

MINUTES
of
SHAUGH PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting
Held on
Wednesday 4th March 2020
at
Lee Moor Public Hall

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

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

18 members of the public in attendance

Minute Number		Action
17/20	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>Mark Thompson and his colleague Max from Tungsten West (the new owners of Hemerdon Mine) gave a brief presentation to Cllrs and the large number of local residents who were attending the meeting for such.</p> <p>Mark started by mentioning his initial background was in finance and he then moved to mining and has considerable experience having mined all over the world. He said that Tungsten West would process the ore in a different way to Wolf which will be more cost-efficient and they are currently looking at a mine life of around 20 years although it could be longer (subject to receiving necessary approvals). The issue of dust had now been addressed through the installation of an advanced sprinkler system whilst they were positive that they would be able to address the Low Frequency Noise issues by replacing the older noisy screens in the processing plant which were simply not the right type of screens to use for an operation.</p> <p>They are currently going through the process of getting all necessary permits in place with the intention of starting production during 2021 and being at full output by the end of the same year.</p> <p>It is their intention to employ people in the local workforce and inviting some of those back that worked at the mine previously. They were also looking to working with Plymouth College to set-up</p>	

	<p>a construction school to train plant operatives etc. Mark finished by saying both he and Max were keen to engage with the local community and would regularly attend PC meetings to provide updates when necessary. He also confirmed that they would be willing to support local initiatives once they were in a position of positive cashflow.</p> <p>The Chair wished to thank Mark for attending the meeting and opened the floor to questions from local residents which Mark answered, most of which relating to processing of the material, potential open days and employment of local members of the community. It was also confirmed that the money for the restoration works (£13.2m) still sits within an ESCRO account and that the air quality monitoring stations will be reinstated.</p> <p>On behalf of the Local Commoners Association, Julia Sanders asked if it was possible to get a sign erected at Cadover Bridge to prevent children from jumping off the bridge into the river there. It was highlighted that the bridge was likely to be a highway structure and therefore be the responsibility of DCC Highways. The Clerk agreed to forward this request to DCC to establish if this would be possible.</p>	Clerk
18/20	<p>Declarations of Interest</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. It was noted that this was likely to be a standing item on the agenda for future meetings.</p>	
19/20	<p>Police Report</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that he had emailed other PC's in the area regarding the lack of Police presence at meetings and confirmed that the feedback had been mixed and that many PC's had resigned themselves to the fact that year-on-year cutbacks simply meant that resources were no longer there. The Clerk mentioned that it would be considerably better if the information on crime reports on the Devon and Cornwall Police website was kept updated (which would then allow the Clerk to provide an up-to-date report). It was also noted by other PC's that the Cllr Advocate Scheme worked very well and after some discussion Cllr Mrs Tyler agreed to be the PC representative on behalf of Shaugh Prior.</p>	
20/20	<p>County and District Cllrs Report</p> <p>In the absence of Cllr Hart there was no County Cllr Report.</p> <p>In his absence, the Clerk referred to the report provided by District Cllr Spencer which was as follows:</p> <p>Climate Change Action Plan SHDC, as you know, has declared a Climate Change &</p>	

