

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at 7-30 pm on Tuesday September 8th 2009 in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present: Vice Chairman: R Clark.

Cllrs: H Davis. G Slade. P Lomax. J Curtis. E Haste. R Gliddon. J Dungate.

Clerk: David Walker. 2 Members of the public.

Agenda. 2009. Commenced at 7-30 pm with Vice Chairman R Clark taking the Chair in the absence of Chairman R Johns who was on holiday.

83. Apologies for Absence.

Chairman R Johns. (Holiday.) Cllr L Quance. (Prev Comm.) PCSO Baker. (Off Duty.)

D/Cllr Saywell had given advance warning that he may not be able to attend due to another committment.

84. Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda/ Any variations to Members Registration of Interests.

Chairman R Clark declared an interest in item 91(e), DAPC subscriptions, as he is a member of the DAPC County Committee.

85. Minutes of the Meeting held on August 11th 2009. All were in agreement that the Draft Minutes, which had been previously circulated, be approved and signed as a correct record.

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

Clerk had written to TDC on July 29th asking that the play area equipment at Barn Close be cleaned.

Cllr Slade had inspected the site and nothing appears to have been done. Clerk will follow this up.

Scout Group finance. Clerk has been in contact with the District Scout Commissioner Linda Buckland who will be discussing the matter of the ringfenced funds from 1997 at their September Group meeting.

Post Office van. Clerk had spoken to van staff about the bouncy public access steps causing concern to elderly customers. Staff will see what can be done.

Dog bin at Lake Trading Estate. Chairman R Clark said that he had established among dog walkers that moving the bin to a new position near the estate entrance would be a popular decision and suggested that attaching the bin to the post used by the roving speed warning sign would be suitable. Cllrs discussd the safety implications involved and as the post is set back on the verge behind a raised kerb no problems were envisaged. Approval from Highways is awaited.

Cllr Davis raised the matter of dog fouling, of which there were starting to be instances on pavements and in the recreation field. In the first instance it was suggested that an article in Reflecting Shebbear and the assistance of the Dog Warden to draw attention to the situation would be appropriate.

Road Drainage. Cllr Haste said that he had reported at the last meeting that the ditches between Lake and Battledown had been cleaned to a good standard but as there were no pipes under the field gate entrances there was nowhere for road water runoff to go. During the last month roadside ponds had built up and were seeping into the fields. Clerk will report this to Highways.

87. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

(a) Annual Fixed Asset Inspection. Clerk reported that the fixed assets had been inspected by Cllr Davis and himself since the last meeting. There were a number of defects to report. The bus shelter. Of the 8 support columns, 3 were beginning to rot at ground level and early remedial action is required. Cllr Dungate offered to inspect and suggest possible repairs. Street light bracket on The Lawns requires painting. Seats. 2 seats in The Square need slats replacing. Floral troughs. The 2 wooden troughs beneath the Shebbear signs both need renewing. Caute phone box. This is now parish council property and the light doesn't work. Cllr Dungate offered to investigate.

It was agreed that a repair budget for these items be drawn up for approval at the next meeting.

Parish Council computer. Clerk asked , as he uses his own computer for council business, and that the council computer, keyboard and crt monitor, which were in poor condition when he received them from the previous clerk and is obsolete, whether it can be disposed of as it is virtually worthless and taking up space. It was agreed that this could be discussed at next months meeting.

Cllr Lomax reported that he had completed tidying the war memorial and stone trough and both had been planted with winter flowering pansies. He next intends to paint the bus shelter and village sign.

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(b) P3 Report. Cllr Lomax had walked all the parish paths in the past weeks and had produced a comprehensive report on the condition of the surfaces and fixtures. Councillors received copies of this report. Peter had also had a very productive meeting with Ros Davies, the DCC P3 co-ordinator, and Jonathan Rowlands the area Footpath Warden. This has resulted in Peter being able to relay to Cllrs all the latest ways in which P3 supports parishes both financially and logistically to maintain a path network for the benefit of landowners and walkers. In respect of the several repairs and improvements that Peter had identified in his report P3 will be letting Peter know the costs of the repairs, then Peter and Mr Rowlands will decide the order of priority for the repairs to be done. Cllr Gliddon commented that we ought to be spending the P3 funding we have in reserve. Peter said that until we did we would not receive any support funding from P3.

Chairman congratulated Peter for a splendid report and thanked him for the time and effort taken.

(c) Grasscutting Mr Paulger had been in touch with Clerk and had, with regret, terminated his agreement to carry out grasscutting for the parish council as a result of illness within his family taking up a lot of his time. Clerk had requested Adrian Caudwell to continue the grasscutting until the end of the season. This had been done once by the time of the meeting and may need another cut before the winter and would not incur any more expense than that which would have been due to Mr Paulger. It was suggested that when next years tenders are sought for grasscutting that the parish council should also identify a person to carry out routine repairs and maintenance.

88. District Councillors report.

There was no report this month as Mr Saywell had not arrived. Chairman relayed information on Andrews behalf concerning the rumour that the Ackland Close houses were being allocated to "undesirables from Plymouth". There was absolutely no truth in this suggestion and the allocation policy being followed is that as set out in minute 68 of the July parish council meeting. Andrew had also ascertained that DCC had not adopted the road in Meadow Park which may account for the confusion over who was responsible for cutting the grass on the main road strip. Cllr Haste suggested that the householders could cut it, seeing that it was such a small area.

89. Planning.

(a) New Applications.

(1) 1/0754/2009/OHL. No Objections.

(b) Applications Granted.

(1) 1/0543/2009. Roofed silage clamp at Battledown Farm.

(2) 1/0640/2009. Extension at rear of 8 St Michaels View. Shebbear.

(c) Any relevant adjacent applications. None.

90. Finance

Bank Balances Previously circulated and received by councillors.

Updating of Financial Regulations. It was agreed that the procedure for updating should be made an agenda item for next months meeting when all councillors will have had chance to see the model copy.

91. Correspondence.

(a) DCC. Car Free Day. Poster placed on notice board.

(b) DAPC, Annual Report. Circulated to Cllrs.

(c) Rural Devon profile. Circulated to Cllrs.

(d) DAPC Sept/Oct newsletter. Circulated to Cllrs.

(e) DAPC Subscriptions. 2010-11. Approval being sought for a 2% rise at AGM.

92. Items for the next Council Meeting Agenda on Tuesday October 13th 2009, and any other business at the Chairmans discretion.

(1) Cllr Slade said that there was a sign post missing at Hayes Cross.

(2) The sign for Endford Water Gardens was still in situ at Battledown, long after the closure of the premises.

There being no other Business the Meeting ended at 9-06 pm.