

MINUTES

of

SHAUGH PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting

Held on

Wednesday 1st February 2017

at

Lee Moor Public Hall

Present: Chairman Cllr Norman
Cllr's Small, Spiers, Mclver and Mrs Tyler

County Cllr Hart

Apologies: Cllrs Stone, Wassell, Taffurelli and Mrs Burkill
District Cllr Hitchins
PCSO Jim Brokensha

3 members of the public in attendance

Minute Number		Action
02/17	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>Annie Bent of Wolf Minerals gave an update on all matters relating to the Tungsten Mine. The Unilateral Undertaking relating to the new planning permission was almost complete and due to be issued shortly. A formal Road Closure Order for Lee Moor Road had been submitted to the Department for Transport, with the new route due to be open to traffic from the 14th March.</p> <p>On blasting, an alternative supplier had been found in terms of the electronic detonators and trial blasts were due to be undertaken.</p> <p>Works to replace the rubber mountings on the largest screen in the processing plant was due to occur during the planned plant shut down in mid-February which it was hoped would address the Low Frequency Noise issues. A community meeting was held in Sparkwell Parish Hall on the 26th January where Toby White gave an update on blasting. The community website was showing an increase in more site traffic and finally there had been a number of new starters at the plant in the past few weeks.</p> <p>Annie enquired about the Low Frequency Noise questionnaires that had been sent out with the December issue of the Parish Magazine. The Clerk confirmed that some responses had been</p>	

	<p>received and that these were due to be discussed at a cluster meeting with Sparkwell and Cornwood Parish Councils on the 16th February. Cllr Small wished to raise his concerns over the large loss of trees along lower Crownhill Road as part of the works to divert Lee Moor Road. This was noted by Annie although she did state that Wolf had planted a considerable number of trees over the past few years.</p> <p>Katie Revell of South Dartmoor Community Energy (SDCE) gave an update on the solar array at Portworthy. Following the last update on the Solar Farm, Katie confirmed that the SDCE Community Group had now been established and one of the roles of the group was to administer advice on energy consumption/use in the South Hams area. She mentioned that it was hoped that the Portworthy array would generate a financial surplus of around £10-20k per annum (for the next 20 years) although this year the surplus was much lower at £5k. However she asked if there were any local projects that could benefit from around £1600 and the Clerk made reference to improvements to Lee Moor Play Area. Katie also made reference the drop-in advice sessions that the SDCE group had been hosting which had been attended by almost 400 people so far throughout the South Hams and was keen to speak to any local community gatherings in the area. The Clerk confirmed that most meetings of organisations are listed on the Parish Council website. Katie confirmed that the next drop-in/advice session was due to take place on Monday 6th Feb in Ivybridge Library and then another on Weds 8th Feb at Cornwood.</p> <p>A member of the public wished to thank Cllr Stone for cutting back his hedges whilst issues were raised regarding cold-callers and in particular those collecting for a Brest Cancer Organisation.</p>	
03/17	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Cllrs McIver and Small wished to declare a personal interest in respect of item 14 on the agenda (Finance) relating to a grant application received from Lee Moor Hall for a new fridge. Both signed the book of declarations.</p>	Cllrs McIver and Small
04/17	<p>Police Report</p> <p>In the absence of PCSO Jim Brokensha the Clerk read out the crime report for the past month:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theft from a motor vehicle. No witnesses or lines of enquiry. • A case of assault which is still under investigation. • An incident of criminal damage/graffiti. No lines of enquiry. <p>A further incident involved the recovery of the body of a young man who drowned in Burrator Reservoir.</p>	
05/17	<p>County and District Councillors Report</p> <p>Cllr John Hart gave an update on County Council matters. He</p>	

