

MINUTES

of

SHAUGH PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting

Held on

Wednesday 6th November 2019

at

Lee Moor Public Hall

Present: Chairman Cllr Wassell
Cllrs Norman, Stone, Hitchins, Taffurelli, Mrs Burkill and Mrs Tyler

District Cllr Spencer
DNPA Rep Cllr Smerdon

Apologies: County Cllr Hart, Julia Sanders

2 members of the public in attendance

Minute Number		Action
133/19	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>Reference was made to the fact that the potholes in Recreation Way (which were reported at the last PC meeting) were getting larger. The Clerk confirmed that he had reported these potholes on the DCC Highways website.</p> <p>Despite having raised this matter with DCC Highways some considerable time back, it was noted that there were still no reflectors on the ends of the new sections of crash barrier on the main road. The Clerk agreed to raise this matter again with Nick Colton.</p> <p>Cllr Stone raised a concern regarding a blocked drain outside Bughill Farm which was sending water down the drainage channel and how this could prove a highway safety issue if we get any frosty weather. Cllr Mrs Tyler also made reference to the block drains by the Doctors Surgery in Wotter and the need to repaint the white lining on the main road. The Clerk agreed to raise these various issues with Nick Colton.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Burkill enquired if anyone knew why the post box at Shaugh Bridge had been taken out of action? The Clerk confirmed</p>	

	<p>that he had not received any notice from Royal Mail on the possibility of this post box being removed and consequently agreed to raise this with them. (<i>Footnote – Several days following the meeting the post box was back in action – confirmed by Cllr Mrs Burkill</i>).</p> <p>Following bonfire night, it was highlighted that there were many remnants of fireworks near Cadover Bridge and concerns were raised about the possibility of animals eating them. Cllr Stone mentioned that this was highly unlikely and that animals would steer well clear of such.</p>	
134/19	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that none had been received.</p>	
135/19	<p>Police Report</p> <p>PCSO Diana Summers was joined by Sgt Rob Wilson who introduced himself to Cllrs. He mentioned that due to cutbacks it was highly unlikely that there would be a Police presence at meetings for the foreseeable future as there were now just 2 beat managers covering the entire area. However, Rob did mention that it was likely that there would be more officers employed to the area as the new town at Sherford grows. Di confirmed that during the month of October there had been only 1 crime which was an incident of criminal damage at Imerys and that the incident was undetected. There were also some minor logs relating to animals being injured on the roads and a low-risk missing person being found.</p>	
136/19	<p>County and District Cllrs Report</p> <p>In the absence of Cllr Hart there was no County Cllr Report.</p> <p>District Cllr Spencer read out his report relating to matters at SHDC which were as follows:</p> <p>Drakelands Mine – Cllr Spencer reported back on the recent meeting he had arranged which was also attended by the Chairman. It was agreed that the meeting had been useful in respect of updates and the tour of the mine (after the meeting) was very helpful in seeing what measures were being put in place to address the dust issues.</p> <p>The issues surrounding the Climate Change Emergency were on-going with SHDC fully committed to taking this matter forwards. There is a consultation currently on-going where ideas for carbon-reduction measures are being requested and shared. This will then form the basis of an Action Plan.</p> <p>The Development Guidelines Supplementary Planning Document in support of the adopted JLP is now out to consultation with a deadline of the 13th November 2019. If anyone does have any comments then please feed them back to SHDC.</p> <p>As well as having appointed 2 new enforcement officers, Barrie recently met with existing officers to discuss current enforcement</p>	

	<p>cases in the area.</p> <p>A meeting with the Head of Waste collection was recently held where no new issues were raised by the PC in addition to those that have already been highlighted. The meeting was amicable but needs further development and they are going back to investigate the FCC personal involved in the incidents that we raised at the meeting (with no further update as yet). A recent media campaign regarding what to do with Xmas Recycling/Waste has recently been launched by SHDC. It was highlighted that the District Council lose a considerable amount of money due to the contamination of recycled waste. The Clerk confirmed that details of the press release from SHDC had been sent to the editor of the Parish Magazine and included on the PC website. Cllr Mrs Tyler suggested that it might be worthwhile organising a PC trip to a waste recycling centre on the New Year. It was also suggested by Cllr Mrs Burkill suggested it might be a good idea to take the Xmas Recycling message to local schools and get the children involved? Cllr Spencer agreed that this was a very good idea and agreed to look into this.</p> <p>Higher Bughill Farm – With regards to the problems associated with the barking dogs, feedback from local residents has now been provided to SHDC Enforcement Officers who have visited the site and made some recommendations to the owners which might help the situation. Noise monitoring equipment will be installed by SHDC in due course and the owner of the dogs has received a letter from SHDC regarding the matter.</p> <p>Collard Lane – Correspondence has been received regarding a deep dip in Collard lane. Barrie has been through the history with Nick Colton at DCC and there is currently a dispute between DCC and SWW regarding liability for the repair work. The files are currently with County Hall awaiting further action and it was suggested to the complainant that they log an official ‘level one’ complaint and supplied details of the DCC link to do this. It was suggested that the Clerk may also want to do this as well.</p> <p>Wotter Church – Barrie mentioned that he had today received an invitation to have a look at the proposals and asked if anyone wanted to join him from the PC. It was highlighted by the Chair that the PC would conduct a site visit in any case.</p> <p>Community Infrastructure Levy – Whilst SHDC do not currently subscribe to CIL or have a CIL List, this is something that is currently being explored. Public and Parish consultation on this is likely to take place around spring 2020.</p> <p>Locality Teams - Since about 2015 Councillors and yourselves have been able to work with Locality teams. These are staff who work in the area and are subject to our direction in terms of what they do. This work structure is currently being reviewed with a view to a recommendation being made to Council around January 2020. Finally, with a General Election having now been called the Council is now in Purdah until the announcement of the results on or after the 12th December 2019. Barrie also mentioned that he is in the final stages of introducing a website for the Ward, letting people know what is going on and where. It was agreed that it would be a good idea to provide links to our own PC website.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
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137/19	<p>DNPA Report</p> <p>Cllr Peter Smerdon provided his report which was as follows:</p> <p>At last Fridays DNPA Development Management meeting Park Members approved a development of 39 homes, all affordable, at Longstone Cross, Ashburton. LiveWest are the developers. Also approved was the plan by South Brent Community Land Trust for 17 self-build houses, all for local families, at Palstone Lane, South Brent. The proposal to build a Premier Inn next to the A38 at Ashburton has yet to be determined.</p> <p>Work has started on the extension of the Postbridge Visitor Centre, which will provide room to exhibit many of the artefacts found at the White Horse Hill Bronze Age burial cairn, as well as upgrading all the facilities and the car park. The project is being funded by a 100% capital grant from the Rural Payments Agency.</p> <p>Friday 22 October saw the launch of the Dartmoor Rural Crime Initiative, with DNPA, Devon and Cornwall Police and other partners to focus on rural crime prevention and anti-social behaviour. The latter is something DNPA Rangers are facing with increasing frequency. The initiative has helped develop better working relationships with the Police leading to more joint patrols and a working group looking at reducing speeding, animal deaths, etc.</p> <p>Cllr Hitchins asked Cllr Smerdon for his views on the Glover Report. Cllr Smerdon replied that there was still a considerable amount of detail to iron-out. Cllr Stone also suggested that there were mixed messages coming out of the National Park as different groups want different things/priorities and how will this be managed moving forwards. Cllr Smerdon commented that this was an issue for the National Park to resolve.</p>	
138/19	<p>Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday the 2nd October 2019</p> <p>It was agreed that the draft minutes were an accurate reflection of the October meeting and were duly signed by the Chair after being proposed by Cllr Stone and seconded by Cllr Mrs Tyler.</p>	
139/19 8/19(a)	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Highway Matters</p> <p>The Chair highlighted that most of the highway matters had been picked up and addressed during the Open Forum (Minute 133/19). With reference to the Wotter Traffic Calming Scheme the Clerk wished to clarify that it would be the responsibility of the PC to provide the funding for such (which could include grants) and not DCC Highways. It was also noted that the amount of funding required to provide the gateway features at either end of the scheme would be in the region of £6-8000.</p>	

8/19(b)	<p>Newnham Solar Fund</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Burkill confirmed that the new scheme administrator was now in post and a meeting was due to be held the following Wednesday. Since the last PC meeting there had been 1 further application which was for a new kitchen in the hall at Hemerdon. Funding had also been provided to help Shaugh Prior Hall host the Annual Apple Day celebrations.</p> <p>Cllr Taffurelli asked if the PC could make an application to the Solar Fund for the funding needed for the Wotter Traffic Calming Scheme? Cllr Mrs Burkill reminded Cllr Taffurelli that this was not possible as only 1 bid could be received from any organisation during any 12-month period and we had already received funding for Lee Moor Play Area Improvements. However, this would not prevent Dartmoor Speedwatch Group from submitting an application for such. Cllr Mrs Burkill agreed to raise this at the next meeting of the solar fund.</p>	
8/19(g)	<p>Shaugh Prior Community Fund – St Edwards Church Grant Application</p> <p>The Clerk reported that one application had been received for a grant of £400 from St Edwards Church towards the annual costs associated with cutting the grass within the Churchyard. It was noted that all necessary paperwork (including statement of accounts) had been submitted with the application and that money had been allocated in the annual budget for such. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Taffurelli and seconded by Cllr Mrs Burkill that a grant payment of £400 be approved by the PC and this was agreed by all Cllrs.</p>	
8/19(h)	<p>Hemerdon Mine – Dust Issues</p> <p>The Chairman attended the recent meeting arranged by Cllr Spencer and provided Cllrs with an update.</p> <p>A buyer for the mine has now come forward which would appear to be a serious proposition as they are now funding the on-going maintenance. A large ring-main has been installed around the stock pile in order to help address dust issues. This ring main is fed with water during periods of dry windy weather.</p> <p>The Bond for the reinstatement works is still in place and if the plant is to re-open (which is highly likely) then the plant will be subject to a total redesign in order to address the low frequency noise problems that previously occurred. A further meeting is planned in Jan 2020 and the Chair agreed to circulate the minutes of the meeting to all Cllrs.</p> <p>With regard to dust monitoring, it would appear that all of the monitoring stations have now gone apart from one at Portworthy. However, samples of the dust have been taken from the site and have gone to Public Health England for review.</p>	
8/19(i)	<p>2019 Parish Council Elections</p> <p>There was no further update on the 2 vacant Cllr posts.</p>	

109/19	<p>Access to Wotter Surgery</p> <p>As a planning application had now been submitted, it was agreed to discuss this item under Planning (Minute 140/19 below).</p>	
140/19	<p>Planning</p> <p>The Clerk highlighted that a planning application (no 3399/19/VAR) had now been lodged with SHDC in order to vary the layout of the path leading to Wotter Surgery as part of the redevelopment of the former Methodist Church at Wotter. Whilst some concerns were raised by Cllrs regarding the fact that the alternative path alignment had already been constructed, it was agreed that normal protocol would be followed and the site would be visited by the Chair along with Cllrs Stone, Taffurelli and Mrs Burkill at 3pm on Friday 8th November. It was agreed that the Cllrs would report back to the Clerk with their recommendation following the site visit (along with images of the new path). It was also highlighted by the Clerk that the high timber fencing proposed on either side of the path may give rise to some safety concerns with blind corners etc. He therefore agreed to get the application referred to the Police Architectural Liaison Officer, Sarah-Jane Barr for comment. Cllr Taffurelli also agreed to obtain the views of the Doctors Surgery on the proposals.</p> <p>In reference to the on-going enforcement case relating to activities at Higher Bughill Farm, Cllr Barrie Spencer confirmed that there were currently 2 issues being looked into although progress was being hampered by the enforcement officer currently being off on sick leave (he is currently awaiting his return). Cllr Stone raised concerns that the excavations that have recently been undertaken are near a watercourse and therefore involvement from the EA may be necessary.</p>	Clerk Cllr Taffurelli
141/19	<p>Climate Change Emergency</p> <p>Following the decision of a number of County, District and Town/Parish Councils having declared a Climate Emergency, it was agreed by Cllrs that the provision and aims of such is something that should be supported by our own Parish Council. The Clerk confirmed that it was not the case of the PC currently needing to declare a Climate Emergency but to be aware of the issues surrounding such and putting necessary measures in place to look at starting to reduce our own carbon footprint. Potential carbon neutral ideas should be shared with the Parishes and the District/County.</p> <p>It was highlighted by Cllr Peter Smerdon that the Parish Council at South Brent were well advanced on such matters and it was suggested that perhaps we could invite someone from their PC to one of our future meetings where ideas could be shared and explored? It was also accepted that if more sustainable modes of producing energy are to come to the fore (wind turbines etc) then planning policy (particularly in the National Park) will need to change accordingly.</p>	

	<p>Cllr Mrs Burkill made reference to the hydro-electric scheme that was being proposed by the National Trust several years ago and wondered if this could be looked at again. The Clerk agreed to speak to the NT on this proposal.</p>	Clerk
142/19	<p>Chairman's Business</p> <p>The Chair made reference to the need to get our two Cllr vacancies filled and get some some new faces on the Council that could potentially lead on issues such as Climate Change.</p>	
143/19	<p>Reports from Committees</p> <p>Cllr Taffurelli referred to the meeting of the I&DALC which he had attended on behalf of the PC. The meeting included updates from various PC's which make-up the area although it was noted that attendance at the meeting was poor. As a result of that it was agreed that the meetings would now take place every 3 months.</p> <p>Cllr Taffurelli also attended the DCC Highways event held at Rattery. He said the meeting was very informative with many demonstrations taking place including a new pothole machine with DCC now operate and the various services offered by DCC.</p>	
144/19	<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 Newsletter from DALC • Email Newsletter from NALC • Email from DCC Devon Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Update • Update from SHDC on the noise issues reported at Higher Bughill Farm • DCC Highways Newsletter Winter Edition • Consultation from DCC on Changes to Parking Permit Scheme Order • Email from SHDC highlighting the Town and Parish Council Event taking place on the 4th Dec 2019 (unfortunately this is the date of our Dec PC meeting). • Email from SHDC on the Technical Consultation on the Local Government Finance Settlement 2020/21 	
145/19	<p>Finance</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed on the 27th October 2019 there was the sum of £13,716.47 in the Treasurers Account. This sum included a VAT Return of £924.18.</p>	
146/19	<p>Payments and Receipts</p> <p>It was agreed to make the following payments: -</p>	

<p>147/19</p>	<p><u>Payments</u> £300.00 cheque to Lee Moor Public Hall (pensioners Xmas lunch) £450.00 cheque to Mr Nick Wassell (annual Chairman's allowance) £100.00 cheque to Mr Scott Smy (first Clerks annual mileage payment) £18.00 cheque to Westernweb Ltd (checking Clerks email account) £400.00 cheque to St Edwards Church (annual grant for grass cutting 2019/20) £25.00 cheque to Royal British Legion (payment for poppy wreath)</p> <p><u>Receipts</u> £924.18 BACS payment from HMRC (VAT Return)</p> <p>Works and Maintenance</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that the new bench for Lee Moor Play Area had now arrived and was awaiting installation. It was suggested that a hardcore base be constructed for the bench along with timber edgings and this was agreed by all. The Clerk agreed to obtain a price for the installation from Mr Palmer.</p> <p>The Chair raised an issue regarding the bus shelter at Wotter (there were some significant cracks in the walls and it was reported to be leaking). The Clerk agreed to arrange to get a local builder to go out and have a look at the problems and report back to the next PC meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Tyler raised a concern that had been passed to her regarding a local resident who was walking and letting her dogs foul in Lee Moor Cemetery and asked if the PC could provide appropriate signs? The Clerk confirmed that as this was private property the PC had no powers or authorisation to erect signs on what is private property. However, we could potentially support any grant application received from the cemetery to help with the costs of providing any signs.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>148/19</p>	<p>Date and Place of Next Parish Council Meeting</p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 4th December 2019 at Lee Moor Public Hall starting at 7.30pm.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.</p> <p>Signed:.....Chairman</p> <p>Date:</p>	