the fence from the school by the goal posts and believing themselves to be Wayne Rooney.

Responded to TDC re proposed extension and loft conversion at West Croft, Shebbear, that the Councillors' opinion was that this could easily become two dwellings. Recommended refusal.

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

None.

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

**(1) Bus fares to Petroc.**

Chairman had spoken to Rev Martin Warren about the possibility of the Lands Trust assisting in this, but not suitable. He suggested the Fortescue Trust, which is mandated to assist with the education of the young people of Shebbear. Cllr Quance was of the opinion that helping with the bus fares would 'open the flood gates'; Cllr Gliddon added that if someone could not afford the bus fares there is help available from DCC. Cllr Haste suggested a representative from the Fortescue Trust be invited to speak to the Councillors at the next meeting. Clerk to arrange.

**(2) Weed control along pavement edges.**

Cllr Quance proposed Adrian Caudwell be asked to attend to the weeds. Chairman raised the question of moss on the footpath, which was the responsibility of the County Council. Clerk asked to contact the Council to deal with this or to enquire whether they would pay the Parish Council to carry out the work.

**(3) Industrial Estate, Lake.**

Chairman reported that work was being carried out on the Industrial Estate, and confirmed there is planning permission for B1 and B2, which was gained 2/3 years ago. Cllr Haste to make enquiries as to what is happening.

**(4) Received after the Agenda had been distributed.**

Mugs. Chairman declared a slight interest. The Bowls Club had raised the question as to whether the Parish Council had a few Jubilee mugs still available for use during matches when they had visiting teams. Clerk asked to distribute what was available. Cllr Haste suggested a token of payment. All in favour.

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

- (1) Any matter raised during the Public Participation period.  
None.

**199. (a) C Councillor's Report**

**Chairman welcomed C Cllr Barry Parsons to the meeting. Cllr Parsons asked if he could say a few words as he had another meeting to attend to that evening.**

Holsworthy Hospital

Cllr Parsons reported that the future of Holsworthy Community Hospital is under threat, and drew attention to a meeting tomorrow evening, 15<sup>th</sup> March, to be held in the Memorial Hall, Holsworthy at 7.00pm regarding the temporary closure of inpatient beds. There are three areas of concern, patient safety, sickness and staffing. There are difficulties in recruiting and the hospital relies heavily on agency workers. Cllr Parsons said that when something closes, we all know it doesn't open again and urged as many as possible to attend the meeting, sign petitions, and fight for the survival of the hospital.

Roads

Pleased to see work is being carried out on the roads around Shebbear and in particular the Square. On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017, Skanska take over the maintenance of the roads and will be operating under Devon Highways. Had a meeting recently with Mr Brockman, Neighbourhood Highways Office and Simon Phillips of West Devon Highways. The two roads around Shebbear, namely Shebbear to Caute and Caute to Rowden Farm are high on the list of priorities, but no time-scale has been given for the work to be carried out.

**Chairman thanked Cllr Parsons for his report.**

**(b) District Councillor's Report.**

**Chairman welcomed D Cllr Hurley to the meeting.**

Speedwatch training

Speedwatch training took place recently. PSO Melissa Baker had 2 volunteers from Langtree and 1 volunteer from Shebbear. Unfortunately, at present there are not enough volunteers to form a team.

New Homes Bonus and Councillor Grants Scheme.

New Homes Bonus will continue for at least one more year but in a slightly different format. Approx £300,000 in NHB Fund. Applications can be made for as little as £1,000 with a maximum request for £10,000. Requests for £10,000 and above will be decided by C&R twice a year as opposed to the present 4 awards. Below £10,000 will be decided by the Council Leader and HOPS Jenny Wallace with some

Ward Member input.

The Ward Member grant will increase from the present £1,000 to £2,000.

The £10,000 Ward pot has been discontinued.

Council Tax.

Bills should have been received by now as they were due to have been sent out on the 10<sup>th</sup> March.

Business rates bills were sent out today (14<sup>th</sup> March).

Rate changes are – TDC + 3.36%

DCC + 4.99%

D+C Police and Crime Commissioner + 1.99%

Devon + Somerset Fire Authority + 1.99%

Town and Parish Councils (average) + 6.93%

**Total average Band D + 4.45%**

Please remember that Torridge only receive 9p per pound paid in CT

Potholes and Road Surfaces

Working with C Cllr Parsons to try and get some repairs carried out on local roads that are in a terrible state. Pitt Hill to Caute and Caute to Rowden are two that I have looked at recently. C Cllr Parsons has told me that he is aware of these roads but further repairs are on hold at present until Skanska have taken over and a programme of repairs can be compiled. In addition, I have reported to this Council in the past that roads are given an annual inspection. These inspections were supposed to be available to view on the Highways website. However, I have this week chased up the web page (or lack of it) and have been told that all IT resources for the previous year have been taken up with the run- down of the Highways Contract and setting up of the Skanska Contract.

Devon Rubbish Charges

Downloaded from the website this evening. New charges proposed for taking rubbish to Devon tips. The move will hit anyone doing DIY with charges for dumping uPVC windows and doors baths, shower trays, sinks and PVC downpipes. The new plan will see charges introduced for all construction and demolition plastics, including cladding, soffit, skirting board, panels and paneling, roofing sheets, water tanks, and sinks. A range of large vehicles are already excluded from using the recycling centres, including box and Luton vans, tractors, vehicles over 3.5 tonnes and large vans towing trailers. It is proposed to extend this to include pick-up trucks towing trailers and long wheelbase vans more than six metres in total length.

Another proposal will be to exclude all heating-type of oil tanks of all sizes.

The Cabinet was to be told that they are not household waste and therefore the council does not have a Legal requirement to accept them. “This will reduce the risk of environmental issues from oil residues and sludge within the tanks and remove the health and safety issues involved in handling such large items on site”.

**200. Planning.**

(a) New Applications

(1) **1/0596/2016/FUL. 1 New Dwelling.**

**Land at Balleroy Close, Shebbear, Devon.**

**An Appeal has been lodged against the refusal of planning permission.**

Clerk to strongly recommend that the Inspector refuses the Appeal.

(b) Applications Granted

None.

(c) Applications Refused.

None.

d) Any relevant adjacent applications.

None.

**201. Finance.**

(1) Tap Funding.

Clerk reported that our Tap Fund Application in favour of The Long House Hospice in Holsworthy had been successful and she had received payment.

(2) Approval of Items for payment.

- (a) Clerk’s mileage £81.90 (year)
- (b) Clerk’s phone line rental/broadband £239.88 (year)
- © The Longhouse Hospice £825.00 (Tap Fund)

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

Bank Balances.

Current Account £9,525.86

Reserve Account: £14,058.98

(Includes £4,800 still remaining from the £6000 originally ring-fenced for the Helipad fund.

**202. Correspondence.**

(1) PCSO Melissa Baker – Police Report

Clerk read Melissa’s report -

Crimes total 4

1 sent communication of an offensive nature, 1 livestock worrying, 1 assault and 1 use threatening, insulting, abusive behaviour.

Logs total 8

1 domestic related, 1 nuisance anti-social behavior, 2 road traffic collision, 1 personal anti-social behaviour, 1 violence, 1 livestock worrying and 1 suspicious circumstances.

(2) Letter from Peter Parkes concerning Condition of Road from Caute to Shebbear and Caute to Rowden Farm.

Clerk read out the letter to the members.

(3) Recycling and Waste (Circulated).

Circulation File

Parish Council Weekly Lists. Tap Funding Application. Recycling and Waste. Clerks & Councils Direct. Devon Senior Voice.

**203. Agenda items for the AGM of the Parish Council to be held in the Church Room, Shebbear, on Tuesday May 9th 2017 at 7-30pm, and any other matters, for discussion only, at the Chairman's discretion.**

There being no other Business Chairman closed the Meeting at 8.53 pm.

Signed .....

Dated .....