

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual Council Meeting held on Tuesday May 7th 2013
in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor R Clark

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

4 Members of the public. Clerk. D Walker.

AGENDA. 2013. Commenced at 7-30 pm.

53. Apologies for Absence.

Councillor J Curtis (Family commitment). PCSO Baker (Off duty). District Cllr J Lewis (Hospital).

54. Election of Officers.

(1) Chairman.

Councillor Haste nominated Councillor Clark, seconded by Councillor Stupple. No other nominations put forward. All in favour that Cllr Clark be re-elected as Chairman. Councillor Clark was willing to accept the role for the coming year and thanked Members for their support.

(2) Vice Chairman.

Councillor Lomax nominated Councillor Davis to be re-elected for the coming year. No other nominations received and Cllr Davis expressed his willingness to continue. All in favour that he be re-elected as Vice Chairman for the coming year.

(3) Local Auditor.

Mr Mark Ohlsen had agreed to continue as local (internal) auditor, if invited, and his fee will be donated to charity as in previous years. All in favour that Mark be asked to continue.

(4) Parish Lands Committee representatives.

Chairman R Clark is automatically an ex-officio member of the Committee, and as there were no other nominations, Councillor Wells and Councillor Davis agreed to continue as Committee representatives for the coming year. All in favour.

55. 7-34pm. Public Participation Period.

(1) Beth Simons. Torrington Bluecoat School Childrens Centre. Speaking to introduce herself as the link between communities and the Centre, which supports whole families from the pregnancy stage through to the age of 11 years, and beyond in some cases. Although Shebbear is at the fringe of the Torrington area there is overlap between the neighbouring branches and there are rural outreach workers. There is a wide range of support available from multi agency input. The Centres are funded through the Government Sure Start Scheme with additional support from Devon County Council. Members attending do not have to pay.

(2) James Gibbs. (Jackson Stops & Staff). Representing the Goaman family with regard to the Local Plan consultation and the fact that they have land available for consideration for development within the village and are keen to hear parishioners opinions regarding new amenities for the parish. They are aware of the Shebbear Parish consultation and look forward to hearing the result of the questionnaire survey. They quite understand the Parish Council position and respect parishioners wishes. If a brownfield site does not come to pass perhaps Aish Park Part 2 could be considered as an option.

7-48pm. Chairman thanked both Speakers for their attendance and resumed official agenda business.

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

(a) Discloseable pecuniary interests.

Councillor Dungate re Item 61. Planning. West Folly. Shebbear. Connected with his employment.

(b) Registerable interests.

Councillor Wells re Item 61. Planning relating to Wind Turbines. Family member belongs to campaign group.

Any variations to Members Registration of Interests.

None received.

57. Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday April 9th 2013.

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

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

Clerk had received an email from a company, Aspireinternet, demanding details of the parish councils' connection with the Shebbear Village website operated by Paul Watts. The demand also carried with it the threat of legal action if certain demands were not complied with. The Parish Council is not involved with the operation of the website and is not connected in any way with the disagreements giving rise to the email. Clerk had contacted the solicitors named in the email to make the position clear but the solicitors showed no interest in the matter.

Councillors agreed that no more could be done.

59. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

(1) *Torrige & N Devon Local Plan.* Councillors heard that all the questionnaire replies had been collected and that there were unlikely to be any more to be received now that the deadline date had passed. Every household in the parish should have received a questionnaire.

The number of voting slips returned was **138**. The number of respondents agreeing with the Parish Councils' initial suggestion regarding the draft Local Plan, which was based on the show of hands at the Annual Parish Meeting on April 11th, was **134**, and those not agreeing was **4**.

Chairman reported that, in conversation with Ian Rowlands, the TDC Planning Officer working jointly on the Local Plan with a NDDC counterpart, a number of points had been made. When making the parish response we could not put forward a "reserve site". If 2 sites were put forward then 2 would be considered. Brownfield sites cannot be partly developed, so if a site is suitable for 30 houses, then 30 will be built. Every effort will be made to meet the needs of the parish population and employment is an important consideration. It is a fact, for geographical and commercial reasons, that we are unlikely to attract new large employers to the parish. What we have in Shebbear are numbers of self employed people and this suggests that work units with living accommodation would be of benefit, particularly if it gave young people, who wished to start up on their own, the opportunity to remain locally. Ideally 25% of the units should be affordable and for local people.

