

**MINUTES**

of

**SHAUGH PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL****Meeting****Held on****Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

at

**Lee Moor Public Hall**

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

District Cllr Spencer

Apologies: County Cllr Hart, District Cllr Smerdon, Cllr Taffurelli

3 members of the public in attendance

Minute Number		Action
02/20	<p><b>Open Forum</b></p> <p>A local resident Tim Thomas from Shaugh Mill highlighted on-going issues regarding flooding taking place outside his property which is impacting on the ability to access Shaugh Mill. Whilst Tim acknowledged this was a matter for DCC Highways to address (by clearing adjoining drainage ditches) he was seeking support from the Parish Council in relation to this matter. The Chair had sympathy with Mr Thomas and confirmed that the PC would do all it could to assist in this matter in order to bring it to a satisfactory conclusion. It was noted that as well as washing away aggregate on Mr Thomas' driveway, the flooding was also eroding the existing tarmac surfacing.</p> <p>Julia Sanders mentioned that the sign post at Beatland Cross had been damaged. The Clerk agreed to raise this with DCC Highways.</p> <p>She also mentioned that all had recently been quiet in relation to the barking dogs at Bughill Farm except for 1 particular day and that SHDC were due to visit the property again the following week.</p> <p>Finally, former Cllr John Small wished to express his thanks to the PC for the new bench that had been provided at Lee Moor Play Area which was in recognition of the service both he and Cllr</p>	Clerk

03/20	<p>Mclver gave to the PC over many years.</p> <p><b>Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>In view of being an owner of land adjoining the application boundary, Cllr Hitchins declared a personal interest in respect of the agenda item relating to the planning application at Woolwell and duly signed the register and agreed to take no part in any discussions held in relation to this matter.</p>	Cllr Hitchins
04/20	<p><b>Police Report</b></p> <p>The Clerk referred to a recent letter he had received from PS Robert Wilson (Neighbourhood Team Leader) confirming that Devon and Cornwall Police would no longer be attending any PC meetings and would not be providing crime reports. It was noted that this decision was not isolated to the Ivybridge and West South Hams sector and had been in place in other sectors across Devon and Cornwall area for some time. Moving forward the letter referred to crime reports being downloadable from the Devon and Cornwall Police Authority website.</p> <p>Many Cllrs raised concerns about the lack of any Police presence at future PC meetings and asked the Clerk to address these concerns with the Police and Crime Commissioner. Julia Sanders mentioned that she had sent a letter to the Inspector and agreed to forward this and his response to the Clerk. It was agreed that the Clerk would also speak to Parish Councils in the Ivybridge area to gauge their views on this letter and the lack of any Police presence at their PC meetings.</p> <p>Julia also mentioned that there had been a burglary at Brownie Cross between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> February where £2,000 of power tools had been stolen.</p>	Clerk
05/20	<p><b>County and District Cllrs Report</b></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><u>Climate Change Action Workshop</u> The SHDC Climate Change WG is continuing its deliberations.</p> <p>The Council has examined each area of its own business, mapped every action that could be taken and those that have been taken and allocated priorities and approximate costings to all of these. Following this self-analysis they have drafted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Action Plan</li> <li>• Draft Sustainable Procurement Plan</li> </ul> <p>They have established a benchmark for their own carbon foot-print enabling them to measure their own progress as new initiatives are</p>	

	<p>introduced. Anyone can measure their own carbon foot-print and I would encourage you to do so. DCC has a good calculator but others are available.</p> <p>At a meeting at SHDC on 23 January it was proposed, and accepted, that the 2020/21 budget include an amount of £400,000 to be set up for emergency climate change projects in the SH and to give effect to the action plan that is being developed by SH. This was passed but now has to go to the Executive meeting on Thursday, 06 February and then to Full Council on 13 February. Community projects will share in this amount and details are yet to be finalised.</p> <p><u>Barwood Land</u> The long-awaited plans for the proposed development of around 2,000 houses have now materialised and they are available to view on the SHDC website. Whilst this is at the western edge of the Ward it is still one of the most significant development applications in the local area and one which will have a significant impact on the whole Bickleigh &amp; Cornwood Ward for the next 15/20 years or so.</p> <p>There are two applications dealing with the two separate proposals, but which are very closely aligned. The first is for around 360 houses accessed through Towerfield Drive which is essentially the Roborough Tesco superstore end. The second application is for around 1,640 new homes and is largely accessed through a new roundabout off the A386 just north of the Plessey building. The plans also include a commercial centre, school and other commercial elements.</p> <p>To try to explain the proposals, I am running a workshop in the Roborough area on 21 February at 7pm. I will post details of the meetings on my Facebook site and I would encourage you to join my group if you are a FB user. If you are not a FB user, if you would send me your email address, I will start a mailing list and communicate with you through that.</p> <p>In response to comment made by Cllr Spencer regarding the land deal that has been struck between the various landowners, Cllr Hitchins wanted it made clear that he had not withdrawn his land from the deal that had been struck between the parties.</p> <p><u>Commercial Property Acquisition</u> You may have read in the press that SHDC has purchased the M&amp;S site in Dartmouth for £4.7 million with around £300,000 of acquisition costs. The property is the retail store and flats above. The acquisition was funded through a loan from the PWLB which as you may know lends money to local authorities. The project is expected to yield around £60,000 net income per annum and will be a much-needed income generating resource.</p> <p><u>Hemerdon Mine</u> I attended this meeting with Cllr Wassell and I will leave this to him to report back to you. SHDC members have been invited for a further meeting with the new owners and a site tour and this is on 26 February. There will discussions about items of mutual benefit,</p>	
--	--	--

06/20	<p>so that will be interesting.</p> <p><u>Bus Shelter</u> I have been approached by the Clerk about the possibility of some locality funding from my very modest pot of money. I have not responded directly to the Clerk as yet and would be happy to help subject to more details as your plans for replacement unfold.</p> <p>Finally, can I encourage those Councillors who have not yet joined my FB page to please do so; I will be using this, as always to communicate anything I find out, as I find it.</p> <p><b>DNPA Report</b></p> <p>In the absence of Cllr Peter Smerdon the Clerk read out his report he had kindly provided prior to the meeting:</p> <p><u>Filming with BBC Countryfile</u></p> <p>On 9 January, Kevin Bishop, DNPA CEO spent a cold, foggy, soggy afternoon with a film crew from BBC's Countryfile, filming a piece featuring Tom Heap, on the future of farming. The filming used the peatland restoration at Hangingstone Hill as a backdrop for a discussion about the new Environmental Land Management System (ELMS). It was an interesting experience – the weather was challenging, to say the least, and despite being forewarned about the prevailing weather and ground conditions, three of the film crew arrived without waterproofs or appropriate footwear!</p> <p><u>Your Dartmoor – Comments Required</u></p> <p>'Your Dartmoor' – the National Park Management Plan 2020-2025 is going out for consultation from 10 Feb to 20 April 2020. Please help to promote the consultation with your contacts, friends and family, and encourage people to respond using the online survey, and submit your own comments if you wish (but please indicate if you are responding in a personal or professional capacity). The draft Plan, associated documents and survey will be available online at: <a href="http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/managementplanreview">www.dartmoor.gov.uk/managementplanreview</a>. Copies will also be available at Parke reception, National Park Centres, local information points, and promoted via libraries, local council offices and Parish and Town Councils.</p> <p><u>Next Generation Manifesto Survey</u></p> <p>The Next Generation Vision for Dartmoor has been developed in response to the EUROPARC Youth Manifesto. The EUROPARC Youth Manifesto acts as a source of ideas and inspiration for decision makers in Protected Areas and rural communities to ensure the involvement and empowerment of young people. The Next Generation Vision and a summary of the Manifesto 'asks' are included as a cross cutting theme in the Management Plan. It will also be used as a 'standalone' document to represent what the Next Generation want for the future of the National Park. To ensure that we engage young people effectively in delivering the Next Generation Manifesto, we are carrying out a Youth</p>	
-------	---	--

	<p>Engagement Survey to run alongside the Management Plan Consultation. The purpose of the survey is to understand the level of interest for involvement in the work of the Authority among young people, and to identify what options for engagement are most appealing. The survey is aimed at people between 16ish – 30ish and will run from 17 Feb to 20 April 2020. Please share the survey with anyone who might be interested and encourage them to share it further among their friends, or any groups they might be part of. The survey and Next Generation Manifesto will also be available online at: <a href="http://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/managementplanreview">www.dartmoor.gov.uk/managementplanreview</a></p> <p><u>Moor Otters are on their way back!</u></p> <p>80 Moor Otter and cub sculptures are currently staying with artists to be decorated - painted, mosaicked, felted and découpaged. Hosts have been found for most of them, with just five still looking for a summer home. Focus is now on the sponsors; sponsors of otters, sponsors of print materials, sponsors of badges and stickers, sponsors of radio campaigns and sponsors of just about anything so that we can ensure as much funding as possible goes to Dartmoor National Park. If you know of any individual, or company, that would like to show their support for Dartmoor through the Moor Otters project, please let Sophie James know (xtn 1046).</p>	
07/20	<p><b>Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019</b></p> <p>It was agreed that the draft minutes were an accurate reflection of the December meeting and were duly signed by the Chair after being proposed by Cllr Hitchins and seconded by Cllr Mrs Tyler.</p>	
08/20 (a)	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>Highway Matters</b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that he had reported the blocked drain at Bughill Farm to Nick Colton of DCC Highways. Nick has since responded confirming that all of the current budget for gully clearing had been allocated but that he would look to get these works carried out as soon as possible.</p> <p>The Clerk also made reference to the email correspondence he had been copied into between Mr Tim Thomas and Cllr Hart regarding the flooding issues on the road leading to Shaugh Mill (this matter having been discussed during the Open Forum).</p> <p>Several Cllrs highlighted flooding issues on the road just beyond Shaugh Bridge on the road to Bickleigh, with vehicles having to cross to the opposite side of the road to pass it resulting in the potential for head-on collisions occurring. Whilst this area of flooding is outside the boundary of Shaugh Prior, the Clerk agreed to raise this matter with Nick Colton.</p> <p>Cllr Hitchins raised a problem with a fire hydrant on Collard Lane</p>	

