

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday September 9th 2014 in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor E Haste.

Councillors: Vice Chairman J Dungate. M A Wells. R Clark. P Mingham. R Gliddon. J Stupple.
J Curtis. K Dymond.

District Councillor D Hurley.

Andrew McMurray (Westward Housing). PCSO M Baker. 2 Members of the public. Clerk. D Walker.

AGENDA. 2014. Commenced at 7-34 pm.

Chairman E Haste opened the Meeting, and welcomed all present.

104. Apologies for Absence.

None received.

105. Public Participation Period.

No requests to speak received.

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

(a) Discloseable pecuniary interests (Prejudicial). None received.

(b) Registerable interests. None received.

(c) Any variations to Members Registration of Interests. None received.

107. Draft Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday August 12th 2014, having been previously circulated, to be approved and signed.

All in favour, that the August 12th Minutes be approved and signed as a correct record.

Draft Minutes of Extraordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday August 26th, to be approved and signed.

All in favour, that the August 26th Minutes be approved and signed as a correct record.

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

Clerk reported that the work to site the new seats in The Square had been awarded to AP Construction who will be starting work on a date to be notified.

The order for the 3 new village entry signs and posts has been placed with SWHighways(Signs).

The annual Fixed Asset inspection has been carried out by Councillor Mingham and the Clerk. The updated list circulated to Councillors with any remedial work to be discussed and approved at the next Meeting.

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

None.

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

None.

111. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

(1) *Parish Councillor vacancy due to the resignation of Councillor Carr.*

The letter from Tony Carr announcing his resignation due to family illness was received by the Members.

Chairman spoke for all in saying that Shebbear Parish Council had lost a valuable Member and expressed sympathy for Lynn and Tony, plus gratitude for all the work they had put in while involved in Parish Council business, a bunch of flowers and a card was agreed to be an appropriate gesture from the Parish Council.

Clerk to notify TDC Electoral Services of the vacancy in order that the process to fill the vacancy be initiated.

(2) *Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014. (Revision of Practices and Standing Orders).* With reference to Order 1(m) of the Standing Orders, currently adopted and in use by Shebbear Parish Council, "**Photographing, recording, broadcasting or transmitting the proceedings of a meeting by any means is not permitted without the Council's prior written consent**".

This Order is now rescinded and replaced by new legislation stating that -

" A person may not orally report or comment about a Meeting as it takes place if that person is present at the Meeting of a Parish Council or it's Committees but otherwise may;

(a) film, photograph or make an audio recording of a Meeting;

(b) use any other means for enabling persons not present to see or hear proceedings at a Meeting as it takes place, or later;

(c) report or comment on the proceedings in writing during or after a Meeting, or orally report or comment after the Meeting.

All in Agreement that this amendment be made to the previously adopted Standing Orders.

(3) *Maintenance of various grassed areas in the village.*

The grassed area of particular concern is at the junction of Barn Close and The Street. Clerk had established that Westward Housing was not responsible for that area. Councillor Curtis reported that no further enquiries were necessary as DCC Highways had attended and cut the grass in the last few days. It was therefore assumed that they had taken responsibility, but only for two cuts each year.

(4) *Flood Warning System.*

Councillors received a number of reports on the progress of the scheme for Dipper Mill which also includes Sheepwash and Black Torrington parishes. Lynsay McClean at the Environment Agency is busy dealing with matters relating to Planning for the warning signs and, with the help of Councillor Clark, the best places to position them. Lynsay has also sourced the necessary funding from the Pathfinder Fund with hopefully the first two years maintenance included in the contract. Still to be finalised is the positioning of the sensors and the transponder as each location has its own characteristics. Councillor Clark offered to continue to assist. Chairman asked that our appreciation be passed on for the work being done.

8-15pm. Chairman welcomed PCSO Melissa Baker. Melissa introduced PC 5329 Simon Smith who is now the Constable mainly dedicated to this area and based at Torrington Police Station, having recently transferred from Derbyshire. Simon apologised for arriving late as he had to deal with an incident on the way to the Meeting. Also present was Andrew MacMurray from Westward Housing. Melissa reported that 6 logs had been raised during the last 30 days for Shebbear which in the main involved antisocial behaviour or violence.

