

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at 7-35 pm on Tuesday July 8th 2008 in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present: Chairman: R.Johns. Cllrs: L.Quance. E.Haste. P.Lomax. H.Davis. G.Slade.
R.Clark. R.Gliddon. N.Jeffers. District Cllr A. Saywell.
Clerk: David Walker.

Before the commencement of official business Mr Richard Spurway, temporarily in charge of the Parish Paths Partnership administration in Exeter, gave a short talk and answered councillors questions about the present day running of the scheme, in the absence of Ros Davies, currently on maternity leave.

Agenda. 2008.

51. Apologies for Absence. Cllr S. Hillier. (Delayed at work.). PCSO Baker.

52. Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda/ Any variations to Members Registration of Interests.
Chairman R. Johns declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 57(a) due to his planning application for an extension to a farm building.

53. Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday June 10th 2008, which had been previously circulated, were approved and signed.

54. Any matters arising from the Minutes.
No matters raised.

55. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

(a) Back Lane and roadside verges. - There had been a complaint in the last few days that the vegetation on either side of the footpath in Back Lane was hanging over the walkway. Cllr Slade reported that someone had cut back the excess growth in the last day or so, improving the situation for the time being. The overgrown state of the roadside strip alongside Meadow Park was again discussed. Clerk told the meeting that he had made further efforts to find out from Highways what the situation was regarding verge trimming generally and in the last few days had received an apologetic response saying that there had been problems arranging sub contractors and that work had finally commenced. As Clerk had agreed last year with Highways that the Meadow Park strip should be included in the trimming programme, he hoped that this would be done. Councillors were of the opinion that this would amount to only one annual cut which would not be satisfactory. Councillor Haste made the point that a member of the public had offered to cut the strip when necessary but the offer had not been taken up because a councillor had said that Highways should do it. It was hoped the Lengthsman would shortly do a cut and the situation could be reviewed if necessary.

(b) Land Registry. - Clerk has further enquiries to make with LR to establish if the parish council has the necessary title to enable registration of areas of land in the parish, and will report back.

(c) Emergency Plan. - Clerk still working on the details. When commenting on the need for an up to date Emergency Plan the Auditor had also said that it would be prudent to place notices adjacent to the War Memorial warning of a trip hazard presented by the posts and chains. After some discussion councillors all agreed that the best solution would be to remove the posts and chains completely, not least because they are in a poor state of repair, but before this is implemented Clerk should seek the approval of the British Legion.

(d) Repairs to Assets. - The seat near the village hall entrance is causing concern and needs urgent attention being in an advanced state of disintegration. Councillors were of the opinion that it should be replaced as soon as possible using funds set aside for village projects. It was proposed by Chairman R.Johns and Seconded by Cllr Clark with all in favour that this be done and Cllr Slade and Clerk will make the arrangements.

Cllr Slade had spoken to Mr Sluggett who had said he was keen to continue the asset repairs as previously arranged.

56. District Councillors Report.

Mr Saywell reported that Torridge D.C had just been visited by a Government Performance Assessment Team and they were looking forward to receiving a favourable report.

56.(cont.)

The Boundary Commission has made their preliminary recommendation for a whole of Devon Unitary Authority and this has triggered another round of consultations lasting into the autumn. The proposal has met with a mixed response, unsurprisingly, as all the options appear to have shortcomings of one sort or another and at the end of the day the Secretary of State could decide to shelve the whole issue. Chairman thanked Andrew for his attendance and report.

57. Planning.

(a) New Applications.

(1) 1/0418/2008/FUL. Extension to shed at Backway Farm. Shebbear. For Mr R.Johns.

8-53pm Chairman R.Johns left the room at this point while this application was discussed.

In view of the temporary absence of the Chairman and the apology for absence of Vice Chairman Hillier, Councillor Haste proposed that the application be passed with No Objections without further consideration as the details of the application were unchanged from its first hearing by the Parish Council on April 8th (Minute 37a) the reason for its resubmission being a technicality not affecting the actual plans. The proposal was agreed by all Councillors and No Objections recorded.

8-57pm Chairman R. Johns returned to the Meeting.

(2) 1/0592/2008/LBC. Proposed first floor extension over existing sculpture room to provide additional classroom accommodation and construction of new classroom adjacent. For Shebbear College. No Objections.

(3) 1/0652/2008/FUL. First floor extension and alteration. Dartmoor View. 1 College Road. Shebbear. For Mr Trask. No Objections.

(4) 1/0694/2008/FUL. Construction of new all weather hockey pitch with associated fencing and landscaping. For Shebbear College. No Objections.

(b) Applications Granted.

(1) 1/0405/2008/FUL. Rear Conservatory. The Beeches. Shebbear. For Mr Buse.

(2) 1/0509/2008/FUL. Stable Block. Caute Cottage. Shebbear. For Mr Shailer.

(c) Applications Refused.

None.

(d) Any relevant adjacent applications.

None.

58. Finance.

Clerk requested Bank Authorisation signatures from Councillors in order to submit a further Authorisation to correct the mistakes made by the Bank in processing the previous attempts to update the Mandates. Signatures were provided by Councillors and Clerk will forward the forms to NatWest.

It was noticed that there was no request for Clerks wage this month. Clerk intends to ask for payment periodically instead of monthly to reduce administration.

There were no accounts for payment this month. Bank Balances received by Councillors.

59. Correspondence.

(a) Letters of Thanks were heard by Council from the Village Hall / P.F Committee and the History Society.

(b) Details of the proposed temporary road closures between Shebbear and Brandis Corner in October were discussed by Councillors. Details will be publicised by Highways.

(c) The information relating to transfer of Local Authority property in 1974 was not felt to be relevant to Shebbear.

Items (d) to (k) inclusive were circulated to Councillors for information.

60. Items for next Meetings Agenda on Tuesday August 12th 2008, and any other business at the Chairmans discretion.

None raised.

There being no other Business the Meeting ended at 9-36pm.