

MINUTES
SHAUGH PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting

Held on

Wednesday, 6 June 2007

at

Shaugh Recreation Hall

Present: Cllrs. Norman, Howells, McIver, Ms. Winter and Mrs. Smerdon
(Chairman)
County Councillor John Hart (Part-time)
District Councillor Bill Hitchins (Part-time)
Police Constable Yarnold (Part-time)
Mr. Stan Finemore

OPEN FORUM

Before the meeting commenced Mr. McIver signed his Declaration of Acceptance. He explained that he had signed his Register of Interests at SHDC. The Clerk would ask for a copy to be sent to her. She confirmed that she had now received Registers from all Parish Councillors and these would be forwarded to SHDC with copies being kept by the Clerk.

POLICE BUSINESS

Constable Yarnold said he had had a few problems with campers at Shaugh Bridge.

Three offences had been committed in the Parish during the month. There had been an increase recently in the number of vehicles being broken into but this did not apply in this Parish. Con. Yarnold had been regularly patrolling car parks in conjunction with the DNPA Rangers.

A new PCSO (Police Community Service Officer), Di Summers, had been appointed to the Parish and he hoped that she would be attending the next meeting to introduce herself. Con. Yarnold explained the duties and powers of the position.

Con. Yarnold had requested that signs be put on the A38 directing HGVs along the correct roads. He had been experiencing problems with roadside damage around the Elfordleigh Hotel area.

Con. Yarnold confirmed to Cllr. Howells that he did not see authorisation for a safety

camera being given in the near future and it was up to the Parish to educate their inhabitants to drive safely.

Cllr. Norman pointed out that the boulder on the edge of the Beatland Cross to Cadover Bridge road, which he had asked to be removed, had now caused an accident and he again asked for it to be pushed further back away from the road.

DNPA BUSINESS

Cllr. Hitchins reported that a large number of applications had been received for the post of Chief Executive and interviews would be taking place during week commencing 18 June.

The Clerk had complained to SHDC that the tyres up behind Leighbeer were their responsibility and had copied the letter to DNPA. However the parking meters in a nearby location were the responsibility of West Devon Borough Council and the Clerk would speak to the appropriate officer. Some fly tipped material had been identified and the owner was being prosecuted.

The Clerk was asked to purchase a card for Mr. French, thanking him for the effort he had put in to come the considerable distance to attend meetings during his time as our representative on the DNPA.

46/07 Apologies

District Councillor Barnes and Cllrs Small, Rayers and Burkill.

47/07 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes were agreed to be a true record of proceedings and were signed by the Chairman.

48/07 Matters Arising

Permissive Path from Shaugh Bridge to Bickleigh Bridge - In the Open Forum Mr. Finemore asked how the re-opening of this path was progressing. The Clerk advised that DCC had informed her that they were currently working to secure permissive access on Maristow Estate land from Woolwell roundabout eastwards to the viaduct and then north towards Bickleigh bridge. DCC would then try and set up a meeting with the landowners between the Shaugh and Bickleigh Bridges. The Chairman and Cllr. Norman both pointed out that they had been using the path regularly for over sixty years. Cllr. Norman confirmed that land owners, if the land was within an ESA Agreement, could receive payment if a path on their land was open to the public.

Code of Conduct - The Standards Board for England guide for Members was circulated to Councillors.

Dartmoor Leats - The Chairman said she was no longer physically able to continue with this project but held the maps if anyone was interested in pursuing it.

Definitive Map - Nothing further.

Shelter - A letter of thanks for the donation of £50 from the Parish Council had been received.

Sustainability - Cllr. Winter had circulated some suggestions which would be discussed at the next meeting when Cllr. Burkill was present .

Gordon May - The Clerk had not received the requested quotation for a plaque and was asked to contact the proposed supplier by telephone.

Parish Maintenance - The Clerk reported that the Parish Council would be employing Mr. Palmer to carry out the grass cutting and play area maintenance work. She would request sight of his Public Liability insurance certificate.

Wotter Kick About Area – The Clerk had agreed with the Manager at Imerys at Lee Moor that they would organise a temporary fence as soon as possible and that the Parish Council would organise the grass seed.

Post Office in Wotter - Negotiations continued.

Dedication Seats at Wotter Methodist Hall - The people who had installed the seats had been identified and it was agreed that of the three, one would remain by the surgery, one would be moved to the Wotter kick about area and one to the play area in Wotter.

Speed Limits & Signs – See other Minutes.

Highway Problems - None were reported this month.

Parish Plan - As the Chairman had been away on holiday this would be discussed further at the next meeting.

Footpath – Wotter “By-pass” – Nothing further.

Lee Moor Pit - The Clerk and Cllr. Small had both attended the Liaison meeting, as had Cllr. McIver. The Clerk had circulated her notes of the meeting and official Minutes were now available if required. The outcome of the meeting would be discussed further at the next meeting.