Simon and Melissa outlined the situation that currently exists in Shebbear, saying that the Police are well aware of the ongoing problems which mostly involve the same person and that to be able to take effective action firm evidence has to be obtained with which to build a case. There are concerns about the persons behaviour. Councillors pointed out that the individual concerned had been housed in the wrong house in the wrong area. Andrew MacMurray, Westward Housing, said, at the time there was a Support Package in place in relation to the persons problem, but recently funding has been cut. It is possible to evict someone but it is a lengthy procedure and a previous attempt had failed. The evidence required has to relate to the person's dwelling house not to any incidents that occur elsewhere. Councillor Gliddon said that people are afraid to be identified as complainers. Andrew MacMurray said that it is necessary for people to stand up in Court. Councillor Clark said that surely if a person was disabled they would be found an appropriate place, could you not find a more suitable dwelling for this person. Andrew said that the person had been offered a choice of 3 houses and had chosen to live in Shebbear.

8-30pm. Chairman thanked Andrew, Simon and Melissa for their participation and they all left the Meeting.

Item 111 (Cont)

(5) *Allotment.*

Clerk reported that, as agreed at the August Meeting, he had written to Bideford Methodist Circuit, with a copy to Manchester, expressing the Parish Council's concern at the manner in which the lease of the land at New Inn was being dealt with by the Methodists. No written replies have been received but Superintendent Morgan from the Bideford Circuit had spoken to the Parish Clerk about the planned meeting in July which was cancelled at the last minute when representatives from the Parish Council and the Allotment Association had almost arrived at the arranged venue. Superintendent Morgan stated that they, the Methodists, had not cancelled the Meeting, and there was no indication who had, as all in the Circuit were in favour of the tenancy and wanted the allotment project to proceed.

112. District Councillors Report.

David Hurley reported that the Joint Area Advisory Group Meeting arranged for September 10th at Langtree was to include presentations on Highways, Rural Broadband, and Planning.

The opening market at Holsworthy AgriCentre on September 3rd had been a great success.

There is to be a review of Polling Districts and Polling Places and a consultation period from September 8th to October 3rd will be in place should anyone interested wish to participate via the TDC website.

Local Housing tenants are to be consulted on the proposed merger of Tarka Housing, Westcountry Housing and Westward Housing and it is hoped to finalise this by April 2016.

TDC restructuring continues with a new position of Strategic Manager (Services).

David had followed up the concerns raised by Councillor Wells at the August Meeting in relation to the noise emission testing being carried out for the proposed Badworthy Farm wind turbine. Mathew Millichope the Environment Officer at TDC is working with the installation company carrying out the ongoing tests and would help with any enquiries.

Chairman thanked David for his attendance and report.

113. Planning.

(a) New Applications.

1/0756/2014/FUL. Proposed stable block. At 11 Meadow Park. Shebbear.

Councillors agreed to Object to the proposal, as the close proximity to adjacent dwellings was likely to raise environmental issues, namely noise, smells and vermin, which would be less of a problem if the stables were erected further away. The access through a narrow housing estate was also cause for concern.

(b) Applications Granted.

(1) *1/0638/2014/FUL. Conversion of first floor of outbuilding to holiday accommodation. Moorfield. Shebbear.*

(2) *1/0639/2014/FUL. Extension of agricultural building. Allacott Farm. Shebbear.*

(3) *1/0720/2014/FUL. Stables at Owl Barn. Berry. Shebbear.*

(c) Any relevant adjacent applications. None.

114. Finance.

(1) *Approval of items for payment.* Proposed by Councillor Stupple, seconded by Councillor Clark, with all in favour, that agenda items 114(1) (a) to (d) inclusive be paid.

Bank Balances to August 29th 2014.

Current a/c £2,490-64 Reserve a/c £14,041.91 - Received by the Councillors.

115. Correspondence.

(1) *Tony Carr.* Resignation from the Parish Council.

(2) *Banstaple Town Council.* Invitation to Planning and Environmental School.

Councillors Circulation

DALC - AGM and Conference Oct 11th and Annual Report. DALC Sept Newsletter.

116. Items for the next Council Meeting Agenda which will be held on Tuesday October 14th 2014 at 7-30 pm, and any other matters, for discussion only, at the Chairmans discretion.

Councillor Dungate requested that the matter of out of pocket expenses for the Devilstone Inn Action Group be an agenda item next month.

There being no other Business Chairman closed the Meeting at 9-18pm.