

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at 7-30 pm on Tuesday March 11th 2008 in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present: Chairman: R.Johns. Cllrs: L.Quance. P.Lomax. H.Davis. G.Slade.
R.Clark. R. Gliddon. 2 Members of the Public.

Agenda. 2008.

- 21. Apologies for Absence.** Cllr N.Jeffers. (Work Commitments.)). Cllr S. Hillier. (illness.)
District Cllr Saywell. (University.) Cllr E.Haste. (Work Commitments.) PCSO Baker.
- 22. Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda/ Any variations to Members Registration of Interests.**
None received.
- 23. Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday March 11th 2008,** which had been previously circulated, were approved and signed, when the words "in his private capacity" were inserted in Item 15(a) after "coordinator for the event."
- 24. Any matters arising from the Minutes.**
15(b) **Cllr Davis** had been unable to attend the Community Plans Database Workshop due to a car breakdown but he had made enquiries as to the progress of the project with the coordinator and it seemed that once the project is fully up and running it would be up to us to insert whatever information we wanted onto the site. Cllrs queried whether the database would be a duplication of our Village Website but Cllr Davis felt it was mostly to do with Parish plans and intentions rather than general information. It was suggested that a link from one site to the other would be a good idea. Cllrs agreed that our input to the database would be by decisions made by council in the normal way with Clerk instructed to insert the data.
15(c) **Clerk** had been in touch with Allianz Cornhill Insurance regarding our assets re-assessment. They weren't happy to insure a number of lesser items on a block basis and wanted each item individually valued. This was done by councillors and Clerk will forward details to Allianz Cornhill.
20. It had been reported under Any Other Business, that a large number of potholes and broken edges which had been marked for attention last year by Highways, throughout the parish, had not been done. Clerk had made enquiries and the Area Engineer was under the impression that they had been done. The whole lot would have to be re-assessed for attention this year. **Cllr Clark** had arranged for a Defects Register to be raised at Highways Area North and asked that any defects reported be added to the list. Clerk reported that the dangerous grating outside the Trading Estate had been repaired, another grit bin had been sited on Hay Hill and the redundant Endford Watergarden signs had been removed.
- 25..Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.**
(a) Grasscutting. Mr Paulger had indicated his desire to carry on with the grasscutting for the new season and had said that his charges would only be slightly raised to allow for the increased cost of fuel etc. Councillors agreed that Mr Paulger should be instructed to carry out the work for a further season and also to include tidying the area around the seat at New Inn if he was agreeable. It was suggested that in future any tenders accepted should be on a 3 year basis, subject to satisfactory work, as this would encourage pride in the job and the confidence to invest in new equipment when necessary. All in agreement.
(b) Repairs to Assets. Councillors agreed that Mr Peter Sluggett be asked to carry out repairs to damaged seats and to the war memorial surround. Clerk to arrange.
(c) Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. Cllrs agreed on Tuesday May 13th 2008 for this years annual meetings. Agenda items to be arranged.
(d) Post Office Closures. Cllrs discussed the impending closures process, aware that there was not much that could be done until the offices earmarked for closure became known in May, but we could at least be aware of the ways we might campaign if necessary.

26. District Councillors Report.

Mr Saywell sent his apologies, he is in the midst of his finals and was unable to attend but assures us that he will be finished at University in a few months time and we will then see a lot more of him.

27. Planning.

- (a) No new applications had been received.
- (b) Applications granted were received by councillors. With regard to the new residential development opposite Balkwill Cottages, Clerk had been contacted at short notice by the developers who wanted a name for the site which would reflect local interest. Ron Ackland suggested that the Mill family name had been long associated with the village and had been proprietors of the old Post Office opposite the building site. It was put to the developers that Mill Field be used for the purposes of marketing the properties, which they have agreed to do. The opportunity to choose permanent road names will arise when the development is complete.
- (c) & (d) There were no applications refused and no relevant adjacent applications.

28. Finance.

It was proposed by Cllr Lomax and seconded by Cllr Slade with all in agreement, that Items (a) (b) & (c) be paid.

The Bank balances were received by Councillors.

29. Correspondence.

- (a) Cllrs received the Police March newsletter which was placed on the notice boards.
 - (d) A letter from Mr Otter, the Chief Constable outlining the Force progress in meeting targets aimed at improving police/public contact and putting more officers on the beat, was read to Council. It also set out the extra cost to the council taxpayer as a result of this.
 - (e) The Lifelong Learning Network questionnaire was distributed to councillors.
 - (g) Holsworthy Area Advisory Group. No Agenda Items were put forward. It was felt that the Torrington and District MCTA Local Community Partnership was more active, and the Holsworthy AAG had fallen by the wayside to some extent.
 - (h) Gt Torrington School. Change of status. Councillors were interested to know more about this but as the consultation period ends on March 18th there is insufficient time to debate this and respond. Items (b) (c) & (f) together with last minute arrivals Devon Talk magazine and Devon NHS Review were circulated to councillors together with a review of Torridge Hackney Cab and Taxi Licensing systems.
- Cllr Clark had received a letter from The Community Council of Devon requesting feedback from Shebbear and other parishes in connection with the Parish Plan, with the intention of combining the information, whether of the benefits or the problems experienced, into book form for future reference. It was agreed that Cllr Clark should liaise with Clerk and Cllr Jeffers to complete the questionnaire.

30. Items for next Meetings Agenda on Tuesday April 8th 2008, and any other business at the Chairmans discretion.

With the commencement of work on the new development, a number of concerns had been raised. Complaints of excessive machinery noise, lorry movements causing damage to verges and the depositing of mud on the carriageways, and fears that the work was not in compliance with the planning permission. Councillors felt that some disruption was inevitable but that the situation needed to be watched and any serious problems brought to the attention of the site manager. There was no evidence at the moment to indicate that any work had been done that was not in accordance with the passed plans.

There being no other Business the Meeting ended at **8-45 pm.**