

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday June 11th 2013 in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present:

Chairman: Councillor R Clark

Councillors: H Davis. E Haste. J Curtis. J Stupple. M A Wells. T Carr.

District Councillor J Lewis. 12 Members of the public. Clerk. D Walker.

AGENDA. 2013. Commenced at 7-30 pm.

Chairman Richard Clark opened the Meeting with the announcement that, for health reasons, he was having to step down from the Chairmanship with immediate effect and hand over to Vice Chairman Howard Davis. It is his intention to continue his commitment as a Councillor.

Vice Chairman Howard Davis took the Chair, with the approval of Members present, and complimented Councillor Clark on his period as Chairman. Howard wanted to make it clear that he was willing to take the Chair on the understanding that he intends to move house, which may be sooner or later, in which case consideration will need to be given to the election of a new Chairman.

Agreed - this matter to be an Item on the July agenda.

65. Apologies for Absence.

Councillor Lomax (Away). Councillor Gliddon (Away). Councillor Dungate (Working late).
County Councillor Parsons (Previous engagement).

66. Public Participation Period.

(1) Terry King. *Speaking on behalf of Shebbear Youth Club*. The Youth Club has been running for several months now and has around 50 young people, both children and teenagers, attending each Tuesday evening. The committee are now appealing for funding to enable the project to be taken further in the intended direction.

Chairman reminded members that this had been discussed at length when the Youth Club was formed and the decision taken was, that at that stage, we could not commit taxpayers money to what could turn out to be an unviable enterprise. Agreed that now that the Club is on a firm footing the matter of funding be an agenda item at the July meeting.

(2) Michael Collins. Informed the meeting of his intention to provide Shebbear parish organisations and residents with free internet access, and details of the services offered by himself and his associate company.

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

(a) Discloseable pecuniary interests.

None received.

(b) Registerable interests.

None received.

Any variations to Members Registration of Interests.

Councillor Clark stated that in view of his altered status he will be notifying changes to his interests.

68. Draft Minutes of Annual Council Meeting held on Tuesday May 7th 2013.

All in agreement, that the Draft Minutes, which had been previously circulated, be approved and signed by Chairman as a correct record.

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

Clerk reported details of road closures that will affect the village over the coming weeks, in particular that from July 1st for 5 weeks when trenching for cable laying will be carried out from Ackland Close via The Square to the bottom of Pitt Hill.

Allotments. There were still delays in preparation of the land lease which had reached the stage of being ready for signing but a person named on the document had unfortunately died and the paperwork was having to be redrafted. In the meantime the Allotment Association are looking for sources of funding.

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

Agreed - all items to be Part 1.

71. Any urgent agenda business or correspondence brought forward with the approval of the Chairman.

None.

72. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

(1) Draft Torrridge & N Devon Local Plan - Rural Development Opportunities.

Clerk reported that the Shebbear Parish response, containing the results of the parish questionnaire and our agreed input, was delivered to TDC at Riverbank House by hand on May 31st.

(2) Play equipment on the playing field.

As the Parish Council still have ownership of the new equipment it is included on our list of fixed assets and the insurance cover enhanced accordingly. The VAT paid (£3,197.00) has now been refunded.

Chairman invited Barry Hunt, Chairman of the Village Hall & Playing Field Committee, who was present at the meeting to give an update.

Negotiations are ongoing with the suppliers of the equipment over the replacement of the roundabout, which has broken twice. Plans are being made for further items to be purchased for older youngsters, such as a zip wire, a basketball hoop, a shelter and a set of larger swings. The high cost of these items was commented upon, a basketball hoop £2,000, a shelter £4,000 and a zip wire £6,000. The skate park equipment has been removed on the advice of ROSPA after a structural failure.

Barry took the opportunity while speaking to express his appreciation for all the work put in by Richard Clark, not only over matters associated with the Village Hall, but for everything he has done for the parish for a long time. These remarks drew a round of applause from all present.

(3) Youth Club - Litter Picking Initiative.

Councillors were pleased to hear from Terry King earlier in the meeting that the Youth Club was progressing well. All agreed that, rather than consider a single aspect such as litter picking, it is more appropriate for the Parish Council to have the issue of funding for the Youth Club on the July meeting agenda.

(4) Adjourned business from the Annual Parish meeting.

Clerk said that the only matters outstanding were the contributions received from local organisations. He had condensed these into an article for the June issue of Reflecting Shebbear and that the adjourned business now been dealt with.

73. District Councillors Report.

District Councillor Lewis apologised for his lengthy absences due to health problems. At the TDC Annual Meeting Councillor Barry Parsons had lost his position as Leader of the Council. He continues however, as our County Councillor. Regarding the TDC letter to the Prime Minister seeking guidance over the dilemma that Government policy had created over wind turbine planning applications, a reply had been received that the matter will be addressed in detail later. TDC are looking at alternative sources of generation and an application for the Atlantic Array is due on June 14th.

On a personal level Councillor Lewis is seeking to install local, publically accessible, defibrillators and considers that Shebbear, being some way away from ambulance resources, would benefit, time being the crucial issue in heart failure cases.

Councillor Clark commented that this suggestion had been put forward some years ago and had not been taken further as Dr Miller was not in favour. It was agreed to ask Dr Fernandez for his views on the subject. In conclusion, John Lewis said that, regarding the Youth Club funding, Barry Parsons and himself may be able to help if contacted.

Chairman thanked John for his attendance.

74. Planning.

(a) New Applications.

1/0399/2013/OUT. Outline application for 2 dwellings. Land at Balleroy Close. Shebbear.

Debated by Councillors. Agreed by vote, 6 for and 1 abstention, OBJECTION - OVERDEVELOPMENT and loss of green space within the village.

(b) Application Granted.

1/0267/2013/FUL. Erection of storage building for machinery. West Folly. Shebbear.

Received by Councillors.

Clerk reported that, since the agenda had been issued, he had received notification that the following had also been approved.

(1) 1/0348/2013/FUL. Wind Turbine at Durpley Farm. Shebbear.

(2) 1/0261/2013/FUL. 50kw solar array at Shebbear College.

(c) Any relevant adjacent applications. None.

75. Finance.

(1) Approval of Items for payment

All in favour that agenda items (a) to (e) inclusive be paid.

(2) Twinning Funds.

Councillors reminded that the intended destination for the Twinning Funds, (Minute 67 (3) of May 2012 refers), is to be the Village Hall, to benefit the parish. The total amount of £2,186.63 having been temporarily held by the parish council to defray the carry over of VAT paid on the purchase of new play equipment for the village hall playing field last year. The village hall committee will notify the parish council when the current negotiations over new equipment are concluded. (See Minute 72 (2) earlier). Councillor Haste suggested that any new equipment should bear a plaque acknowledging the use of the Twinning Funds.

(3) Parish Projects.

All in Agreement that the bus shelter was the first priority. Clerk to obtain brochures and price lists ahead of the July meeting when the matter be considered further.

Bank Balances to May 30th 2013.

Received by Councillors.

76. Correspondence.

(1) *10 Downing St. Re Support for TDC policy request.* Received by Councillors.

(2) *Jackson, Stops & Staff. Local Plan.* Received by Councillors. Clerk to write to Mr Gibbs pointing out that the decision to support the Endford Works site as the popular choice for future development was democratically arrived at and all the suggested sites, including Aish Park 2, had received equal consideration in the process. Also to make clear the Parish Council's position re affordable housing.

(3) *Shebbear School Support Group. Thanks for grant.*

(4) *CAB Torridge. Thanks for grant.*

(5) *Lake Chapel. Thanks for grant.*

(6) *Short Mat Bowls. Thanks for grant.*

(7) *Village Hall & P/Field. Thanks for grant.*

Items (3) to (7) inclusive read out at the Meeting.

76. (Cont).

Chairman approved the hearing of 2 recently received letters.

- (a) *Mary Smith*. Concerned about the disturbance caused by the tidying up work going on at CS Garage (now M & G Motors). Requests a visit by a Councillor. Chairman offered to call and assess the problem. D/Councillor Lewis stated that TDC had the matter in hand.
- (b) *Jeremy Brock. Re Data Protection*. Clerk had received a letter from the Information Commissioner stating that Mr Brock had made a Data Protection complaint, also included was a bundle of copies of letters and minutes of Parish Council meetings going back many months. As it was not clear what the complaint was, Clerk would have to contact the ICO to find out. In the meantime the letter and attachments were placed in the Councillors Information folder for circulation.

Councillors Circulation

Received by Councillors.

77. Items for the next Council Meeting Agenda which will be held on Tuesday July 9th 2013, and any other matters, for discussion only, at the Chairmans discretion.

- (1) Election of Chairman
- (2) Parish Lands Committee representatives.
- (3) Replacement of Bus Shelter.
- (4) Funding for Youth Club.

There being no other Business the Meeting ended at 9-02 pm.