

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at 7-30 pm on Tuesday December 2nd 2008 in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present: Chairman: R.Johns. Cllrs: L.Quance. H.Davis. G.Slade. N.Jeffers.
E.Haste. P.Lomax. District Cllr A. Saywell.
Clerk: David Walker. 1 Member of the Public.

Agenda. 2008. Commenced at 7-30 pm.

101. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr R. Gliddon. (Prev Eng.) Cllr R. Clark. (Prev Eng.) Cllr S. Hillier. (Work Commitments.)

Chairman suspended official business to allow PCSO Baker to give her months report. There had been a burglary to a dwelling in College Road recently. Two incidents of damage caused to the lawns at Shebbear College and at Buckland House by a vehicle being driven across them. Also thefts of diesel from the College mini-buses. A vagrant had been around the village area for a few days, the police had checked on him and he had since moved on. Councillor Lomax commented that local crime was not being circulated to coordinators via the telephone computer system. In Shebbear we occasionally heard about incidents in Torrington or South Molton but not our own crimes, which suggests that the system was not working. PCSO Baker said she would try and find out what was going wrong.

Official business resumed.

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

Cllr Jeffers stated that, if the planning application relating to The Gallery at Southcombe Farm was considered during the meeting he would declare a prejudicial interest as his partner Sarah Boait is the applicant.

103. Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday November 11th 2008, which had been previously circulated, were approved and signed.

104. Any matters arising from the Minutes.

Cllr Quance asked about the current state of parking in the street in the vicinity of the Midas site. Clerk said that no recent complaints had been made. As far as he was aware the spate of complaints arose during a short period of increased activity on the site when a large number of tradesmen were putting the finishing touches to the first batch of houses.

105. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

(a) Little Bears Pre-school. The request for financial support from the parish council had been withdrawn since the last meeting, as a grant was being sought from DCC. It was hoped this would be forthcoming but the parish council may be approached again if the application to DCC was not successful.

(b) B.T.Telephone kiosks at Rosehill and Caute. Clerk had contacted Ken Miles, the District Solicitor for his comments on the Adoption Agreement. Mr Miles had said that he was not permitted to give advice to outside bodies. Also that he was not aware of the Adopt a Kiosk scheme. Chairman stated that he was not satisfied with that state of affairs and District Councillor Saywell offered to look into the matter when he was next in Riverbank House. As it had already been considered that the Agreement was straightforward Chairman and Clerk will sign the Agreement and get it in the post.

(c) Back Lane. An assessment of the pathway had not been done but there had been a suggestion that an extra streetlamp halfway down would be beneficial. Councillors felt that as the lower lamp was obscured by the overgrown hedge at the bottom of Arlington House garden, efforts should be made to ask the owner of the property to reduce the height of the hedge, in which case the light from the streetlamp may be sufficient for Back Lane. Clerk to trace the owner and make the request.

106. District Councillors Report.

Mr Saywell said that his efforts to obtain funding for Little Bears were still in progress. He had also arranged for Maria Bailey, a senior officer from TDC Planning Dept, to attend a parish council meeting to brief councillors on the changes that have been introduced recently, and to allow councillors to air any matters of concern. The visit would not take place until the New Year by arrangement with Clerk.

107. Planning.

(a) New Applications.

(1) 1/1174/2008/FUL. Instal new sewage treatment plant adjacent to Way House. For Shebbear College. Once it had been clarified that the application was made by the College and the treatment plant was for the use of Way House following the interruption of the existing sewer line by the sports pitch currently under construction, councillors raised No Objections to the proposal.

At the Chairmans discretion in order that the decision making process would not be delayed, the following matters received at the last minute were considered.

8-05 pm. Councillor Jeffers left the room.

(2) 1/1183/2008/FUL. Amendment to 0402/2008 to permit retail sales at The Gallery, Southcombe Farm. For Ms Sarah Boait. No Objections.

Cllr Jeffers rejoined the meeting.

(3) 1/1202/2008/FUL. Sun Lounge extension at Rigby's Hay. Shebbear. For Mr R. McCurrach. No Objections.

(b) There were no relevant adjacent applications.

(c) Caute Cottage It had been brought to the parish councils attention that, following the granting of permission to convert the garage/garden room into holiday accomodation (0511/2008.) , the owners were living in the holiday accomodation and advertising the cottage for rental. A printout of the website carrying the advert was produced for councillors inspection. The matter was debated and it was decided that the facts be relayed to TDC planners for their information as it appeared that conditions attached to the planning approval were being disregarded.

108. Finance.

(a) Requests for Local Grants for the year 2009-2010 were considered by councillors who unanimously approved that the following be paid:-

Lake Chapel £100. St Michaels £100. Reflecting Shebbear £150. Little Bears £200. Bowls Club £100.

Village Hall £500. Shebbear Shooters £100. Shebbear Football Club £100. Citizens Advice £100.

Historical Society £100. Area Youth Project £100. Friends of Shebbear Medical Practice £200.

With regard to a request for a donation towards The Winsford Trust at Halwill, Clerk was asked to obtain more details of the Trusts activities before a decision could be made. A request from the Holsworthy Family Resource Centre was refused.

(b) Councillors considered the draft budget figure of £5616.00 prepared by Clerk to which was added the sums of £1850.00 for Local Grants and £2000.00 for anticipated parish projects. All were in favour of the resulting figure of £9466.00 being set as the Precept for 2009 - 2010.

(c) Proposed by Cllr Haste and seconded by Cllr Lomax with all in favour that £440 be paid to Shebbear Parochial Church Council towards the cost of new windows in the Church Room.

Annual Audit 2008 has been signed off by external auditor and returned to Clerk for public inspection.

Bank balances received by Councillors.

109. Correspondence.

Items (a) to (d) inclusive received by Councillors for information.

110. Items for next Meetings Agenda on Tuesday January 13th 2009 , and any other business at the Chairmans discretion.

Two seats that are deemed to be unsafe for further use beside the Big Oak in the Square will be removed by Cllrs Quance and Slade. Cllr Jeffers informed council that he was able to supply green oak seats for £100 each and would bring illustrations of examples to the next meeting.

There being no other Business the Meeting ended at 9-35 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....