	<p>mentioned that setting the budget for the coming financial year had been difficult with a £23m reduction in funding from Central Government and needing to find a further £23m to balance the books. Much of this was needed for caring for the elderly and vulnerable adults. The Council are permitted to put up the Council Tax by a maximum of 6% over the next 3 years. It is not currently clear what will happen over the next 3 years as further cuts will have to be made both in the coming financial year and the year after. The issue of setting the budget has been made more difficult as the final settlement had not yet been received from Central Government. A further area of concern for the County Council was the amount of funding being provided for schools in Devon as Devon gets less funding per pupil than many of the authorities in the rest of the country. Cllr Hart mentioned that the County Council was now spending £270m less than they were in 2009/2010. Finally, he mentioned that the works at Deep Lane were likely to be finished by May/June.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Tyler raised a concern about broadband. Cllr Hart mentioned that a new contract had now been signed that did not involve BT. He agreed to look into the issue of improved broadband for Wotter and Lee Moor and would come back to the Clerk with a response.</p> <p>Finally, the Clerk asked what was the out-come of the consultation on the proposed changes to the Civic Amenity sites which DCC had recently consulted upon (preventing larger vans from using the facilities) as there was a concern this could lead to an increase in fly-tipping. It was highlighted that most of the rubbish was likely to be coming out of Plymouth and that there didn't seem to be an easy answer to these problems.</p> <p>In Cllr Hitchin's absence there was no District Cllr Report.</p>	
06/17	<p>DNPA Report</p> <p>In the absence of Cllr Hitchins there was no DNPA Report.</p>	Cllr Hart
07/17	<p>Minutes of the Meeting held on the 7th December 2016</p> <p>The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 7th December 2016 were agreed and accepted.</p>	
08/17	<p>Matters Arising</p>	
(a)	<p>Highway Matters</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that he had received confirmation from DCC Highways that the bus turning area at Lee Moor was not public highway and instead was land that was in the control of Imerys. He had therefore contacted Imerys to see what assistance they could provide in terms of enforcing the prevention of car parking within this area. It was agreed that the Clerk would continue to liaise with Imerys on this matter.</p>	Clerk

	<p>As mentioned above during the Open Forum, the Clerk referred to the receipt of an application to extinguish public highway at Lee Moor Road as part of the proposed diversion of this route. It was agreed that the Parish Council would have no objections to this extinguishment order being made.</p> <p>(b) Shaugh Prior Play Areas Lottery Funding Bid</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that both he and Cllr Spiers had managed to undertake a considerable amount of the groundworks within the play area. However there were several large boulders that were larger than first thought which needed to be dug out. This would involve another 'working party' day which the Clerk agreed to send details of to Cllrs to see who could offer their help. It was also agreed by Cllrs that the Clerk could go ahead with the purchase of two 1t bags of gravel in order to fill in the ditch between the access road and the play park so the tipper lorry delivering the sub base material could reverse straight back into the play area. The Clerk also confirmed that he had managed to secure the services of someone who could oversee the ground compaction works and would be able to use a powered roller to compact the sub base. As the person in question would have to take a day of leave it was agreed that the Parish Council would reimburse the cost of a days leave on the basis of the sum of £15 per hour. This was agreed by all. Finally the Clerk mentioned he was due to meet David Cobbold on-site on the 8th February to run through the works with him.</p> <p>(c) Wotter Kick-About Area</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that the ball-catch fencing had been provided by Dan Searle and he had an invoice for payment. The issue of the gate being left open to the kick-about area was raised and the Clerk confirmed that he had asked Mr Palmer to fit a spring to the gate. It was also mentioned that the goal posts needed to be put back together.</p> <p>(d) Defibrillator</p> <p>As Cllr Taffurelli was still away (and therefore hadn't arranged with Cllr Mrs Burkill to run through the monthly checks that were required) it was agreed that this item should be carried forward to the next meeting.</p> <p>(e) White Thorn Inn – Value to the Community</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that he had written to DNPA confirming the Parish Council's support in registering the White Thorn Inn as an Asset of Community Value. Cllr Mrs Tyler confirmed that there was still considerable support for the project locally within the Parish and the next stage would be to explore what funding opportunities were available.</p> <p>(f) Wotter Post Office</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Taffurelli</p>
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09/17	<p>The Clerk referred to a receipt of a letter from the Post Office confirming that the current premises were due to be sold-off and therefore the PO would have to close temporarily until alternative premises were found. Julia Sanders confirmed that the owner of the Moorland Hotel had expressed an interest in the PO being relocated there although it might be difficult for pensioners to access. In order to overcome these access issues for the elderly she asked if the PC could subsidise a weekly Ring and Ride service for pensioners which would equate to £75 per year? Cllr Small suggested that perhaps we would need to know how many people would use the PO in this alternative location being agreeing to such? It was agreed that this was a sensible way forward.</p> <p>Planning</p> <p>The Clerk mentioned that conditional planning permission had been granted for the application submitted for an extension to the property Eriador in Shaugh Prior. It was also confirmed that the application submitted for a single storey extension at 2 Overdale Villas at Shaugh Prior had been withdrawn. The Clerk referred to receipt of an update on planning enforcement cases in the Parish from SHDC.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Tyler raised an issue that had been raised with her regarding works which have impacted upon a means of access at Dartmoor Cottages. Having considered the background to the issue it was felt that this was a neighbour dispute and that those involved should obtain legal advice and that it was not an issue that the PC should pass judgement on.</p>	
10/17	<p>Chairman's Business</p> <p>The Chairman had nothing to raise.</p>	
11/17	<p>Reports from Committees</p> <p>As no external committee meetings had taken place during the past month there was nothing new to report.</p>	
12/17	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>During the past month, the following correspondence has been received by the Clerk: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter from the Post Office confirming the temporary closure of the Wotter Post Office. • Letter from Dept. for Trans regarding the proposed Stopping Up Order for Lee Moor Road. • Email from DNPA detailing response of the Authority to BT on the closure of various telephone call boxes. • Email News Bulletin from SLCC. • Email from Wolf Minerals giving an update on blasting. • Email from DALC detailing Information and Advice Surgeries. 	

13/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News Release from SHDC on changes to Parking Permits. • Email from DCC on Highways Community Enhancement Fund. • Email from SHDC detailing the outcome of the TAP Fund applications. <p>Website Updates</p> <p>The Clerk mentioned that the website had now been updated by WesternWeb which meant that the Parish Council now complied with the requirements of the Transparency Code. He also confirmed that the new layout was much more user-friendly and included the minutes and agenda for future PC meetings.</p>	
14/17	<p>Finance</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that on the 20th December 2016 there was £47,526.41 in the Treasurers Account.</p> <p>The Clerk mentioned that he had received a late application from Lee Moor Hall for a grant of £400 for a new fridge to serve the Hall. It was noted that no supporting financial information had been submitted with the application and that this would be forwarded prior to the next PC meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Spiers and seconded by Cllr Norman that the grant application be approved and this was agreed by all (with Cllrs McIver and Small abstaining from voting on this matter).</p> <p>Following the budget meeting on the 11th January 2017, the Clerk confirmed that the annual budget had been set which required a precept of £10,598.00 along with a Council Tax Support Grant of £561.00 (£11,159.00 in total).</p> <p>Due to a terminal illness the Clerk confirmed that Mr Abraham would no longer be able to undertake the Internal Audit and that alternative arrangements would need to be put in place. He mentioned that he had contacted Kevin Rose of IAC Audit & Consultancy Ltd and that they would be willing to undertake the internal audit for a fee of £150. It was highlighted that IAC also undertook the internal audit for Bickleigh PC. It was agreed by all that the necessary arrangements be put in place with IAC.</p>	Clerk
15/17	<p>Payments and Receipts</p> <p>It was agreed to make the following payments: -</p> <p><u>Payments</u> £139.33 cheque to Scott Smy (final Clerks expenses payment & postage) £100.00 cheque to Colin Taffurelli (payment for Xmas Trees for Wotter and Shaugh Prior) £36.00 cheque to Colin Taffurelli (reimbursement of printing costs for LFN questionnaires) £150.00 cheque to Shaugh Prior Recreation Hall (room hire April-</p>	

<p>16/17</p> <p>17/17</p>	<p>Sept 2016) £252.00 cheque to WesternWeb Ltd (website updates) £9.06 cheque to Scott Smy (shortfall from Dec payslip) £187.33 cheque to HMRC (PAYE for 3 months Clerks wages) £360.00 cheque to Dan Searle (fencing to the kick-about area) £80.40 cheque to WesternWeb Ltd (annual renewal of webspace) £400.00 cheque to Lee Moor Public Hall (grant payment 2016/17 for new fridge).</p> <p><u>Receipts</u> £1000.00 cheque from DCC (Locality Grant from County Cllr Hart)</p> <p>Works and Maintenance</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that he had asked Mr Palmer to put a spring on the gate to the kick-about area but wasn't aware that the works had yet been completed.</p> <p>Date and Place of Next Parish Council Meeting</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday 1st March 2017 at Lee Moor Public Hall starting at 7.30pm.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The meeting closed at 9.23 pm.</p> <p>Signed:.....Chairman</p> <p>Date:</p>	
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