Affordable Housing in Lee Moor Village - Nothing further.

NALC Conference - The Clerk confirmed that this year's conference was to be held in Bournemouth. Cllr. Howells expressed an interest in going. The Clerk would confirm whether or not the prices quoted included accommodation.

Dates for Future Meetings - The Clerk circulated a draft list which was accepted by Councillors. The Clerk would circulate this to the Halls, Parish Magazine and Mr. Isaacs for the website.

49/07 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Hart explained that the Highways and Traffic Order Committees were remaining aligned to the Districts. The status of the 40mph limit from Cadover to Beatland Corner would be heard at the Committee on 22 June and he thought it should be in place for next year. Unfortunately such changes did take a considerable time to implement. He would also be raising the issue of lorries and signage. Cllr. Howells reminded Cllr. Hart that there had been several accidents along this road recently, not all concerning animals.

Considerable lobbying had been done against Exeter's Unitary Status bid.

50/07 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Hitchins advised that his portfolio in the new Council is Leisure, Climate Change and he is the Executive Member responsible for Dartmouth. Cllr. Barnes held the Planning Portfolio and was responsible for Kingsbridge.

SHDC were currently awaiting the outcome of the public examination which had taken place in January on the Sherford Development. Two separate Planning Applications had been put in and both would have to be determined. The development was scheduled to start in 2008 but it was thought that it would not deliver the required number of houses by 2016.

The Clerk pointed out that some areas actually needed housing other than "affordable" housing and she was asked to contact the Housing Department at SHDC to ascertain the official need for housing in Lee Moor. The Clerk would also ascertain if the Imerys land was in the developable area and whether the company was prepared to sell it for social housing. ??? Cllr. Hitchins suggested that the Clerk speak to Cllr. Mike Salter as Housing Member for SHDC. Members pointed out the difficulty of no longer having a Post Office or shop in that community.

51/07 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

Mr. Holt had advised on 4 June that he now felt unable to take up the position of Councillor as he could not accept the documents requiring his signature, which meant the Parish Council had one vacancy. The Clerk would advertise the position in the usual way.

52/07 CORRESPONDENCE

Recycling Composting and Climate Change - The Chairman would attend the conference in Crediton on 29 June. The Clerk would forward details to her.

Villages in Action - This organisation works with Local Authorities to bring professional performances of theatre, dance, music and arts and participatory workshops to rural communities at affordable prices. The Clerk would pass details to the village halls and to Mr. Holt for inclusion in the Parish Magazine.

DCC Decision About New Provider of Externalised Services - DCC had advised that they were to decide on which organisation they would negotiate with to take over their residential and domiciliary care services. After considerable evaluation of the different companies who put forward their proposals, DCC were recommending Shaw Health Care Group. Outcome of negotiations was expected in the New Year.

SH CVS AGM - No-one was available to attend.

Website www.shaugh.net - Mr. Balkwill had now set up this website and asked for comments. The Chairman had viewed it and considered it excellent.

The Clerk held the following if Councillors wished to read them:-

SHDC Minutes of Meetings
SHDC Executive Forward Plan
South Hams Magazine
DCC Minerals Update
DAPC Newsletter
SH Society Bulletin

53/07 REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVES

Website and Computer – Nothing to report.

School Governors - Nothing to report.

Play Areas - It was reported that Wotter play area had been tidied up and Cllr. McIver confirmed that Lee Moor had been mown. Cllr. Norman said he would like to see the boulders in the area of Wotter play area moved as he thought they were dangerous in a children's play area. The Clerk would ask DNPA if they could carry out this work as it needed equipment not available in the Parish. Cllr. Howells was disappointed to note that some motor cycles were using the area.

54/07 PLANNING

a. Decisions by District Council/DNP:

None.

b. Applications considered by Parish Council:

Lower Hill Barn Shaugh - No objection
Shaugh Cottage Shaugh - No objection
The Bungalow Wotter - No objection
Shaugh Primary School - No objection
Rockholme Wotter - No objection

c. General

Development at Hartstone - Councillors had complained at what appeared to be excessive development and the Clerk had contacted SHDC Planning Department who could not identify the site. She had asked them to contact Cllr. Norman but they had failed to do so. The Clerk would contact them again advising them that Cllr. Norman would show them where the development of what appeared to be a house was taking place.

55/07 FINANCE

Request for a Grant - Lee Moor Cemetery - Cllr. McIver declared a personal interest, signed the Register and took no further part in the discussion. Councillors agreed that they should receive the same amount as that granted to St. Edwards church. It was therefore proposed, seconded and agreed that they should receive the sum of £412.

It was agreed that the following cheques would be paid:-

Clerk Wages for 3 months.
Lee Moor Cemetery Committee £412.00

56/07 ITEMS TO WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

None.

57/07 DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 4 July 2007 at Shaugh Recreation Hall commencing at 7.15 p.m.

Meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Signed:.....
Chairman

Date: