

MINUTES
of
SHAUGH PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting
Held on
Wednesday 6th February 2019
at
Lee Moor Public Hall

Present: Chairman Cllr Wassell
Cllr's Norman, Stone, Spiers, Small, Mrs Tyler and Mrs Burkill
District Cllr Hitchins
County Cllr Hart
Andrea Roberts – DNP Ranger

Apologies: Cllrs Taffurelli and McIver
PCSO Tamsyn Dingley

2 members of the public in attendance

Minute Number		Action
02/19	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>Julia Sanders referred to a recent accident that had occurred at Beatland Cross where the existing sign post had been knocked down as a result. She mentioned that she had raised this with Nick Colton of DCC Highways. To ensure that this was actioned the Clerk also agreed to contact Nick on this matter.</p>	Clerk
03/19	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that none had been received.</p>	
04/19	<p>Police Report</p> <p>In the absence of PCSO Tamsyn Dingley the Clerk read out the report kindly forwarded by Tamsyn prior to the meeting:</p> <p>8/12/18 – Harassment/threats at Imerys between employees. No independent evidence and the matter was filed. 11/12/18 – Theft from a motor vehicle in Wotter. Number plate was</p>	

	<p>stolen. No viable lines of enquiry and the crime was filed. 31/12/18 – An incident of assault/ABH in Shaugh Prior. No complaint and the crime was filed.</p> <p>27/01/19 – A sheep was hit by a vehicle. A unit attended and alerted a local farmer who dealt with the matter. 13/01/19 – Motor vehicle recorded racing along Lee Moor Road. Unit attended and provided words of advice. 06/01/19 – A road traffic collision at Beatland Cross. An off-duty officer was present and saw the driver and passenger swap seats in the vehicle. One person was reported for offences.</p> <p>Finally, although not included in the report provided, Julia Sanders made reference to the recent incident regarding the murder of a woman in the public toilets at Yelverton.</p>	
05/19	<p>County and District Cllrs Report</p> <p>County Cllr Hart mentioned that council tax in Devon was due to increase by 3.99%, with an extra £13m going into Children’s Services and the same into Adult Services. He also mentioned that Devon would not be in the business rates pilot scheme next year (although they were this year). One of the key areas for savings being made is trying to help children, who require support, staying in their own homes rather than going into care. Finally, Cllr Hart mentioned that DCC had received a further £18.7m from Central Government for pothole repairs with this sum being calculated on the length of roads maintained by the County. The next closest Authority on the list being Yorkshire who received £13m.</p> <p>With regard to District Council matters, Cllr Hitchins said it had been a quiet start to the year. The Communities Together Fund (previously the TAP Fund) finishing at the end of March 2019. A donation of £200 had been made towards the Ivybridge Ring and Ride Service.</p> <p>Arrangements put in place for overcoming the recent bad weather experienced had gone very well with very few missed bin collections. It was also highlighted that the new waste collection contract starts at the end of March. A problem which our Parish does suffer from is fly tipping and Cllr Hitchins provided some statistics from the Local Government Association. In England 1 in 450 cases are prosecuted and 41% of Local Authorities fail to prosecute whilst fly tipping has an annual cost to Authorities of £57m. The meeting of the SHDC Executive is due to take place this coming Thursday where it is proposed to agree a council tax increase of 5%, with a 2% rise in Adult Services and 1.5% for the Police. Also, on the agenda will be the transfer of District Council owned toilets and a review of pay and display car parking charges.</p>	
06/19	<p>DNPA Report</p> <p>Cllr Hitchins gave an update on DNPA matters which was as follows: The 70th anniversary of National Parks and Access to the</p>	

	<p>Countryside Act 1949 will take place during 2019, with Dartmoor being one of the first National Parks created in 1951 along with 3 others.</p> <p>Arrangements to combat recent bad weather worked reasonably well with the Head Ranger appearing on Local and National TV warning motorists of potential risks and hazards. However sadly many ignored the advice and some major issues were experienced with traffic log jams around Haytor, Princetown and Peek Hill as a result of people wanting to come up onto the moors and enjoy the snow. Many farmers complained about their inability to reach their livestock and emergency services were hampered. Rangers were on-hand to ferry medical staff and essential medicines to people cut-off by the snow.</p> <p>As a result of the bad weather the recent DNPA meeting was cancelled as many of the attendees could not make it in. Agenda items have been rolled-over to the meeting planned in March.</p> <p>This year is the year of Green Action (YoGA) which is focussing on the hazards of plastic waste an efforts to reduce it. On the farming front the Authority is the lead on hill farming and is still very much aligned with DEFRA in representing the industry to the SoS for the Environment.</p> <p>In the current spending review it seems as though the DNPA budget is protected and there is no intention to change it during the term of this Government. Dartmoor has been listed for a BBC Countryfile Award along with Exmoor and finally the new SoS appointment has been confirmed as Professor Parkinson who is Exeter-based.</p> <p>In addition to Cllr Hitchins, Dartmoor Ranger Andrea Roberts attended part of the meeting and gave a brief update on projects taking place this year. Andrea mentioned that a new website was due to go live where issues relating to PROW and Bridleways can be reported. This site can be accessed through the DNPA website by searching 'Report a Problem'. DNPA Rangers are also about to launch a Youth Rangers Club for teenagers between 16 and 18 years of age. Around 12-15 children can be accommodated on each course and skills being taught will include things such as dry stone-walling. This project will launch in April 2019 and details will be included on the DNPA website. It was also highlighted that children who wanted to attend did not necessarily have to live within the National Park.</p>	
07/19	<p>Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 5th December 2018</p>	
	<p>It was agreed that the draft minutes circulated to Cllrs were an accurate record of the minutes of the December PC meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.</p>	
08/19	<p>Matters Arising</p>	
(a)	<p>Highway Matters</p>	
	<p>The Clerk referred to a notice received from DCC Highways</p>	

	<p>regarding drainage works taking place at New Road at Bickleigh commencing on Monday 4th March 2019 which will result in some detours as no vehicular access will be possible along New Road. The diversion route shall be via Shaugh Prior, Cadover Bridge, Yelverton and the A386.</p> <p>Nick Colton from DCC Highways has confirmed that Skanska have been tasked with inspecting all of the cattle grids in the South Hams and arranging repairs. If the damaged gate at Kneele Gate is not on the current 2019-20 programme then he will look to get it included. He also confirmed that he would be in contact with Cllr Stone to arrange a suitable time to meet and run through some of the highway issues that haven't arisen, particularly with regard to drainage.</p> <p>Julia Sanders kindly provided a Dartmoor Livestock Report up to December 2018 for the Clerk to relay to Cllrs. Up until Dec 2018 there had been 184 road traffic collisions involving livestock. This has resulted in 28 ponies being killed and 8 injured, 115 sheep killed and 12 injured and 9 cows killed and 12 injured. It was agreed by all that these statistics are very worrying and more needs to be done to reduce the number and severity of accidents that are occurring on Dartmoor involving livestock.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Tyler asked if the Clerk could contact DCC Highways regarding the re-marking of the faded carriageway centreline markings on the section of road between Kneele Gate and the Farmshop Café. The Clerk agreed to raise this along with a further request for DCC or associated contractors to collect all redundant road signage which has been left on verges etc after highway works have been completed.</p>	
(b)	<p>Newnham Solar Fund</p> <p>In view of on-going concerns regarding how the CIC was being run, Cllr Spiers confirmed that he had tendered his resignation as a Director from the Community Interest Company and would no longer be representing the PC on the group. The Clerk confirmed that the next meeting of the CIC was due to take place on Tuesday 26th February 2019. Cllr Mrs Burkill agreed to attend the meeting as a nominated representative of the PC. Cllr Mrs Burkill also confirmed that depending on how the meeting went, she may be willing to consider being a Director of the CIC subject to her being happy with the legal aspects. It was agreed that the Clerk would provide Cllr Mrs Burkill with the relevant paperwork regarding the CIC if she could not obtain this from the administrator Dawn Johnson in the first instance. The Clerk also confirmed that the PC would be submitting a bid for funding to the CIC relating to improvements to Lee Moor Play Area and hoped to have this submitted for the meeting on the 26th February.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
(c)	<p>Broadband</p> <p>The Clerk enquired if anyone had received any responses from</p>	

	<p>Matt Barrow on broadband queries they had raised directly with him? The general consensus was that there had been very little back from Matt Barrow responding to those people who had raised particular concerns. The Clerk agreed to chase Matt Barrow for responses to these queries. Cllr Mrs Burkill made reference to potential grants which may be available for broadband improvements. Julia Sanders kindly agreed to include this on the PC website.</p> <p>(d) Lee Moor Play Area Improvements</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that the PC had now received 3 different estimates from 3 different play equipment companies for the improvements to Lee Moor Play Area and that Cllrs were due to select their preferred scheme during Part 2 of the meeting. As mentioned above, an application for funding will be submitted to the Newnham Solar Fund as well as the Tesco Bags for Like Scheme. However, the latter will necessitate a signed permission form from Lee Moor Hall Committee as they own the land upon which the improved play equipment would be situated.</p> <p>(e) Stan Finemore Memorial</p> <p>The Chairman confirmed that the engraved granite memorial stone had been placed in front of the tree planted in Stan's memory and a number of people had commented on how good it looked. It was agreed that there was nothing further to add and that this did not need to be included on future meeting agendas.</p> <p>(f) GDPR</p> <p>The Clerk mentioned that he was still waiting for a number of Cllrs to set-up their dedicated PC email addresses. It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate Barry Isaac's contact details to Cllrs.</p> <p>(g) Shaugh Prior Community Fund</p> <p>It was highlighted that no applications had been received during the past month.</p> <p>(h) Hemerdon Mine</p> <p>The Clerk provided a brief update received from the planning officer at DCC. The mine is still in the hands of the official receiver although things are changing on a daily basis. DCC have been working closely with the EA who have a Bond to do immediate works required for safety or pollution control. The Bond is shared with the landowners who can call it first for restoration purposes if there are no likely operators stepping in. Cllrs commented that much of the heavy plant and equipment had been taken off site and therefore the likelihood of any new operations starting-up at the mine were very slim.</p> <p>(i) 2019 Parish Council Elections</p>	
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<p>09/19</p>	<p>Posters advertising the PC elections and Cllr positions on the PC were provided by the Clerk for inclusion on the various notice boards within the Parish. The Clerk also provided details to Julia Sanders for inclusion on the PC website. It was confirmed that information on forthcoming PC Elections was also included in the latest version of the Parish Magazine.</p> <p>On the issue of Cllr's collecting their nomination packs from SHDC, the question was asked whether or not one Cllr from the PC could be nominated to collect all of the nomination packs in order to save every Cllr from having to drive to Totnes. Cllr Hitchins said he would ask the question and report back.</p> <p>Planning – Oversound House</p> <p>A householder planning application for a proposed single storey extension at 11 Whitehill Gardens, Lee Moor (app no 4112/18/HHO) had been received by the PC. It was agreed that a site visit should be conducted by Cllrs Wassell, Stone and Mrs Burkill and that the Chairman would report back to the Clerk.</p> <p>An email had been received from a parishioner regarding a request for a letter of confirmation from the PC regarding planning consent for development taking place at Oversound House. The Clerk confirmed that the application had been submitted back in 2002 and therefore it was difficult to determine what the views of the PC were on the original application and whether or not the works had been implemented. Cllr Hitchins mentioned that a meeting was due to take place between the applicant and the Planning Officer which should help to determine the outcome of this matter.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Burkill mentioned that she had reviewed the draft DNPA Local Plan which was out to consultation and there were no real issues for Shaugh Prior PC to consider as up to only 3 dwellings could be provided within Shaugh Prior which would have very little impact.</p>	<p>Cllr Wassell</p>
<p>10/19</p>	<p>Chairman's Business</p> <p>As a result of the recent bad weather the Chairman had delivered 52 bags of rock salt to ensure that roads and footpaths were gritted. Of those 52, a total of 11 had been taken for personal use.</p>	
<p>11/19</p>	<p>Reports from Committees</p> <p>As there had been no internal or external committee meetings during the past month there was nothing to report.</p>	
<p>12/19</p>	<p>Wotter Church Artefacts</p> <p>A recent letter had been received from Andrew Sellick asking whether or not the PC would be interested in taking some historic parish-related artefacts that had to be removed as a result of the redevelopment of the former Methodist Church at Wotter. These</p>	

	<p>items included smaller items such as cups and plates and larger memorial plinths. As the PC do not have anywhere to store such items, it was suggested that perhaps the smaller items could be donated to either of the two halls as it would be disappointing to see these items removed from the local area. With regard to the larger memorial stones/plinths, Cllr Mrs Burkill asked if these items could be included and form part of the redevelopment works taking place at the former Chapel perhaps within the external walls of the building or within the grassed area surrounding the building? It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to Andrew Sellick on this basis.</p> <p>13/19 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 UK Cycling Events regarding a cycle race taking place on Sat 4th May 2019 • Email from SHDC regarding the allocation of funding for the Communities Together Fund • Email Newsletter from DALC • Newsletter from South Hams Citizens Advice • Email from the Clerk at Sparkwell PC regarding issues of access to Boringdon Camp • Minutes and invoice for 2018/19 subscription to the I&DALC <p>14/19 Finance</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed on the 27th January 2019 there was the sum of £18,514.70 in the Treasurers Account.</p> <p>15/19 Payments and Receipts</p> <p>It was agreed to make the following payments: -</p> <p><u>Payments</u> £450.00 cheque to Nick Wassell (Chairman's Allowance) £600.00 cheque to B & K Gent (Annual grass cutting fees) £100.00 cheque to Scott Smy (final Clerks expenses payment) £20.00 cheque to David Andrews (Reimbursement of electricity costs for Wotter Xmas tree lights) £104.00 cheque to Colin Taffurelli (Reimbursement of purchase of Xmas trees for Shaugh Prior and Wotter) £7.00 cheque to I&DALC (Annual subscription fees for 2018-19)</p> <p><u>Receipts</u> None</p> <p>16/19 Works and Maintenance</p> <p>With regard to the works to the phone box at Wotter, the Clerk was</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
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17/19	<p>still awaiting the return of Cllr Taffurelli who was arranging these works (paint etc).</p> <p>Date and Place of Next Parish Council Meeting</p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 6th March 2019 at Lee Moor Hall starting at 7.30pm.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The meeting closed at 9.08 pm.</p> <p>Signed:.....Chairman</p> <p>Date:</p>	
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