

## **SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL**

Draft Minutes of Annual General Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 7.30 pm.

in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Chairman: Councillor R Clark.

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

N Whatley. J Franklin. P Isaacs

C Cllr B Parsons. D Cllr D Hurley. 2 Members of the Public. Clerk: M Whatley

### **AGENDA. 2018.**

#### **14. Apologies for Absence.**

C Cllr Parsons (will arrive late). Cllr Gliddon (working away). PCSO Melissa Baker (on leave).

#### **15. Election of Officers.**

**Chairman thanked the members for being a good team and Mary, Parish Clerk, for her efforts. I leave you with a legacy that this Council has impressed people far and wide and we have a good reputation.**

##### **(1) Chairman**

Chairman Cllr Clark called for nominations for the office of Chairman for the coming year. Cllr Whatley nominated Cllr Dungate, Seconded Cllr Maidment. No further nominations. All in favour by show of hands.

**Cllr Dungate, elected for the coming year, continued the meeting.**

**Cllr Dungate praised the leadership from Cllr Clark, his energy and diligence had done this Parish proud.**

##### **(2) Vice Chairman**

Chairman Cllr Dungate called for nominations for the office of Vice Chairman for the coming year. Cllr Franklin nominated Cllr Maidment to be elected as Vice Chairman for the coming year. Cllr Maidment declined due to pressure of work. Cllr Stupple nominated Cllr Franklin, Seconded Cllr Curtis. No further nominations. Cllr Franklin accepted the office of Vice Chairman for the coming year. All in favour by show of hands.

##### **(3) Local Auditor**

Clerk reported that Mark Ohlsen had indicated that he was willing to continue as Auditor and all were in favour that he be invited to do so.

##### **(4) 2 Representatives for the Parish Lands Committee (currently Cllr Stupple and Cllr Whatley – Chairman ex officio).**

Vice Chairman asked what the Parish Lands Committee stood for. Cllr Clark explained that the Lands Committee had been set up about 100 years ago when some land was sold off. The Parish Lands Charity was created and sits on a 'nest of money', the dividends and interest on the investments is distributed, some goes to the Church and some to the poor of the Parish. Cllr Stupple and Cllr Whatley were both prepared to continue, all in favour. Cllr Dungate ex-officio.

#### **16. Public Participation Period of 15 minutes.** For speakers registered in advance, with the Clerk.

None.

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

(a) Discloseable pecuniary interests (Prejudicial).

None.

(b) Registerable Interests.

None.

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

None.

**18. (a) Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday April 10th 2018, having been previously circulated, to be approved and signed.**

**(b) Draft Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018, having been previously circulated, to be approved and signed.**

Proposed Cllr Clark, Seconded Cllr Stuppel, that Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday April 10<sup>th</sup> 2018 and Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018 be approved and signed as a true record. All in favour.

**19. Any matters arising from the Minutes. Clerks Report.**

Helipad Refund

Clerk reported we had received cheque for the refund of the £1,200 from Community Aid – Shebbear.

VAT

Received VAT repayment in the sum of £1,243.85.

Planning

Responded to TDC. Application 1/0302/2018/OUT. Land adjacent to Stoneleigh Cottage, Shebbear.

According to local knowledge the land in question is agricultural land, and we can find no evidence of change of use from agriculture to garden. Shebbear Parish Council therefore recommends that TDC refuse this application.

Application 1/0281/2018/AGMB. Barn Opposite The Shippen, Caute, Shebbear.

Shebbear Parish Council are opposed to the conversion of steel portal framed buildings under Class Q. We have considerable doubt as to whether this building was in use for agricultural purposes on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2013 to make it qualify under Class Q Regulations. Shebbear Parish Council recommends TDC refuse this application.

New Seat

Obtained a quote from Glasdon for a new seat to be sited under the oak tree in the square in the sum of £416.69+ VAT and Pro-forma Invoice.

Final Accounts

Prepared Final Accounts and completed Annual Return for approval by the members this evening, and will be seeing Mark Ohlsen, Auditor, in a couple of weeks.

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

None.

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

(1) Dipper Mill Flood Warning System – Report from Ron Lester (Flood Officer).

(1a) River Level and Gauge Contract Renewal

Ron Lester reported this is due for renewal on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2018 and will be paid by Devon County Council, who will give us a copy of the Contract.

The second issue was the faulty sign. Received report from the suppliers of the signs, the faulty sign to be returned to manufacturers in the next four week to be renewed. It is likely they will remove the rust, re-paint and check the insides for excess moisture. If the insides are found to be suffering from excess moisture, the other signs will be checked. He is not expecting any costs to be passed to Shebbear Parish Council from County Council.

The third issue was the way the levels were set to communicate the flood levels and it was agreed that an image comes up to be put to the Shebbear Village web site and Facebook showing three lines indicating the levels of flood. Still work to be done to perfect this.

**Chairman thanked Ron for his report. Ron Lester left the meeting.**

(2) Church Room Broadband (Chairman's Report).

Ex Chairman, Cllr Clark reported a telephone conversation he had had with Lewis Horn, Area Network Change Manager, for Cornwall, introduced to him by Andy Fryatt, the operator of the mobile PO van. After some discussion about the reasons for the van's absences and the benefit of having a better facility for his staff, notably a toilet and kitchen, some facts emerged.

1. A shared broadband facility would not be tolerated, the PO would have to have its own ADSL line.
2. The cost of equipping a room with the necessary hardware to run a small PO, and also providing the extra kit including safe means of storage in transit, would be about £2,000.
3. If a fixed facility was to be provided then Andy Fryatt would not be allowed to use it as his contract is for a van-based mobile facility, not for a roving provider who uses fixed facilities. This would mean having to take the contract away from him and negotiate an exit premium.
4. There are operators who are roving providers but none in this area.

Cllr Clark then mentioned how difficult it can be to weigh parcels on the van, due to the position of the scale pan, and how this would be much better in the Church Room. Mr Horn implied that the van was an outreach facility intended for the vulnerable and not to carry post and parcels that an able bodied person should be taking to a regular office.

It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Clark be asked to transcribe his conversation with the Area Network Change Manager, and have him confirm it as an accurate record of the telephone conversation as we would be taking the matter up the ladder with the Post Office and with Geoffrey Cox.

- (3) Village Open Plan Meeting June 21<sup>st</sup> 2018. Cllr Clark asked Cllr Isaacs to help with the village map. Cllr Clark to draft an article/advertisement for Reflecting Shebbear. Cllr Franklin asked if it would be possible for a planning officer to attend the Open Meeting. Cllr Hurley to make enquiries. Extra meeting scheduled for Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June to finalise details.
- (4) Allotment (Cllr Isaacs).  
Cllr Isaacs reported that the plot currently under discussion as suitable for an allotment was quite small and suggested putting something on Facebook in an effort to find another plot. All in favour.

## 22. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

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

## 23. District Councillor's Report.

**Chairman welcomed Cllr Hurley to the meeting. Chairman welcomed Cllr Hurley to the meeting.**  
East the Water By Election.

Conservative James Hellyer elected,. TDC make-up is 19 Conservatives and 17 other Groups. AGM next week when all presently held positions are voted upon.

Green Waste.

Over 2,500 residents have signed up to the waste collection scheme. Numbers were joining at around 150 per day. The Green Waste Roadshow is booked to appear at Shebbear shortly.

Westward Ho! Beach + Promenade

From 1<sup>st</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> September TDC have introduced a restriction for Dogs on Westward Ho! beach and promenade. The restrictions relate to the Public Spaces Protection Order, which was passed earlier this year following a public consultation, and replaces the previous dog control orders. The controlled areas are the same as in previous years and will help to create different areas on Westward Ho! Beach to ensure that both dog owners and non-dog owners can access and enjoy the resort. It will also help the authority to meet the criteria for the Blue Flag in 2018, which it is hoping to achieve for the 15<sup>th</sup> year in a row. During the restricted period dogs will be allowed at the north end of the beach between Sandymere Bridge and the Tay/Torridge estuary, but will be prohibited on the beach to the south of Sandymere Bridge and will need to be kept on a lead on the promenade. The order allows for fixed penalties of £100 ((was £75) to be issued in cases where owners fail to comply with the restriction.

### Planning at Torridge

As the new Local Plan gets closer to adoption from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018 planning applications submitted to North Devon Council and Torridge District Council have been considered against relevant policies in the emerging Local Plan, as well as the current adopted local plans for each district. The weight applied to the policies will vary depending on whether the policy has been subject to a substantial change during the examination process. Full weight can be applied to the policies once the local plan is fully adopted.

5 year housing land supply – Whilst Torridge do not currently have a 5 year supply of land, once the local plan has been adopted and the Inspector has confirmed that she is happy with the site locations then Torridge will be in a position to confirm a 5 year supply of housing and instigate new development boundaries around relevant settlements.

### Somerset and Unitary Plans

Somerset CC have announced that they are proposing to change to a Unitary Authority. A unitary authority is a type of local authority that has a single tier and is responsible for all local government functions within its area. This would mean the abolishment of the District and Town Councils within Somerset. The reason for this suggestion would appear to be because Somerset CC are attempting to save money as they are not, I'm led to believe, in a very good financial position. They do however have to gain the support of the District Councils and local MP's before anything can happen. DCC have assured us that there are no plans for Devon to follow suit.

## **24. Planning.**

### (a) New Applications.

#### (1) **1/0378/2018/FUL. Land at Balleroy Close, Shebbear, Devon.**

Proposed Dwelling.

Clerk responded to TDC. Opposed the previous application because the footprint was too large for this site. There has been no material change since the last application and the Inspector upheld TDC's decision, and we can see no reason for change. Furthermore, again the footprint comes out over valuable turning space. Shebbear Parish Council strongly recommends TDC refuse this application.

### (b) Applications Granted.

None.

### (c) Applications Refused.

#### (1) **1/0138/2018/FUL. Ladford Mill, Shebbear, Beaworthy, Devon.**

Single Storey Kitchen Extension.

Going to Appeal.

Received by Councillors.

### (d) Any relevant adjacent applications.

None.

## **25. Finance.**

(1) To Approve Final Year End Accounts to March 2018 and complete Annual Return. Cllr Clark pointed out that expenditure had exceeded income due to the £7,000 for the Helipad night landing site.

The Annual Return was signed and dated.

(2) Parish Precept

Clerk reported first half of Parish Precept had been received in the sum of £6,740 with no deduction for Clerk's salary. In the past this had been deducted from the Precept payment, but would instead be invoiced, 6 months in arrears.

## **Chairman welcomed C Cllr Parsons to the meeting and invited him to speak.**

Cllr Parsons apologised for his late arrival due to a previous appointment and congratulated both the Chairman and Cllr Franklin on their appointments.

### Holsworthy Community Hospital

Some really good news is the pending re-opening of the hospital beds in Holsworthy. Over 12 months

had passed since the 'temporary' closing of the beds. Much work has taken place to achieve this, and we will now see how best we can move forward with the Clinical Commissioning Group and in the best interests of all in and around Holsworthy.

#### Council Tax Band D

Cllr Parsons highlighted the disparity in the Band D banding nationally. For example, in Torridge Band D is £1,821, across London just over £1,400 and in Wandsworth only £700. The average national is just over £1,600.

#### Roads

Expressed concern about issues related to our roads. A recent national report (through ALARM, a nationally recognised organisation that deals with risk management) indicates that it is likely that 20% of our road network across the country will be virtually unusable in 5 years' time. This issue is not specific to Devon, indeed, Torridge. If one compares the amount of funding (nearly £60 billion) going into the high speed rail network (HS2) it is roughly 4 times that needed to make a massive difference to our roads. I'm hoping that our South Western MP's will work together and insist on a much fairer funding allocation for rural areas, in particular.

**Chairman thanked C Cllr Parsons for his attendance and excellent report.**

#### (3) Approval of Items for payment.

(a) DALC – Affiliation fees - £201.66.

(b) Ecclesiastical Insurance - £301.01

© Glasdon Seat Proforma Invoice £500.01

(d) Adrian Caudwell – (grasscutting & powerwashing) - £162.00.

(e) Re-imburse Clerk – (Stationery & Ink) £27.15.

(f) Payment of previously agreed Local Grants (Minute 109 (1) December 2017)

Shebbear School Support Group £800. Little Bears £550. History Group £100. Citizens Advice Bureau £500. Lake Chapel Graveyard £150.00. Shebbear Shooters £200. Shebbear Youth Club £650. Shebbear Football Club £400.

Proposed Cllr Stupple, Seconded Cllr Curtis, that items (a) – (f) inclusive be paid, all in favour.

#### Bank Balances.

Current Account: £20,068.69

Reserve Account: £9,737.64

#### **26. Correspondence.**

(a) PCSO Melissa Baker – Police Report.

Logs and crimes for the past month.

Logs – 2 Road traffic collisions, 1 violence, 1 nuisance anti-social behaviour, 1 personal anti-social behaviour and 1 concern for welfare.

Crimes – 0

#### Circulation File.

Council Planning Lists. Grant Reports from local organisations. Precept. Police Report. Devon & Cornwall Alert. Summary Guide to Enforcement. Holsworthy Rural.

#### **27. Agenda items for the Parish Council Meeting which will be held on Tuesday July 10<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 7-30 pm, and any other matters, for discussion only, at the Chairman's discretion.**

There being no other business, Chairman closed the meeting at 9.18pm.

Signed .....

Dated.....