

MINUTES

of

SHAUGH PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting

Held on

Wednesday 6th December 2017

at

Shaugh Prior Recreation Hall

Present: Chairman Cllr Wassell
Cllr's Spiers, Norman, Small, Stone, Mrs Tyler and Mrs Burkill

Apologies: County Cllr Hart, District Cllr Hitchins, Cllrs McIver and Taffurelli
PC Tamsyn Dingley

5 members of the public in attendance (including a rep from Wolf Minerals)

| Minute Number | | Action |
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| 147/17 | <p>Open Forum</p> <p>Julia Sanders mentioned that although there had been a recent reduction in the number of sheep roaming the moor, there hadn't been a corresponding reduction in sheep fatalities on the local roads which was concerning. This needed to be added to the Police Report.</p> <p>A local resident Mr Pope wished to thank the PC for its' response in relation to a recent planning application submitted for this property. He considered the response from the PC to be fair and had no issues with the conditions which had been recommended by the PC in its' support of the application.</p> <p>Elaine Budd from Wolf Minerals gave an update on matters relating to the Tungsten Mine. She mentioned that the plant was due to shut down between the 23rd and 27th Dec and then again between the 31st Dec and the 3rd Jan 2018. Elaine has continued to engage with the community and Wolf is now regularly supporting activity in the community such as events, raffles and sponsorship such as Shaugh Players' Pantomime and has recently also committed to supporting Dartmoor Zoo with groundworks. In addition an application for funding was submitted to the RCF Foundation (the Foundation of Wolf's major investor) for a local charity for a sizeable amount. Elaine also said that she now meets regularly with the other quarries and companies in the area</p> | Elaine Budd |

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| | <p>(Sibelco, Imerys, AI and Tarmac) to discuss traffic and security issues and should the Council wish Elaine to feed into that wider group on their behalf to please let her know.</p> <p>A local resident raised some concerns regarding the noise associated with live music being played at the White Thorn Inn and the impacts of larger events being planned in the summer months with people being bussed to and from the village. There were also concerns regarding people smoking outside and cars not using the car park to the rear. Whilst the general consensus among local residents was one of support for the pub once again being open for business, the issue of noise was one that needed to be monitored. It was highlighted that reference to 'party buses' coming out to the White Thorn Inn during the summer months was something that had been mentioned in the local media and could, potentially, have slightly been blown out of proportion. It was also highlighted that any larger events planned would be likely to require extension an Events Licence upon which the PC would be consulted and as such the PC could ensure that appropriate measures are put in place to prevent any adverse impacts upon residents who live near the White Thorn Inn. It was agreed that local residents should keep the PC informed of any concerns they have relating to noise and parking associated with the White Thorn Inn so that the situation can be managed.</p> | |
| 148/17 | <p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>None received. Cllr Stone asked if he needed to declare an interest regarding the planning application for Hartstone Barns. The Clerk confirmed that this application was not due to be discussed and therefore there was no need for Cllr Stone to make any declaration at this meeting relating to such matters.</p> | |
| 149/17 | <p>Police Report</p> <p>Although PC Dingley wasn't able to attend the meeting she did provide the Clerk with a Crime Report for the month which was as follows:</p> <p>1-6/11/17 – Criminal damage to a property at Aggregate Industries. A metal gate had been knocked down and damaged. No suspects, CCTV or witnesses. No further lines of enquiry.</p> <p>4/11/17 – Criminal damage to a property at The Old School House. Two windows were smashed. No suspects, CCTV or witnesses. No further lines of enquiry.</p> <p>8/11/17 – Burglary of a house in Wotter. The occupant's dog was removed but was later returned. No crime report was filed.</p> <p>12-13/11/17 – Burglary at the Farmacyard Café in Wotter. Tools stolen. CCTV not clear. No witnesses or forensics. Crime filed.</p> <p>On the 11/11/17 special constables held a policing operation to target off-road vehicles. 18 were stopped and checked and 1 driver was reported for driving with no insurance.</p> | |