Ackland Close has been a lesson in how a detailed, agreed plan can be subsequently varied.

Councillors agreed that units for the elderly monitored by a local warden should be reinstated, as the current system is a failure. Also that, thinking ahead, now would be the time to identify a site for a new village hall.

Chairman ended the debate on the topic with the reminder that the response has to be made by June 1st.

(2) *Parish Tidy Up.* Lisa James, the Shebbear Youth Club Leader, is encouraging the members to carry out litter picking. The question was asked, should we as a Parish Council show a lead in recognizing this?

All Agreed that this should be an Agenda item for the June Meeting.

60. District Councillors Report.

None received from D/Councillor Lewis.

61. Planning.

(a) New Applications.

(1) 1/0235/2013/FUL. *Installation of wind turbine (77m height to blade tip), access road and associated works, including formation of 1.5 km bridleway - affecting Public Right of Way, on land at Alscott Farm, Peters Marland.*

The draft response to this application detailing Shebbear Parish Councils' objection to this revised proposal had been written and circulated to Councillors for approval prior to the meeting.

All Agreed that the response was approved and should be sent to TDC Planners.

(2) 1/0261/2013/FUL. Installation of 50kw array of solar voltaic panels. At Shebbear College. Councillors considered that the site for the array would be unobtrusive and Agreed to Support the application.

(3) 1/0348/2013/FUL. (Variation to Condition 2 of 1/0073/2013/FUL). Amended dimensions, blade tip 77m, hub height 50m, rotor diameter 54m. Durpley Farm. Shebbear.

The draft response, pointing out that a number of inaccuracies in the former application had not been addressed and had been carried over to this latest proposal, was approved by Councillors, and All Agreed that the original Objection should accordingly be maintained to this application. The main grounds being noise and proximity to the highway.

(4) 1/0267/2013/FUL. Erection of building to store agricultural machinery. West Folly. Shebbear. (Received after issue of agenda and heard with approval of chairman). No Objections.

(b) Applications to Appeal (Relevant adjacent item). 1/1250/2011/FUL. Erection of 3 wind turbines of height between 95m and 100m with associated infrastructure and meteorological mast on land at Dunsland Cross. Received by Councillors.

(c) Any other relevant adjacent applications. None.

62. Finance.

(1) Approval of Items for payment

Proposed by Councillor Stupple, seconded by Councillor Davis, with all in favour, that items (a) to (i) inclusive be paid, after item (f), the payment for the annual insurance premium, be set at £356.16 (to include cover for the new playground equipment) and item (i) to refer to reimbursements to Richard Clark for Local Plan stationery £20.00.

(2) To receive and approve the accounts for the year to March 31st 2013.

Accounts prepared by Clerk received by Councillors. The Annual Return and the Annual Governance Statement completed and signed off by Chairman and the Responsible Officer with All in Agreement that the Return be approved and passed to Mr Ohlsen for the Internal Audit.

Notice re availability of accounts for public inspection placed on notice board.

Bank Balances to April 30th 2013.

Current A/c - £7,235.65 Reserve A/c - £15,532.47 Received by Councillors.

63. Correspondence.

(1) *Mr M Wright. Concern for allotment project.* Councillors not aware of any problems apart from the starting up process was taking a long time.

(2) *TDC. Tree Advice.* Received by Councillors.

(3) *Mr M Wright. Re CS Garage.* Received by Councillors.

(4) *CS Garage.* Informing the Parish Council that a change of ownership is taking place. The business will be known as M & G Motors with the new owners introducing some changes. This is the reason why there is increased activity on the premises, with any disruptions hopefully to be kept to a minimum and completed as soon as possible.

(5) *DALC.* Advice re transfer of ownership of play equipment to Village hall Committee. Received by Councillors.

Councillors Circulation

Received by Councillors.

64. Items for the next Council Meeting Agenda which will be held on Tuesday June 11th 2013, and any other matters, for discussion only, at the Chairmans discretion. None received.

There being no other Business the Meeting ended at 9-50 pm.