

MINUTES
SHAUGH PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting

Held on

Wednesday, 5 September 2007

at

Shaugh Recreation Hall

Present: Cllrs. Norman, Small, McIver, Ms. Rayers (Part-time), Miss Winter, Mrs. Burkill, and Mrs. Smerdon (Chairman)
Police Constable Yarnold (Part-time)
Di Summers, Policy Community Services Officer (Part-time)
Mr. Stan Finemore
Mr. Dobinson from the Methodist Church
5 Members of the public (part-time)

OPEN FORUM

Mr. Finemore felt that infrastructure should be taken into account more before more housing was put into villages.

Mr. Finemore asked if it would be possible to have TPO put on the small copse of trees at the end of St. Aubyn Terrace in Lee Moor because they acted as a good wind break. The Chairman pointed out that this was one of the sites that Imerys had put forward for affordable housing. Councillors agreed that the two main mature trees could be built around. The Clerk was therefore asked to contact South Hams and ask them to look into the possibility of these coming under a Tree Preservation Order.

Mr. Tauferrelli reminded Councillors that the tyres which had been dumped at Heathfield in Cornwood were still there but were being moved about. He was advised that this was not within the Parish of Shaugh. However, Cllr. Yarnold said he would look into the matter but pointed out that it was the responsibility of the land owner to remove these, instead of SHDC when the cost of which would ultimately fall on the Council Tax payer.

The fence gates in Wotter had been repaired but unfortunately not the fence so sheep were still getting in. The Clerk would report this to SHDC.

Mr. Edwin Dobbinson explained that he was employed part-time by the Plymouth Methodist Circuit to look after their property matters. He is also their representative for the Lee Moor Cemetery and Wotter Chapel. With regard to the chapel, he had been having problems ascertaining the exact boundaries of the Circuit's ownership.

They were obliged to obtain the best value they could for the property and had therefore been advised that they should obtain some sort of Planning Permission for development but he thought this would all take some time. However, the chapel would be maintained in the meantime. Mr. Dobbinson was concerned at the condition of the chapel roof and was obtaining quotations for repair with regard to the tiles. The Post Master was being kept fully apprised of the situation with regard to the sale of the chapel. Mr. Dobbinson confirmed that the Practice owned the land on which the surgery was situated. The Chairman explained that the Parish Council wanted to move the seats around the outside of the chapel. The Chairman pointed out that the path to Lee Moor cemetery was so overgrown that a hearse could not reach it. There was some considerable discussion and differing opinions on who actually owned the boundaries so Mr. Dobbinson would in the first instance discuss the situation with Rev. Carlton. The Clerk would ask Mr. Palmer to ring Mr. Dobbinson about the Christmas lights for this year.

POLICE BUSINESS

Con. Yarnold advised that two offences had been reported in July but none in August which he thought was probably due to more police officers patrolling the "honey pot" sites.

No-one had been hurt in the accident involving the bus shelter. The police held all details of the occupants of the vehicle for insurance purposes.

They were introducing cycling classes at the primary school on Sunday mornings. Councillors were pleased to hear this as a similar series of classes held in Cornwood had been very successful.

A list of names of drivers for Imerys and their contractors had been given to the police as there was to be a police crackdown on tachometer fraud.

No vandalism damage had occurred to the school during the holidays.

DNPA BUSINESS

In the absence of the Representative there was no report.

Mr. French had thanked the Parish Council for their good wishes on his retirement.

70/07 Apologies

District Councillors Hitchins and Barnes

71/07 Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

72/07 Matters Arising

Permissive Path from Shaugh Bridge to Bickleigh Bridge - As nothing further had been heard for several weeks the Clerk was asked to ascertain if there had been any progress.

Definitive Map - Nothing further.

Hemerdon Mine - There was no further information on the possibility of opening this up. The Clerk was asked to write to the Minerals Department at DCC to ascertain if the planning permission was still current. It was understood that some works had been carried out there. Cllr. Burkill thought that as the minerals were of National Strategic Importance then Planning Permission had originally been granted on this basis.

Recycling Skips in Lee Moor - It was thought that the land on which these were sited was common land but the Clerk pointed out that this was still owned by someone. Councillors agreed that if members of the community had strong feelings about the skips then they should approach SHDC themselves.

Sustainability - Cllr. Winter said she hoped to generate some discussion through the Parish Plan process. The Clerk handed the Chairman a booklet on ideas for Parish Councils to follow.

Gordon May - The Chairman would arrange a suitable date for a presentation when the plaque had been fitted to the seat by Mr. Palmer.

Parish Maintenance - Unfortunately part of the bus shelter at Wotter had been demolished by a vehicle. The Clerk had obtained report forms from the insurance company and would obtain two quotations for repair works. Cllr. Small felt that the Council should advertise for quotations as per the usual tendering process. The Clerk would place an appropriate notice on the boards in the Parish.

Wotter Kick About Area – The moorland mix had been obtained from the DNPA and the Chairman would spread this when the ground was softer following some rain. The DNPA would be looking at the boulders around the area with a view to moving them to where they would be of some use. Cllr. Norman asked if they could also move those in the play area.

Affordable Housing - SHDC had advised that no-one from the Parish had had their name included on the needs register. The Rural Housing Enabler would be asked to come to a future meeting to explain how parish surveys were carried out. However, in the meantime it was agreed that a survey similar to that carried out at Burrator recently would be incorporated into the Parish Plan questionnaire to avoid residents

having too many forms to complete. Jeffreys, Chartered Surveyors, had not received a reply to their letter to SHDC on the possible provision of housing in Lee Moor and Councillors agreed that the Clerk should contact SHDC about this.

Post Office in Wotter - Nothing further.

Speed Limits & Signs – The Clerk was asked to ascertain the latest position on the instigation of the speed limit from Cadover Bridge to Beatland Corner. It was noted that posts had been erected on the stretch from Beatland Corner to Plympton but no speed signs had yet been put on them.

Highway Problems - The Clerk would again ask the DCC Highways Department to do something about the protruding boulders on the Cadover Bridge to Beatland Corner road. Plymouth City had advised that resurfacing work was being undertaken on the Loughter Mill road that week.

Composting - Cllr. Rayers and the Chairman would go and look at the scheme being run in Chagford.

Parish Plan - A meeting of interested people had recently been held and a few people came forward to form a steering group. Councillors agreed to pay the cost of hall hire for this meeting, being £20. The Community Council of Devon had suggested that the Parish Council should make a grant towards the cost. This would be discussed at the next meeting. The Chairman would contact Imerys to ask if they would be prepared to make a grant and also Jo Rumble at DNPA who had advised that £250 could be available.

Footpath – Wotter “By-pass” – Nothing further

NALC Conference - As Cllr. Howells had resigned from the Council this had not been taken any further forward.

Clerk's Appraisal and Contract - The Chairman and Clerk would arrange a meeting later in the month.

73/07 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr. Hart advised that yet again some lorries were being misdirected by their SatNav equipment.

He was also in discussion with the Highways' Agency about more suitable road signage on the A38.

74/07 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In the absence of both District Councillors there was no report.

75/07 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

The Chairman explained that Cllr. Howells had had to resign from the Council for personal reasons. As he was also Vice Chairman, it was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Small and agreed that Cllr. Norman should be Vice Chairman of the Parish Council.

The Clerk had received a letter from Mr. Richard Vincent expressing an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor. He explained his reasons to those present and it was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Rayers and unanimously agreed that Mr. Vincent should be co-opted on to the Council.

76/07 CORRESPONDENCE

DCC Stopping Up Order - Councillors confirmed they had no objection to the proposal to stop up the highway towards Wotter Brook Head, with the retention of the bridleway.

Bus Information Strategy - Cllr. Winter would report on its contents at the next meeting.

South Hams Media - Inter-Parish Quiz - The Clerk would point out that an inter-Parish Quiz was already an annual event.

South Hams Sports Awards - Councillors were not aware of anyone who should be put forward.

BURA Awards for Community Inspired Regeneration 2007 - Parish Councillors were not aware of any suitable projects.

Dartmoor Visitor What's On Guide - No events suitable for publishing in the Guide were taking place in the Parish during the winter months.

Register of Electors 2008 - The Clerk would ask the Editor of the Parish Magazine to publish a notice that the annual canvass for the electoral register would be commencing shortly.

What Future for Dartmoor Villages? - the Clerk was attending this seminar organised by the Dartmoor Society to be held in Walkhampton on 29 September. Cllr. Burkill would advise the Clerk if she was able to attend.

Parish Cluster Meetings - Councillors noted that SHDC wished to continue meetings with clusters of Parish Councils and that the next round of meetings would be in November.

District & Parish Elections 2007 - Several Clerks had complained that nomination papers had arrived too late for them to be distributed to those interested in standing for the election. SHDC had pointed out that these had been distributed within the timeframe.

SH Events for 2008 - The Clerk was asked to put forward Lee Moor Show which was held on the third Sunday of August.

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

SHDC Minutes of Meetings
SHDC Executive Forward Plan
South Hams Magazine
DAPC Newsletter
LCR Journal
Annual Report Devon Countrywide Access Forum
Voluntary Vine
Devon Playing Field Annual Report

77/07 REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVES

Website and Computer – Mr. Isaacs had confirmed to the Clerk that he had carried out all the requested amendments.

Play Areas - Councillors would check to see if repairs had been carried out to the Lee Moor play area. Cllr. McIver was assured that the matting around the swings etc. was as recommended for safety purposes.

Imerys Liaison Meetings - Cllr. Small and County Councillor Hart had taken up Imerys' offer of a visit to see what reinstatement works had been carried out in Cornwall. They were advised that where the company thought in the future that it may be a requirement for the pit to be reopened, they had been turned into fishing lakes. The Clerk was asked to put notices on the Notice Boards about the public meeting being held on 20 September. Cllr Rayers would put a notice on the Parish e-mail system.

78/07 PLANNING

a. Decisions by District Council/DNP:

Inwood, Shaugh Prior - Replacement of existing garage and conversion of house roofscape - Granted subject to the conditions that the roof of the garage is finished with materials to match those of the existing dwelling; the roof lights are fixed flush with the outer face of the roof slope and the details of the front elevation of the garage shall be of vertical timber boarding unless otherwise agreed with the DNPA.

Faunstone Cottage - Listed Building Consent for new windows - Granted subject to prior approval of design of timber windows and doors.

The Bungalow, Wotter - Alteration and Extension of Dwelling - Granted subject to roofs being of natural slate; details of the terrace construction being approved; approval of external wall finishes; obscure glass in windows adjacent to properties; obscure glazing to the balcony privacy screen.

Rockholme, Wotter - Alterations and Extension to Dwelling - Granted subject to roofs being clad in natural slate; prior approval of glazing to roof; approval of landscaping proposals; approval of details of external materials of dormer windows; approval of details of design of new doors and windows.

Field to the South St. Aubyn Terrace Lee Moor - Erection of stables - Granted subject to the stables not being used for business or commercial uses; foul and surface water drainage being kept separate; positioning of manure heaps to ensure no pollution of watercourses.

Land at Higher Collard Farm - Councillors noted that the applicants were appealing against the decision to refuse this application. Councillors did not wish any further comments to be put to the Inspector.

b. Applications considered by Parish Council:

12 Dartmoor Cottages - Enlargement of front and rear porch and erection of garage - Councillors had visited site and had no objection to the proposals.

c. General

Cllr. Burkill was completing the questionnaire on the SHDC Core Strategy. The Clerk pointed out that if housing was built and not occupied by local people then the Council would nominate someone for that house who may currently reside some distance away. Cllrs. agreed there was little opportunity for employment sites in the Parish. Councillors agreed that development boundaries should be adhered to. Cllr. Small pointed out that the youth of the parish needed their own meeting place. Government pressure was to close post offices and have more satellite ones.

Councillors noted that the Devon County Waste Local Plan had been adopted and that the proposals did not include sites either within or adjacent to the Parish.

Councillors noted that the RSS proposals for gypsy and traveller additional pitch requirements in South Hams amounted to 51 with a transit pitch requirement of 5. They were disappointed to note that Dartmoor National Park had a nil requirement.

Development at Hartstone - Cllr. Norman had been advised that planning permission had been given but he was not convinced that this complied with submitted drawings. He would discuss the situation with Cllr. Hitchins.

Lighting at Lee Moor Hall - Cllr. Rayers advised that the Committee had been told that a test on the cabling had to be carried out before a quotation for the new installation could be given. Councillors agreed to pay the sum of £136 plus VAT. The Clerk asked for the invoice to be made out to the Parish Council

Chairman's Allowance - The Clerk apologised but it appeared that an amount had not been set for this current year. The Chairman declared an interest and took no further part in the discussion. Councillors agreed that the amount should remain as the previous year at £375. It was proposed by Cllr. Small, seconded by Cllr. Norman and agreed that the Chairman's Allowance for the financial year 2008/09 should be £400.

Grants - Councillors noted the letters of thanks from St. Edward's church and Lee Moor Cemetery.

Audit of 2006/07 Accounts - A reminder letter had been received from the Audit Commission.

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

Clerk - Salary (3 months)	
Chairman's Allowance	£375.00
Torre Trophies (Plaque)	£ 20.00
Konica (copy charges)	£ 22.92
Audit Commission	£141.00
CPRE Subscription	£ 27.00
Ivybridge & District APC	£ 8.00
Lee Moor Hall Hire	£ 20.00

80/07 ITEMS TO WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Councillors reported that some people had been camping at Shaugh Bridge and when asked to leave had left a mess and a fire burning. The Clerk was asked to write to the DNPA, copying the letter to Con. Yarnold, to say that this behaviour was disruptive to local residents, blocked the path and was environmentally unfriendly. These people were camping there on a regular basis.

81/07 DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 10 October 2007 at Lee Moor Hall Committee Room commencing at 7.15 p.m.

Meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

Signed:.....
Chairman

Date: