MINUTES

of

SHAUGH PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting

Held on

Wednesday 2nd November 2016

at

Lee Moor Public Hall

Present: Vice-Chairman Cllr Small

Cllr's Taffurelli, Stone, Mrs Tyler, Mrs Burkill, McIver, Wassell,

Spiers

District Cllr Hitchins

Apologies: Cllr Norman

County Cllr Hart PCSO Jim Brokensha

3 members of the public in attendance

Minute		Action
Number		
135/16	Open Forum	
	In the absence of Cllr Norman, the Vice-Chair Cllr Small opened the meeting. Cllr Small mentioned that Cllr Norman was still in hospital following some routine surgery and consequently it was agreed that the Clerk would send him a get well soon card on behalf of the PC.	Clerk
	Annie Bent of Wolf Minerals gave an update on matters relating to the Tungsten Mine. Works to the processing plant were still ongoing which it was hoped would address the low frequency noise problems some people are experiencing. These should be completed by the end of November. The works to divert Lee Moor Road were progressing well with tarmacking now taking place and replacement trees due to be planted. The planning application for extending the working life of the mine was due to be considered at DCC Planning Committee on the 23 rd November. Wolf were continuing to work with local community groups in order to address the concerns relating to blasting. The results of the test of the electronic detonators for blasting was inconclusive and for	

health and safety reasons the decision was made, for the current time, to return to the use of manual detonators.

Finally, Annie confirmed that the new community website was up and running and news items would be linked to other Local Parish Council websites (such as Shaugh Prior) and this would link to the improvements Julia Sanders is making to our own website.

Cllr Taffurelli mentioned that following a recent Cluster Meeting that it was agreed to send out a questionnaire with the next version of the Parish Magazine in order to find out if any local residents in the parish were experiencing any problems relating to Low Frequency Noise.

Cllr Taffurelli

Several residents raised about overgrown hedges on the road between Wotter and Plympton (from Collard Lane down to Boringdon), with drivers having to drive in the middle of the road in some locations in order to avoid them. It was agreed that the Clerk would raise this with Nick Colton of DCC Highways.

Clerk

136/16

Declarations of Interest

None received.

137/16

Police Report

In the absence of PCSO Jim Brokensha the Clerk confirmed that no incidents had been recorded in the past month and the Police had managed to catch 2 large groups of trail bikers who had intended to go biking on the moors.

138/16

County and District Councillors Report

In Cllr Hart's absence, there was no County Cllr Report. However, Cllr Hitchins mentioned that Cllr Hart still had some locality budget available and encouraged groups to submit an application for funding for local community projects. It was agreed that the Clerk would apply for some funding towards the Wotter Play Area project. Cllr Hitchins mentioned he also had some funding left from his Locality Budget as well.

Cllr Hitchins gave the District Cllrs Report and started by mentioning he was hopeful that the communication problems at SHDC had now hopefully been resolved. With regard to the issue of Devolution, Authorities were still working together and that National Parks may get a vote on 'green maters'. The works to create an SHDC trading company were still on-going.

139/16

DNPA Report

Cllr Hitchins referred to having recently met Lord Gardiner and that he was hopeful that he will have a good understanding of the issues impacting upon the National Parks.

DNPA are currently out to consultation on updating their Local

Plan and a drop-in session has been arranged at South Brent on the 7th November 2016 (his being the nearest event to our Parish). Consultation ends on the 16th December 2016. The next meeting of the Dartmoor National Park Forum will take place on Friday 25th November. It was suggested that any Cllrs from Shaugh Prior attending the meeting may want to raise the issue of trail bikes illegally using the moors. The matter of the White Thorn Inn being considered as an asset of community value was being considered by an officer at DNPA and finally Cllr Hitchins confirmed that this year the National Park had received its; greatest ever number of visitors.

140/16 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5th October 2016

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 5th October 2016 were agreed and accepted.

141/16 | Matters Arising

8/16(a) | Highway Matters

The Clerk confirmed that he had raised the issue of the large depressions in the road (both outside the Primary School and near Huxton Farm) with DCC Highways and was currently waiting to hear back from Nick Colton on these matters. He also mentioned that it was likely that the site meeting with Cllr Norman would have to take place in the new year. It was also highlighted that the damaged cattle grid at Collard Lane had now been fenced off by DCC Highways whilst Cllr Mrs Tyler mentioned that some of the new gate catches were difficult to open.

The Clerk also confirmed that he was waiting to hear back from SWH/Imerys on the installation of the new sign at the bus turning area at Lee Moor (Imerys had requested that they undertake a search for any underground cables etc).

8/16(b) Shaugh Prior Play Areas Lottery Funding Bid

The Clerk confirmed that he would write to Cllr Hart to request some funding from his Locality Budget to help towards the delivery of this project. He was also waiting to hear back from AI to see if they would supply the sub base needed for the base of the new climbing frame for free (in order to reduce the overall project costs). Cllr Wassell mentioned that there was a local parishioner who owned a tipper lorry who may be able to assist in delivering the sub base to the play area from the China Clay pits (if AI were willing to provide the stone for the base).

Clerk

8/16(c) Wotter Kick-About Area

Cllr Mrs Tyler confirmed she had spoken to Dan Searle and he had agreed to email the Clerk but to date the Clerk had not heard anything. In view of the current limited use of the kick-about area it was suggested by some Cllrs that perhaps providing the ball-catch fencing was an unnecessary cost the PC didn't need? It was

Clerk/Dan Searle therefore agreed to obtain a quotation for the fencing first before then deciding on whether or not we proceed with these works.

8/16(d) **Defibrillator**

The defibrillator at Wotter Surgery had now been registered with the SW Ambulance Trust as a Community Access Defib. The Clerk referred to correspondence received regarding faulty AED defibrillators. Having checked with our supplier it was confirmed that our defib was not one of those affected by the problems being experienced nationwide. Cllr Taffurelli mentioned that there was a buzzing sound with the defib cabinet at Lee Moor. It was agreed that this would be investigated by the Clerk.

Clerk

142/16 | Planning

In the absence of the Chair it was agreed that Cllrs Wassell, Stone and Taffurelli would consider a planning application received for The Hermitage, Collard Lane, Wotter (app no 2904/16) and that a site visit would be arranged. The Clerk would then respond to SHDC with the recommendations of the PC.

Cllrs Wassell, Stone, Taffurelli

The Clerk referred to receipt of a letter from SHDC confirming that no further planning enforcement action was being taken against a property at Dartmoor Cottages, Wotter.

As mentioned above under Minute 139/16, DNPA are currently out to consultation on updating their Local Plan. In order to get feedback from Cllrs on the proposals, it was agreed that the Clerk would send the consultation document to all Cllrs who are responsible for commenting upon planning applications in the Parish. The Clerk would then compile these responses at the next PC meeting before responding to DNPA before the 16th December 2016 deadline.

Clerk

143/16 Chairman's Business

In the absence of the Chairman there was nothing to report.

144/16 | Reports from Committees

Clirs Small and Taffurelli gave feedback on the DALC event they both attended. Of particular interest was a workshop they attended on devolution which has resulted in some good cross-boundary working.

Cllr Taffurelli attended the most recent Imerys Community Liaison meeting and mentioned that the concrete blocks were now being produced from the former Herreschoff Kiln site at Lee Moor following the determination of a planning application for such earlier in the year. Cllr Taffurelli intended on visiting the site and would report back at the next PC meeting. He also confirmed that the damaged fencing alongside the main road had now been removed and that the area should be tied-up by Imerys shortly.

The Clerk gave feedback on the most recent Cluster meeting held between the parishes of Shaugh, Cornwood and Sparkwell. The meeting revealed that the solar farm at Newnham had now been sold and was going through the legal process. It wasn't clear where this left matters in respect of the Local Community Benefit Fund. It was agreed that the Clerk would make some enquiries with David Cobbold of the Newnham Estate.

Clerk

The meeting also highlighted the major problems that residents of Sparkwell are experiencing in respect of the Low Frequency Noise associated with operations at the Tungsten Mine and it was agreed that a questionnaire would be sent out with the next version of our parish magazine to determine exactly how many residents are affected by the LFN. It Was noted that few people want to complain as it could impact upon the value of their property.

On the whole it was agreed that the Cluster Meeting was very worthwhile and a further meeting had been arranged for late February 2017.

145/16

Correspondence

During the past month, the following correspondence has been received by the Clerk: -

- Email containing a planning newsletter from SHDC.
- Agenda for the next meeting of I&DALC Parish Clerk Workshop taking place on Wednesday 26th October.
- Invite to Devon Highways Parish and Town Council Conference 2016 (South)
- Annual Report from Citizens Advice South Hams (with an attached letter asking for a grant from the PC). Proposed by Cllr Taffurelli and seconded by Cllr Stone that we make a grant payment of £25.00 and agreed by all.
- Email from Andrew Sellick regarding the issue of slates blowing off Wotter Chapel onto the footpath below.
- Agenda for the Town and Parish Council Event taking place at SHDC on Weds 30th November. Cllrs Small and Taffurelli agreed to attend on behalf of the PC.

Invitation for persons to join the Dartmoor Access Forum.
 The Clerk confirmed that he had provided application forms to both Cllrs Stone and Mrs Tyler.

- Email from DNPA re the Dartmoor Communities Fund 2016/17.
- Email from SHDC re Winter Emergency Planning. Cllr Wassel confirmed he still had a plentiful supply of grit.
- Consultation on the removal of the existing phone box at Lee Moor. In view of the limited number of times that this phone box had been used in the past 12 months (just 3 times) it was agreed by Cllrs that it would be difficult to justify its' retention and consequently it was the view of the PC that there would be no in principle objections to its' removal. The Clerk agreed to respond on this basis.
- Email on Flooding from SHDC.

Cllrs Small/Taffurelli

Clerk

- Blasting update from Wolf Minerals along with a further email on the proposed shutdown.
- Agenda for the next Tungsten Mine Local Liaison Group taking place on Weds 19th October.
- Email received from Shaugh Prior Hall requesting a grant payment of £400 for improvements to the kitchen facilities (the total cost of which would be in the region of £1200). The Clerk confirmed that £400 had been allocated in the annual budget for such purposes and it was therefore proposed by Cllr Taffurelli that the PC support the grant application and this seconded by Cllr Wassell. Agreed unanimously. However, the Clerk stated that a copy of the annual accounts for the Hall would have to be presented at the next PC meeting for scrutiny.

146/16 | Finance

The Clerk confirmed that on the 21st October 2016 there was £49,284.90 in the Treasurers Account.

The Clerk also confirmed that he had recently filed for a VAT Return amounting to £786.06.

147/16 | Payments and Receipts

It was agreed to make the following payments: -

Payments

£40.00 cheque to DALC for Cllrs attendance at the AGM £500.00 cheque to B& K Gent Bros (annual grass cutting fees) £560.00 cheque to Mr Eric Palmer (cleaning of bus shelters – 28 weeks @ £20 per week)

£17.11 cheque to Scott Smy (outstanding Clerks wages back-pay) £15.00 cheque to Lee Moor Public Hall (meeting room hire) £25.00 cheque to Royal British Legion (poppy wreath)

£200.00 cheque to Lee Moor Public Hall (grant payment for pensioners Xmas Lunch)

£400.00 cheque to Shaugh Prior Rec Hall (grant payment for works to improve kitchen facilities).

£25.00 cheque to Citizens Advice South Hams (annual grant payment)

Receipts

£5047.00 BACS payment from SHDC (second half of annual precept)

£210.00 payment from DALC (grant payment for Transparency Code – website updates)

148/16 Works and Maintenance

The Clerk read out the letter received from Mr Sellick regarding the slates falling from the roof of Wotter Church and landing on the existing footpath. Mr Sellick thanked the PC for bringing the matter to his attention and asked if particular instances of slates falling

could be recorded. As most people using the footpath are going to and from Wotter Surgery it was suggested that the best course of monitoring would be for people to let the surgery of such instances Clerk and that Mr Sellick could then be informed accordingly. The Clerk mentioned that the PC had been successful in a bid for funding for updating the website through the provisions of the Transparency Code and he had now instructed WesternWeb to Clerk carry out the required alterations to the website. The Clerk also confirmed that he was yet to go back to SHDC on the required sign for Lee Moor Play Area but would do so before Clerk the next meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Taffurelli could go ahead with the purchase of an Xmas tree for both Lee Moor and Wotter (the associated cost being in the region of £40). It was also agreed that there would be funding available for a tree to also be purchased for the Cllr Taffurelli village of Shaugh Prior as well. 149/16 **Date and Place of Next Parish Council Meeting** The Clerk confirmed that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday 7th December 2016 at Lee Moor Public Hall starting at 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 9.03 pm. Signed:.....Chairman Date: