

SHEBBEAR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual Council Meeting
held at 7-30 pm on Tuesday May 12th 2009 in the Church Room. Shebbear.

Present: Chairman: R Johns. Cllrs: H Davis. G Slade. E Haste. P Lomax. R Gliddon. R Clark.
District Cllr A Saywell. Mr B. Parsons.JP.
Clerk: David Walker. 5 Members of the Public.

Agenda. 2009. Commenced at 7-30 pm.

41. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr L. Quance. (Hospital). PCSO M.Baker. (Unavailable.)

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

None received.

43. Election of Officers.

- (1) Chairman. Cllr Haste proposed that Cllr Roy Johns be nominated to serve a further term of office as Chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Slade with all in agreement. Roy was pleased to be re-elected, thanked Cllrs for their support, and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office. No other nominations received.
- (2) Vice Chairman. A proposal from Cllr Davis that Richard Clark be nominated as Vice Chairman for the coming year was seconded by Cllr Gliddon. All were in favour and Richard expressed his willingness to accept the Office and was duly elected. There were no other nominations.
- (3) Local Auditor. Cllr Davis proposed that Mr Mark Ohlsen be asked to audit the accounts for the current return. This was seconded by Cllr Slade with all in agreement.
- (4) Parish Lands Committee. Cllr Davis and Cllr Slade expressed an interest in joining the Parish Lands Committee. Cllr Clark proposed that they be nominated to be the Parish Council representatives. This was seconded by Cllr Lomax with all in agreement.

44. Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday April 14th 2009, which had been previously circulated, were approved and signed.

45. Any matters arising from the Minutes.

A refurbished seat of suitable design had been placed by The Tree to match the existing two seats. Cllr Clark enquired, as he had been absent from last months meeting, whether a business plan had been put forward by the Village Hall in connection with their funding request. Full details of finances, plans, and intentions had been considered by the Council before approving the grant.

46. Agenda items for Discussion and Resolution.

- (1) Parish Council Insurance. Cllrs considered the relative merits of the 2 quotes compared to the current providers renewal premium of £408.90, as previously circulated. The quotation from Norwich Union of £262.50 which included considerably enhanced cover was proposed by Cllr Lomax and seconded by Cllr Davis with all in favour, to be accepted for the coming year, commencing from the June 1st renewal.
- (2) The finalised accounts for the year to March 31st 2009, previously circulated, were received by councillors. Proposed by Cllr Gliddon and seconded by Cllr Lomax, with all in agreement, that the accounts be adopted and the annual external audit return prepared accordingly.
- (3) Caute telephone kiosk. All councillors were in agreement that the electric lighting in the Caute kiosk should be retained. The annual cost at the last period being £8 per year. Clerk is still working on the adoption process.
- (4) P3 Liaison Councillor. Cllr Lomax kindly agreed to take over the P3 Liaison role in place of Neil Jeffers who has resigned.

47. District Councillors Report.

Mr Saywell began by introducing Barry Parsons JP, who is the Conservative Party candidate to contest the Holsworthy Rural County Council seat which has become vacant following the recent death of Des Shadrack. With the Chairmans permission Barry gave a brief description of his interests in the Judiciary and at TDC as Vice chairman of Policy, Performance and Resources. He believes in 'bottom up' Government, lives in Ashwater with his family, is a teacher and is determined to do his best for the local community.

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47. (Cont).

Mr Saywell reported that he had enquired as to any progress with the SMC complaints but there was nothing yet to report. The long running action at Waycott, New Inn was continuing, the Enforcement Officer and the Appeals Inspector had both paid visits to the property and a decision will be forthcoming at some time in the future.

48. Planning.

(a) New Applications.

1/0373/2009/FUL. Replace grass path with tarmac. St Michaels Churchyard. Shebbear. No Objections.

1/0383/2009/FUL. Erection of 6 x 15 metre high masts with adjustable floodlights to previously approved all weather sports pitch (0694/2008 & 1123/2008) at Lake, Shebbear for Shebbear College. A letter from the occupier of Way House, adjacent to the new pitch, was read to council. This set out a number of objections to the scheme which it is feared will impact on nearby residents and the environment.

Councillors had considerable sympathy with certain points raised, and are also mindful of the efforts the College is making to provide up to date facilities for students. After some debate it was agreed that a curfew of 8pm (2000 hrs) be recommended to TDC Planning Committee as a reasonable compromise, to enable the College to provide periodic evening student tuition, as per their stated intention, and also to minimise disturbance to nearby properties and the environment.

(b) Applications Granted. Received by councillors.

(c) There were no relevant adjacent applications.

49. Finance.

(a) Proposed by Cllr Davis and seconded by Cllr Lomax with all in agreement that Invoices for payment from Mr Sluggett and Mr Paulger be paid together with the Local Grants for 2009.

Bank Balances. Received by Councillors and previously circulated.

50. Correspondence.

(1) Cllr Mrs Sandie Hillier. The Council was sorry to hear that Sandie has decided to resign, and fully understands the problems of balancing shift work with parish duties. A letter of thanks has already gone to Sandie in recognition of the hours she put in over the past years as a councillor and vice chairwoman. As a result of her resignation and that of Neil Jeffers, the 2 vacancies have been advertised for the statutory period and no requests for an election have been received. It is therefore the responsibility of the parish council to fill the vacancies by co-option. All were in agreement that Clerk would advertise the vacancies on the notice board and the website, also that Reflecting Shebbear magazine be asked to carry an article to attract potential Councillors.

(2) Shebbear Shooters. A report from the club, which arrived too late to be presented to the Parish Meeting was heard. It is good to hear of the successes the Shooters are enjoying. The full report will join those from other organisations attached to the Parish Meeting minutes.

(3) TDC. Working with Wildlife. Heard by Cllrs.

(4) TDC. Consultation events re LDF. Cllr Clark is hoping to attend the Bideford event on 21st May.

(5) Parish Lengthsman Agenda. Any remedial work required should be notified to Highways in advance of the weeks commencing 20th July 2009 and the 4th January 2010 when the lengthsman will be in the parish.

(6) DCC. An update from Cllr Brian Greenslade on the money being spent on the County roads and the increased cost of the hard winters effects bringing the total spend for this year to over £60 million.

(7) TDC. In connection with the Sustainable Communities Act members of the public are invited to submit any suggestions they have that would contribute to improving any aspect of communal life.

(8) There were no reports of persons sleeping rough in the parish.

(9) Equality & Human Rights. The latest guidelines circulated to Cllrs.

51. Items for next Meetings Agenda on Tuesday June 9th 2009, and any other business at the Chairmans discretion.

Cllr Slade reported that there have been incidents of youngsters careering down the village hall approach and across the road on their bikes and it had been fortunate so far that there had not been an accident. Clerk will ask PCSO Baker if she can talk to local children in passing and maybe also arrange to visit School to speak to class by arrangement with the Headteacher.

Cllr Slade had also received enquiries as to whether there were any affordable houses still available in Ackland Close. D/Cllr Saywell will make enquiries and report back.

There being no other Business the Meeting ended at 9-08 pm.