

## **SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday March 13th 2012 in the Church Room. Shebbear.**

#### **Present:**

Chairman: Cllr R Clark.

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

7 members of the public. Clerk. David Walker.

**Agenda. 2012. Commenced at 7- 45 pm.** (After informal meeting concerning Jubilee arrangements).

#### **23. Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr P Lomax (Family commitments). Cllr R Gliddon (Unwell). D/Cllr J Lewis (Family commitments). C/Cllr B Parsons (Fog).

#### **24. Public Participation Period.**

- (1) Shelley Fleming. Shebbear Allotments. A brief update on the progress of the scheme. The lease on the land has finally been granted. The start up costs have now to be assessed and grant funding sought.
- (2) Steve James. Co-ordinator for Dunsland Turbine Opposition Group. (DTOG). Speaking in relation to the current application for 3 large wind turbines on land south of Dunsland Cross. A previous application for 4 turbines was defeated in 2008. Mr James described a number of issues relating to the accuracy of developers claims which contributed to that defeat. The turbines will be visible from some parts of Shebbear parish, and DTOG asked for Shebbears' support, as an adjacent parish, in objecting to the current application.

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

Cllr Davis declared a personal interest in Item 30 (a) (1) as a family member belongs to a campaign group.  
Cllr Wells declared a personal interest in Item 30 (a) (1) as a family member belongs to a campaign group.

#### **26. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday February 14th 2012.**

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

#### **27. Clerks Report. Any matters arising from the Minutes.**

Chairman invited Cllr Davis to report on the liaison with the Community Council of Devon over the update to the Parish Plan, (Minute 17(2) February refers). Howard reported that Cllr Lomax and himself had met Martin Rich of CCD. The advice received was that we should start as soon as possible, use the existing Plan as a starting point but create a completely fresh one. The Localism Act will not affect Parish Plans. Next in line will be a Neighbourhood Plan, which will outline how we want the parish to develop in terms of bricks and mortar. The suggestion is that once TDC have completed and published their N/Plan we should do ours and ensure that it ties in with the TDC version. Regarding the Parish Plan, CCD recommend setting up a steering group of 8 to 10 members made up of, say, 3 Parish Cllrs, 3 representatives from village organisations, and the remainder being volunteers. The Group should be driven by the parish council but the Chairman should be a member of the public, not a parish councillor. Keep TDC informed of progress. Expect to take 18 months to complete the Plan. There are a number of Plans on the CCD website for guidance. We are warned that any work done by CCD will be expensive.

Chairman thanked Howard and Peter for their efforts and Cllrs agreed to discuss the matter further at next months meeting.

Purchase of Projector as agreed at the last meeting. Clerk reported that since that decision was taken a benefactor had donated a projector to the village hall for parish use. Cllrs agreed that the decision to purchase should stand as, although in good condition, the donated item did not have the features deemed desirable by Cllrs. In any case, it would do no harm for there to be 2 available for loan. Clerk to proceed with purchase.

Grasscutting 2012. Adrian Caudwell is willing to continue the grasscutting in The Square, New Inn and Back Lane for the forthcoming season and is holding his charges at the previous level, £40 per cut.

SW Highways representative Clerk had invited a rep from SWH to address the meeting as requested last month but had received a reply that this was not SWH policy. They were willing however, to attend site meetings with Cllrs when required.

Shebbear Village Hall & Playing Field Committee Cllrs heard a letter from Ken Miles, solicitor at TDC, regarding the plans by the VH&PFC to upgrade the play equipment using Sect 106 funds lodged at TDC by Midas Homes during the Ackland Close development. This matter will have to be taken further as it may require the parish council to receive the funds. To be carried over to next months meeting.

Shebbear Village Sign. An assessment and costing was being done to renovate the sign as a Jubilee project.

## 28. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

### (1) Promotion of Wind Turbine Policy Statement.

Cllrs had received positive feedback from other parishes about the Shebbear Policy Statement and in view of the amount of hard work put in by the working party to produce the Policy Document, the opinion was that the Statement, and possibly the Document itself if there was a demand, should be made available to the wider public. The Statement is already in the public domain via the parish website in the January Meeting Minutes. Agreed that The North Devon Journal be approached for inclusion of an article in a forthcoming issue.

### (2) HM The Queens Jubilee Celebrations.

Agreed that this item be passed over, as sufficient progress had been made on this topic during the informal meeting earlier in the evening.

## 29. District Councillors Report.

D/Cllr Lewis had sent a written report and asked that it be read to Cllrs in his absence.

John reminds Cllrs about the campaign to roll out faster broadband across Devon and Somerset, and urges the parish council and individuals to register their support during the consultation. (*Shebbear Parish Council has already done so*).

John also offers his support to the proposed plan to upgrade the Shebbear playing field play equipment. Thirdly, John is a supporter of the National Defibrillation Programme and suggests that the installation of a Community Public Access Defibrillator in Shebbear would be a wise precaution bearing in mind our rural location.

## 30. Planning.

### (a) New applications.

(1) 1/0073/2012/FUL. Erection of a single 500kw wind turbine, with maximum blade tip height of 79 metres. Land at Durpley Farm. Shebbear. For Chase Milton Energy Ltd.

Cllrs agreed that it would take some time some time to evaluate the large quantity of information contained within the application, and that the maximum possible extension to the consultation period should be agreed with TDC Planners.

(2) 1/0130/2012/FUL. Single storey extension and new window openings. Dashed Down. North Furze. Shebbear. For Mr & Mrs D Hamilton. NO OBJECTIONS.

(b) Application Withdrawn. None received

(c) Applications Granted. None received.

(d) Any relevant adjacent applications.

(1) 1/1250/2011/FULM. Erection of 3 wind turbines of a height between 95 and 100 Metres to tip, together with 1 meteorological mast, switchgear building and associated accesses and infrastructure. Land at Dunsland Cross, Brandis Corner. Map Ref: 240667/103874.

These turbines would be visible from parts of Shebbear parish and would be detrimental to the North Devon Biosphere. Cllrs were also concerned about the road safety aspect and the fact that the application had been shabbily compiled. Agreed that Shebbear parish council would support Bradford and Cookbury parish council's objection to the application. A written objection statement to be raised for this Item and Item (a) (1) above, to be approved at a special meeting to be called in a weeks time.

3.

**31. Finance.**

(1) Accounts for payment:-

(a) Clerks wage.

(b) HMRC. (P.A.Y.E.)

(c) Devon CC. Purchase of Fuji Salt/Gritter.

All in Agreement that the above 3 items be paid.

(2) Grant towards Shebbear Community School playground improvements. To be decided.

Bank Balances to February 29th 2012, received by Cllrs. Current a/c £7,008.65 Reserve a/c £12,525.03  
Includes P3 balance of £1598.36 and the amount of £1312.00 credited from DCC re Gritter purchase.

**32. Correspondence.**

None received this month.

**33. Items for the next Council Meeting Agenda to be held on Tuesday April 10th 2012, and any other matters at the Chairmans discretion.**

Cllr Haste informed Cllrs that, regrettably, due to business commitments, he would be giving up the role of Snow Warden with immediate effect.

There being no other Business the Meeting ended at 9-32 pm.