	<p>which appears to have dropped whilst Cllr Mrs Tyler raised concerns over the surface of the road just past the cattlegrid beyond Kneele Gate on the road to Plympton. Again, the Clerk agreed to raise these issues with Nick Colton.</p> <p>(b) <b>Newnham Solar Fund</b></p> <p>Cllr Mrs Burkill mentioned that no meeting of the Solar Fund had taken place since the last PC meeting and the next meeting was due to be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The Clerk mentioned that the grant application for £1,000 from the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme had now gone live and therefore it was likely that any funding received from this fund would have to be repaid to the Newnham Solar Fund as this was part of the terms agreed when the original grant payment was awarded from the Newnham Solar Fund (for the Lee Moor Play Area Improvements).</p> <p>(c) <b>Shaugh Prior Community Fund</b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that no applications had been received during the past 2 months although he had received an email enquiry regarding a potential application to help with funding a school trip for a person living in the parish. The Clerk had confirmed that a grant application for such could be considered.</p> <p>(d) <b>2019 Parish Council Elections</b></p> <p>Following his acceptance of office, new Cllr Richard Friendship provided the Clerk with a completed copy of his Register of Interests which would be uploaded onto the PC website.</p> <p>There was no further update on the 1 remaining vacant Cllr post.</p> <p>(e) <b>Access to Wotter Surgery – Defib Relocation</b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that he had emailed Sara McDonald on the possibility of relocating the defib at Wotter Surgery to the existing telephone box at Wotter but he had received no response. It was noted by several Cllrs that work had seemed to stop on-site at the former Methodist Church.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Tyler raised some concerns regarding Wotter Surgery and now recently some Parishioners were having to go to Plympton for changing dressings and blood tests due to a lack of medical expertise at the surgery. The Clerk agreed to raise this with the surgery.</p> <p>(f) <b>Shaugh Prior Community Climate Change Emergency Group</b></p> <p>Cllr Mrs Burkill gave an update on the first meeting of the Shaugh Prior Community Climate Change Emergency Group which was also attended by Cllr Mrs Tyler along with 19 members of the local community. A set of terms of reference prepared prior to the</p>	<p>DCC Highways</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
--	--	---

09/20	<p>meeting by the Clerk were approved (with some minor amendments). Local Parishioner Sean Leake kindly agreed to be the scheme administrator and lead on any projects going forward. A number of different ideas/community projects were put suggested during the meeting which Cllr Mrs Burkill confirmed would be collated and discussed in further detail at the next meeting. Projects discussed included new tree planting in the Parish and looking at the potential of a Hydro-Electric scheme (similar to that previously identified by the National Trust several years ago).</p> <p>Cllrs Mrs Burkill mentioned that the group will require some financial assistance when submitting applications for grants etc. The Clerk confirmed that whilst assistance could be given there may be issues with the Parish Council holding funds on behalf of the group and consequently, they may have to consider setting-up their own dedicated bank account. This would need to be discussed at the next meeting of the group. It was also confirmed that the PC would fund the costs associated with the hire of local halls for meetings of the climate change emergency group.</p> <p><b>Planning – Woolwell Planning Application</b></p> <p>As mentioned above during the District Cllr Report, the Clerk confirmed that the long-awaited planning application for the construction of 2,000 homes at Woolwell (app no 4185/19/OPA) had now been received by SHDC. It was noted that a number of documents had been submitted with the application and that hard copies of those documents would be available at the next PC meeting. A Cllr briefing has been arranged for Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February at the Woolwell Centre. In order to keep numbers of attendees to a manageable level it was agreed that Cllrs Wassell and Mrs Burkill would attend on behalf of the PC. In addition, Cllr Spencer has also organised a briefing session for local residents to take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> February at 7pm. It was suggested that perhaps a public meeting on Woolwell for Shaugh Prior residents could be considered prior to the April PC meeting.</p> <p>As the Clerk will be commenting upon the content of the application on behalf of PCC as part of his daytime job, he confirmed that he had spoken to SLCC on this matter and that there was no conflict of interest. However, the Clerk reiterated the point that he could only record the views of Parish Cllrs on the determination of this application.</p> <p>During the Christmas break the Clerk confirmed receipt of an application for Listed Building Consent for a replacement internal staircase at Glebe Cottage, Shaugh Prior (app no 0545/19). In view of the limited scope of the application the decision was taken by the Chair to not undertake a site visit and recommend no objections and the application was duly approved with conditions.</p> <p>A planning application for the variation of conditions for a new garage door serving The Boulders, Shaugh Prior was also granted conditional approval whilst the on-going enforcement case at Higher Bughill Farm as revealed that the owner of the land had</p>	
-------	---	--

10/20	<p>been granted a permit from the EA for the importation of material.</p> <p><b>Chairman's Business</b></p> <p>The Chair mentioned that he had attended the recent tungsten mine liaison meeting with the new owners of the facility. It was confirmed by the Clerk that Mark Thompson (representing the new owners) would be attending the March PC meeting. It was also confirmed by the Chairman that the mine would now be known as the Hemerdon Mine and not Drakelands. It was also confirmed that Blackwell are still be employed to maintain the site (which includes dust suppression and monitoring) and there is no current information on timescales relating to the mine re-opening.</p> <p>During the recent meeting Mr Thompson confirmed that they now had an understanding on what parts of the plant were creating the most problems regarding the Low Frequency Noise (No 1 screen and the conveyor to No 2 screen) and would be fundamentally amending the layout of the plant to address these problems. It was also noted from the meeting that the new owners of the mine want to try and be carbon-neutral and are looking at the possibility of wind turbines on the site for producing the power they need whilst they will be looking to extract less Tungsten than the previous owners were but of a better overall quality. This may result in digging deeper. It was also confirmed that the mine want to retain the policy on employing local people.</p>	
11/20	<p><b>Reports from Committees</b></p> <p>It was acknowledged that there had been no meetings of committees since the last PC meeting (apart from those already reported on above).</p>	
12/20	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>During the past month, the following correspondence has been received by the Clerk: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emails from NALC detailing Chief Executives Bulletins</li> <li>• Email from SHDC detailing the draft local government finance settlement for 2020-21.</li> <li>• Email from SHDC detailing consultation on the potential removal of existing BT telephone boxes</li> <li>• Email newsletter from DALC</li> <li>• Email from SHDC regarding publication of 2020 Register of Electors</li> <li>• Letter from Devon and Cornwall Police confirming that they were no longer intending any PC meetings or providing crime reports (discussed above).</li> </ul>	
13/20	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed on the 26<sup>th</sup> December 2019 there was the sum of £10,986.87 in the Treasurers Account.</p>	

<p>14/20</p>	<p>It was also highlighted that during Part 2 of the December PC meeting that an annual precept of £13,080.00 (which includes a Council Tax Support Grant of £228.00) was approved by the PC. The Clerk confirmed that the necessary paperwork regarding such had now been sent to SHDC.</p> <p><b>Payments and Receipts</b></p> <p>It was agreed to make the following payments: -</p> <p><u>Payments</u>          £342.30 cheque to Friendship Engineering (costs for removal of bus shelter)          £100.00 cheque to Scott Smy (final Clerks expenses payment)</p> <p><u>Receipts</u>          None</p>	
<p>15/20</p>	<p><b>Works and Maintenance</b></p> <p>Following its' demolition due to being structurally unstable, it was agreed that the Clerk would approach 3 local builders to obtain quotations for the construction of a replacement bus shelter at Wotter. In order to keep costs down it was agreed to follow the construction of what was there previously. The Clerk also mentioned that Cllr Hart had agreed, in principle, to provide £1,700 towards this project from his locality budget although the PC would have to pay for the works initially. It was noted that Cllr Spencer was also willing to provide some funding from his Cllr budget.</p> <p>In response to a maintenance schedule drawn-up by Cllr Taffurelli for the PC notice boards, the Clerk read out a response received from Mr Palmer detailing what works he considered necessary. It was agreed to proceed with the works on the basis of Mr Palmers email although it was noted that these works would not be able to be undertaken until we get some better weather (the water-based primer that needs to be applied cannot be used in cold or damp conditions). It was also noted that permission would be required for drilling the railings at Wotter.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>16/20</p>	<p><b>Date and Place of Next Parish Council Meeting</b></p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at Lee Moor Public Hall starting at 7.30pm.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The meeting closed at 9.21 pm.</p> <p>Signed:.....Chairman</p> <p>Date: .....</p>	