

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at 7-30 pm on Tuesday September 9th 2008
in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present: Chairman: R.Johns. Cllrs: L.Quance. H.Davis. G.Slade. R.Gliddon. N.Jeffers.
District Cllr A. Saywell.
Clerk: David Walker.
5 Members of the Public.

Before the commencement of official business Mr Keith Horwell was present to answer any questions Councillors may have following the announcement that Shebbear Post Office was facing closure sometime before January 21st. Keith said that since the announcement he had been able to question the Post Office further as to why the closure was being implemented but received only the wooden response that Shebbear fitted the computer model closure criteria. Keith and Ann are trying to assemble a number of alternative services similar to those currently provided by the P.O, but these plans are still in the early stages.

Agenda. 2008. Commenced at 7-37 pm.

71. Apologies for Absence. Cllr Haste (Holiday.) Cllr Hillier.(Night Duty.) Cllr Lomax.(Unwell.)
Cllr Clark.(Unwell.) PCSO Baker. (Committed elsewhere.)

72. Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda/ Any variations to Members Registration of Interests.
None.

73. Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday August 12th 2008, which had been previously circulated,
were approved and signed.

74. Any matters arising from the Minutes.

Clerk reported that the Fixed Asset review (Minute 65c) had not yet been done mainly due to the wet weather.

75. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

(a) Land Registry and Title deeds. A letter from DCC Legal Dept had been received informing us that no title deeds could be found relating to Shebbear Square and Back Lane. This means that, in order to be able to register the land for the benefit of the parish, the legal process for acquiring ownership will have to be initiated. All were in agreement that this be made an agenda item for next months meeting when the procedure can be officially started.

(b) Regional Spatial Strategy. Due to Cllr Clark being unable to attend and present his appraisal of the Strategy, District Cllr Saywell, who was in possession of a hard copy of the proposal, gave a brief description of the contents, a considerable amount of which had been erased already by the Government. There does not appear to be too much of immediate concern as it is intended for use for the next 20 years and there is some doubt whether it will be implemented at all. Mr Saywell suggested that Maria Bailey from TDC might attend the next meeting to address any concerns before the consultation period closes towards the end of October. Thereafter it would be up to us as a parish to decide what we would like to see happen in Shebbear in the coming years. Clerk will make the necessary arrangements.

(c) B.T. Telephone kiosks at Rosehill and Caute. Councillors considered the offer from BT that parish councils adopt the kiosks as heritage objects after they are decommissioned and the phone equipment removed. There was also the option to sponsor the kiosks and retain them in working order. This option was rejected as the sum of £500 was to be levied by BT for each kiosk per annum. As interest had already been shown in adopting the Caute kiosk it was suggested that enquiries be made at Rosehill to establish if similar interest was shown there. Clerk will make enquiries and report back before the deadline on Oct 1st.

(d) Emergency Plan update. Clerk had been in touch with the Emergency Planning coordinators at TDC and obtained the latest model plan and guidance notes. It was noted that a Plan is not a legal requirement and that the model plan can be modified to suit particular parishes needs.

It was agreed that Clerk put together a draft plan for councillors appraisal at a future meeting.

76. District Councillors Report.

Cllr Saywell spoke of the latest debates taking place about The Boundary Commission proposals and the various arguments for and against the options put forward. The view that the Commission have already made their minds up is increasingly believed and the main objects at present are to ensure that the views of towns and parishes in the more rural areas are not ignored in whichever scheme is eventually adopted. Moving on to the subject of potholed roads Mr Saywell had passed on complaints that he had received and hoped that the necessary repairs had been undertaken.

77. Planning.

(a) New Applications.

(1) 1/0895/2008/FUL. General purpose agricultural building for the storage of machinery, hay and straw. Berry Park Barn. Shebbear. For Mr S.Harrup. This was a reapplication following the refusal of 1/0058/2008/FUL by Torridge Planning Officers on the grounds that there was insufficient justification of need for approval. There were no changes to the new application, apart from details of the applicants agricultural and work activities which were for the information of the planning officer, so all were in agreement that the new application be forwarded to TDC with No Objections.

(b) Applications Granted

Received by Councillors.

(c) There were no relevant Adjacent applications.

78. Finance.

In addition to items 78(a) and 78(b), an invoice received at the last minute for grasscutting from Mr H.Paulger in the sum of £85.00, was considered for payment by councillors. It was proposed by Cllr Davis and seconded by Cllr Slade, with all in agreement, that the 3 payments should be made. Bank Balances were received by Councillors.

79. Correspondence.

Items(a) to (d) inclusive plus the Village Green magazine, the DAPC Sept/Oct newsletter, and details of the DAPC seminar and AGM were all circulated for councillors information.

Cllr Jeffers expressed an interest in the Ruby Country Initiative and received the latest correspondence and Meeting information.

80. Items for next Meetings Agenda on Tuesday October 14th 2008, and any other business at the Chairmans discretion.

Commencement of land acquisition process for The Square and Back Lane.

Invitation to Maria Bailey from TDC to speak re Regional Spatial Strategy.

Complaint of surface water entering Rosehill Bungalow garden from the roadway as a result of blocked drains. Also dangerous potholes between Battledown and New Inn. Clerk to report.

There being no other Business the Meeting ended at 8-40 pm.