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| | <p>Cllr Mrs Burkill made reference to a recent issue at the bottom of Shaugh Prior where local residents undertook a citizen's arrest of a biker. However, after informing them it was revealed that no further action was undertaken by the Police which was particularly disappointing as the PC were under the impression that action was being taken against bikers using the moors. Cllr Mrs Burkill agreed to email details on this matter to Elaine Budd so that it could be raised at the next transport meeting involving local land owners.</p> <p>Cllr Norman also mentioned that 2 number plates had been found in the hedge outside his property.</p> | <p>Cllr Burkill</p> <p>Mrs</p> |
| 150/17 | <p>County and District Councillors Report</p> <p>In the absence of County Cllr Hart and District Cllr Hitchins there were no reports.</p> | |
| 151/17 | <p>DNPA Report</p> <p>In the absence of Cllr Hitchins there was no report.</p> | |
| 152/17 | <p>Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 1st November 2017</p> <p>It was agreed that the draft minutes circulated to Cllrs were an accurate record of the minutes of the November PC meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.</p> | |
| 153/17 | <p>Matters Arising</p> | |
| 8/17(a) | <p>Highway Matters</p> <p>Several Cllrs enquired if the Clerk had been made aware of the recent road closures in the Parish associated with pothole repairs. The Clerk confirmed that he had not been made aware of the closure and it was agreed that this was slightly concerning.</p> <p>Following receipt of an enquiry from the consulting engineer asked to undertake the design work, it was agreed that a decision on whether or not to proceed with the Wotter Traffic Calming design works should only be considered once the budget had been set for the forthcoming financial year. The Clerk confirmed that the PC still held a grant of £1000 from Cllr Hart to help fund these works.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that the defects at Kneele Gate cattle grid had been reported to DCC Highways and in respect of the problem of the Japanese Knotweed Nick Colton confirmed that action would only be taken if it was spreading from the highway onto adjoining land (which Cllr Stone confirmed was in fact the case). The Clerk therefore agreed to raise this matter again with Nick Colton.</p> <p>The potholes in Lee Moor village reported at the last meeting have been checked by DCC Highways and it is considered that no further action is necessary at the current timer. However, if we</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |

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| <p>29/17</p> | <p>were to get a particularly cold winter and the potholes become deeper then this may necessitate further action. Nick Colton confirmed that almost £30k had been spent on roads in the Parish as of late.</p> <p>Cllr Stone reported issues with the culvert near Faunstone Farm with the road showing signs of subsistence whilst issues were also raised with the cattle grids at Bragg Lane and Butt Lane (both being blocked with mud and debris).</p> <p>Newnham Solar Panels Community Benefit Scheme</p> <p>Cllr Spiers confirmed that the first meeting of the Community Interest Company had taken place on the 7th November and that the Trust Board associated with such had now been established. A new website relating to the community benefit fund will be set-up and the application forms required to be submitted for the grant funding are currently in the process of being designed.</p> <p>Cllr Spiers confirmed that the funding from Solarplicity was yet to be received although it had been requested. It was noted that some funding would be taken out of the fund associated with set-up fee's and IT for the CIC. As such there would be up to £25,500 available in the first round of grant funding and it was the view of Cllr Spiers that there seemed to be a preference for smaller bids. Another board meeting was due to take place in Feb/March 2018.</p> | |
| <p>58/17</p> | <p>Broadband</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that he had not received any further correspondence on this matter from Matt Barrow of Connecting Devon and Somerset. It was agreed that Mat Barrow should be asked to attend a PC meeting in the new year. Cllr Mrs Burkill made reference to grant funding that is available to village halls for the installation of broadband.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |
| <p>154/17</p> | <p>Planning</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that a response to the planning application for Hartstone Barns (no 3533/17/FUL) had been sent following the undertaking of a site visit by Cllrs Wassell, Small, Taffurelli and Mrs Burkill. The recommendation was one of no objections subject to various conditions.</p> <p>A considerable amount of discussion took place on the planning application submitted for the change of use of Wotter Methodist Church into 3 new dwellings (app no 3711/17/FUL). Concerns were raised regarding the steepness of the path to unit 3 and conflicts between cars using the parking spaces and pedestrians walking to the surgery. There were also some concerns about the loss of parking along the frontage of the Methodist Church.</p> <p>It was resolved that the PC write to the planning case officer highlighting concerns relating to (a) the tight layout of some of the proposed car parking areas; (b) providing an anti-skid surface to the path down to the surgery due to its' steep gradient; (c) the 5</p> | |

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| | <p>existing on-street parking spaces which are to remain should be marked-out with appropriate signing and lining. Subject to these points being addressed it was agreed that there would be no in principle objections to the application from the PC.</p> <p>The planning application submitted for the relocation of an agricultural building on land adjacent to Montague Terrace (app no 3828/17/FUL) was considered as part of a site visit by Cllrs Wassell, Small and Mrs Burkill and the consensus was to recommend in support of the proposals. The Clerk agreed to respond on this basis.</p> <p>Finally, the Clerk referred to correspondence received relating to on-going planning enforcement cases.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |
| 155/17 | <p>Chairman's Business</p> <p>The Chairman had nothing to report.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |
| 156/17 | <p>Reports from Committees</p> <p>Cllr Small provided an update on the recent Local Liaison Meeting he had attended with Imerys. He said that on the whole there was little to report. The missing signs which had been mentioned at the last PC meeting had been reported and it was confirmed that some of the damaged fencing along the main road was the responsibility of Imerys whilst some sections were for Sibilco to address. He also mentioned that the business operating out of the old brickworks site was thriving.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Burkill gave an update on the Dartmoor National Park Forum Meeting which took place on the 24th November 2017. A sum of £60k was made as a result of the Moors Otters Scheme and that money will be reinvested back into the Park by training rangers, improving access and taking action against invasive species. As a result of the success of this project they are looking to arrange another.</p> <p>A report on the state of the park will be going on the website shortly which reports on the effects of climate change on the National Park. Issues include an increase in both rainfall and temperature. An aging population is another issue which will look to be addressed through the new Local Plan. DNPA will be looking to send a representative to each PC in 2018 in order to provide a verbal update on the revised Local Plan. One of the issues that the revised Local Plan will focus on is providing affordable housing for local people, with less overall renting and making units affordable to purchase.</p> <p>The new communications officer for the National Park made reference to a scheme to enhance livestock safety through communication (signs) and this is likely to commence in 2018.</p> <p>Finally, a major arts project relating to Dartmoor is taking place in</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |

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| 157/17 | <p>Exeter Museum from the 22nd Dec until the 1st April 2018.</p> <p>Correspondence</p> <p>During the past month, the following correspondence has been received by the Clerk: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email from DNPA including the agenda for the meeting of the DNPA Forum on the 24th November 2017. • Letter from PCC on the consultation on school admission arrangements 2019/20. • Email and poster from DCC regarding the Definitive Mar Review Talk which will take place prior to the next PC meeting on the 7th Feb 2018. It was agreed that due to the size of the room available at Le Moor that the location of the Feb PC meeting should be moved to Shaugh Prior Hall. • Email from SHDC regarding abandoned cars at Wotter near the play area. • Email from SHDC regarding Tough Choices relating to setting the budget for the coming financial year. • Letter from Citizens Advice South Hams thanking the PC for the recent £25 donation made. • Email update from Wolf Minerals on LFN Investigations. | Clerk |
| 158/17 | <p>Finance – Budget Meeting</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that on the 14th November 2017 there was £20,019.91 in the Treasurers Account.</p> <p>The Clerk stated that he would send around a draft budget prior to the annual budget meeting which was due to take place on Wednesday 17th January 2018 at Lee Moor Hall starting at 7.30pm.</p> <p>The Clerk had also received confirmation that the new external auditor would be PKF Littlejohn LLP from 2017/18 to 2021/22.</p> | |
| 159/17 | <p>Payments and Receipts</p> <p>It was agreed to make the following payments: -</p> <p><u>Payments</u> £6.00 cheque to IDALC (annual subscription) £240.00 cheque to Grant Thornton UK LLP (annual return 2016/17) £36.00 cheque to WesternWeb Ltd (changes to website) £742.00 cheque to Scott Smy (3 months Clerks wages Oct-Dec)</p> <p><u>Receipts</u></p> <p>None</p> | |
| 160/17 | <p>Works and Maintenance</p> | |

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| 161/17 | <p>It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Mr Palmer and ask him to replace the timber edgings around the safety surfacing at Wotter Play Area which was still to be replaced.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that he had received several quotations from specialist firms that would undertake the post installation safety inspection for the new climbing frame at Wotter. It was confirmed that such an inspection was required for the purposes of insurance. After some brief discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should instruct the Play Inspection Company to carry out the inspection without any further delay.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Burkill passed on the thanks from St Edwards Church for the Xmas Tree that was purchased for the village by the PC. Cllr Small confirmed that he had purchased the tree for Lee Moor. The Clerk confirmed that any Cllrs purchasing Xmas trees on behalf of the PC would be reimbursed.</p> <p>Date and Place of Next Parish Council Meeting</p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 7th February 2018 at Shaugh Prior Recreation Hall commencing at 7.00pm. The start of the meeting shall include a discussion on Public Rights of Way in the Parish and this will be followed by the monthly PC meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.</p> <p>Signed:.....Chairman</p> <p>Date:</p> | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> |
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