	<p>Biodiversity Emergency which has two main aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce their organisational carbon emissions to net zero by 2030, and • To commit to working with partners through the Devon Climate Emergency Response Group with the aim to reduce the District of South Hams carbon emission to net zero by 2050, at the latest <p>In working towards these aims they have produced two plans that set out a range of actions that could be taken. The plans are living and working documents which show a collection of proposals created by the Council Officers and Councillors. It is proposed that an analysis of the overall cost and benefits will then be carried out before deciding whether to go ahead, wait or reject each of the proposals. The two main documents are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon Reduction Plan – reducing our footprint detailing their carbon footprint and setting out actions that will help towards the first aim • SHDC Action Plan – This is an initial set of proposals that SHDC, their partners, the community and others could action to work towards the second aim. <p>These documents were sent out to all Parishes on 06 February with a request for feedback.</p> <p>Barwood Land</p> <p>These planning applications are now well established in people's minds and the community networking is well under way. So far there are around 1,000 letters of representation. At one point the SHDC was so overloaded with the backlog of looking at these letters that they posted a delay notice saying it was taking around seven days to process the entries.</p> <p>The planning process normally suggests a 16 week determination period but this has been agreed with Barwood to be around 12 months in this case in view of complexity involved, so expect a decision on the plans around December 2020. The ability to comment on these applications is still open and I would certainly encourage everyone in the Parish to consider a response. As I have said before this will impact on the Parish.</p> <p>I held a residents meeting at the Roborough Recreation Hall on 21 February with the objective of explaining the applications and obtaining residents' concerns. 83 people attended and I will be feeding back the answers to the questions not given on the day, shortly.</p> <p>IT Replacement</p> <p>We are currently working on a project to replace much of the outdated IT systems that exist across the two Councils which are now largely cobbled together and patched programming from over five years ago. The project is being co-ordinated across both SH</p>	
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	<p>and WD and I am chairing the SH part of it. We are making good progress and some parts of the contract have already been awarded with more to follow. The aim of this project is to enable the council to have a better client focussed system that all talks to one another. It is expected that call waiting times will be reduced, service speeds will be improved and all residents should expect a better experience when in contact with the Councils. More detailed information will be issued shortly to residents.</p> <p>Locality Officers You may be aware of the SH Localities officers at Follaton House. We have been working with them to see how we can all work more effectively together. This project, which I have been taking an active role in, is nearing completion and will result in better response times and quicker resolution of issues that arise from such things as waste queries, rubbish collection, dog fouling, fly tipping etc. More to follow.</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>	
21/20	<p>DNPA Report</p> <p>In the absence of Cllr Peter Smerdon there was no report.</p>	
22/20	<p>Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday the 5th February 2020</p> <p>It was agreed that the draft minutes were an accurate reflection of the February meeting and were duly signed by the Chair after being proposed by Cllr Mrs Burkill and seconded by Cllr Hitchins.</p>	
23/20	<p>Matters Arising</p>	
8/20(a)	<p>Highway Matters</p> <p>An email had been received from Tim Thomas of Shaugh Mill confirming that the works to clear the blocked drainage ditch had now been undertaken and further alterations agreed with DCC Highways to help improve the situation going forward. Tim wished to express his thanks to both DCC and the PC for all their assistance in getting this issue resolved.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed he had reported the issues surrounding the depression in the road to the south of Kneele Gate cattle grid to Nick Colton. However, Nick suggested that it would be better if this was reported on the website so that he has a reference number. The Clerk agreed to do this.</p> <p>The Clerk also reported back on the fire hydrant issue on Collard Lane as it would appear that this is a long standing issue between DCC Highways and SWW in respect of whom is responsible. Nick Colton confirmed that this issue was currently with legal</p>	Clerk

	<p>departments within DCC and at the present time there was no further updates.</p> <p>With regards to the issue of flooding near Shaugh Bridge (within the Parish of Bickleigh), DCC Highways confirmed that the gullies in this location were emptied last week. On the issue of blocked gullies, Cllr Stone referred to the continued issue of the blocked gullies near Hartstone Farm with the water now being so deep that people have been kayaking there! The Clerk agreed to raise this with Nick Colton as the flood water was eroding the hedges and banks. The Clerk also referred to a letter received from DCC clarifying Drainage Maintenance Responsibilities.</p>	Clerk
8/20(b)	<p>Newnham Solar Fund</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Burkill confirmed that a meeting of the community interest group had taken place the week before and several applications were considered including upgrading the kitchen at Lee Moor Hall. It was also agreed that that an energy plan would be produced for all 4 halls in the 2 parishes. It was noted that solar panels weren't really the best option as the hall gets little use during the daytime. The next tranche of funding will become available in April and funding has also been provided to a riding club and the cricket club in Cornwood. It was noted that the new administrator Katie was doing a good job in getting the message out there and the next meeting was due to take place on the 21st Ma.</p>	
8/20(c)	<p>Shaugh Prior Community Fund</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that no applications had been received during the past month.</p>	
8/20(d)	<p>2019 Parish Council Elections</p> <p>There was no further update on the 1 remaining vacant Cllr post and this still very much remains open.</p>	
8/20(e)	<p>Access to Wotter Surgery – Defib Relocation</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that there was no further update and several Cllrs commented that no works appeared to be taking place on-site. Cllr Mrs Burkill mentioned that the defib at Wotter refers to a re-inspection due on the 5th May 2020. The Clerk mentioned he was only aware of the pads and batteries being the only things that could go out-of-date and therefore agreed to check this with AADefib who supplied the unit.</p> <p>The Clerk mentioned that he had still not received confirmation from the developer of Wotter Methodist Church that they would be willing to fund the works to reconnect an electrical supply to the BT box at Wotter (with a view to relocating the defib to this location). It was suggested that an application could possibly be made to the Newnham Solar Fund to help pay for this?</p>	Clerk
8/20(f)	<p>Shaugh Prior Community Climate Change Emergency</p>	

24/20	<p>Group</p> <p>In Sean Leake's absence, Cllr Mrs Burkill gave a brief update on the Shaugh Prior Community Climate Change Emergency Group. She said that there were now 1 or 2 projects that are gathering momentum and that the group would also want to try and provide some input into planning applications received by the Parish Council.</p> <p>Work has started on some tree planting in the Parish although the challenge is finding available land for such. However, 3 potential sites have been found/identified. There won't be a meeting of the group prior to the next PC meeting whilst Cllr Mrs Tyler agreed to speak to the Moorland Hotel about the group and how they could assist local businesses such as the Moorland.</p> <p>Planning – Woolwell Planning Application</p> <p>As outlined above, Cllr Hitchins took no part in the discussion on this matter.</p> <p>The Clerk tabled copies of the Masterplans detailing the 2 proposed areas of development and supporting documents which were passed around the room for members of the public and Cllrs to view.</p> <p>The Clerk referred to the draft response to both applications that had been circulated to Cllrs several days prior to the meeting. It was agreed by all Cllrs that this was a very comprehensive response which covered most of the primary issues impacting upon the Parish (traffic, visual impact). It was therefore proposed by Cllr Mrs Burkill and seconded by Cllr Stone that this response, on behalf of SPPC, be submitted to SHDC and this was agreed by all Cllrs.</p> <p>A further area of concern expressed at the meeting was the impact that this additional development will have upon healthcare resources at Derriford Hospital (which are already stretched). The Clerk also agreed the current planning policy position with regard to the Woolwell to the George Highway Improvement Scheme.</p> <p>The Clerk mentioned there had been an offer for someone from Barwood to attend one of our future PC meetings. It was agreed by all Cllrs that we should take Barwood up on this offer.</p>	Clerk
25/20	<p>Chairman's Business</p> <p>The Chair made reference to the Woolwell planning meeting he had attended which had been arranged by the Urban Fringe Team. His view from the meeting was that most people there wanted to stop the development from taking place but everyone was reminded that this is an allocated site so therefore some form of development would take place there although just because a site is allocated doesn't mean it automatically has planning consent and everyone is encouraged to send in their letters of representation. The Chairman also wished to thank the good work undertaken by Julia Sanders</p>	

26/20	<p>Register of Assets 2020</p> <p>The Clerk presented to Cllrs an updated list detailing all of our assets. The obvious inclusion from 2019 was the new climbing frame at Lee Moor Play Area. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Burkill and seconded by Cllr Hitchins that the updated Register of Assets be accepted and this was agreed by all Cllrs at the vote.</p>	
27/20	<p>Financial Risk Assessment 2020</p> <p>As part of Internal Audit procedures, the Clerk confirmed that we have a duty to review certain documents on an annual basis which relates to our management of finances. The Financial Risk Assessment was therefore presented to Cllrs prior to the meeting and it was proposed by Cllr Hitchins that the document be accepted and this seconded by Cllr Stone and agreed by all Cllrs at the vote.</p>	
28/20	<p>Financial Regulations 2020</p> <p>As per the comments made above, this is another one of our documents that we have to refer on an annual basis. This was submitted to Cllrs prior to the meeting and it was proposed by Cllr Hitchins and seconded by Cllr Friendship that this document be approved and this was agreed by all Cllrs at the vote.</p>	
29/20	<p>Reports from Committees</p> <p>Whilst not a specific item arising from a committee, Cllr Friendship asked if there was any funding available to help Lee Moor Hall hold a VE Day Celebration for the entire Parish. This could include a band in the hall and a tea dance etc. This idea was warmly received by Cllrs and it was suggested that an application should be submitted to the Shaugh Prior Community Fund (with the application forms found on the PC website).</p>	
30/20	<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 British Library regarding request for copies of the Parish Magazine. • Email from WesternWeb Ltd providing a cost for upgrading the PC website to comply with WCAG2.1 Level AA (which is £180+VAT). The Clerk confirmed that this was something we really needed to do and it was proposed by Cllr Hitchins and seconded by Cllr Stone that we proceed on the basis of this estimate. This was agreed by all Cllrs and the Clerk therefore agreed to instruct WesternWeb accordingly. • 3 Email Newsletters from DALC. • Email Newsletter/Bulletin from NALC. • Email from DNPA detailing the Review of the Draft Management Plan. 	Clerk

31/20	<p>Finance</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed on the 25th February 2020 there was the sum of £10,175.57 in the Treasurers Account.</p>	
32/20	<p>Payments and Receipts</p> <p>It was agreed to make the following payments: -</p> <p><u>Payments</u> £150.00 cheque to Shaugh Prior Recreation Hall (hall bookings for PC meetings) £60.00 cheque to Scott Smy (mileage expenses) £20.95 cheque to Scott Smy (postage and office sundries) £7.00 cheque to I&DALC (annual subscription 2019/20) £150.00 cheque to Lee Moor Public Hall (hall bookings for PC meetings) £102.00 cheque to WesternWeb Ltd (annual renewal of webspace)</p> <p><u>Receipts</u> None</p>	
33/20	<p>Works and Maintenance</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that he had spoken to 3 local builders. Unfortunately, one of the builders contacted would not be able to carry out all of the works himself which would then rely on the PC employing multiple builders/contractors which was not supported by Cllrs.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that whilst our financial regulations require 3 cost estimates, in this case we have spoken to 3 builders and in view of the urgent need to proceed with the works it was agreed by Cllrs to proceed on this basis of the 2 quotations. Both quotations were considered in detail and after further discussion it was agreed to accept the quotation received from Featureforce Building Contractors. The Clerk agreed to relay this information to Shaun Bartlett.</p> <p>Cllr Friendship confirmed that he had spoken to Ocean Blocks about the possibility of the concrete blocks being supplied to the PC for this project for free and was still awaiting a response from them. Some discussion also took place about the possibility of providing a pitched-roof to the shelter or even a green roof. The Clerk said he would speak to SHDC Planning Department to determine if planning permission would be required if we went for an alternative design. It was also noted that we needed a gate on the front (to stop livestock getting in) along with some seating.</p> <p>With regard to the works to the notice boards, Mr Palmer had been instructed to undertake these works but was waiting for a settled period of weather before doing so. The Chair confirmed that he had received confirmation Mark Webber that the notice board at Wotter could be re-mounted on the railings.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

34/20	<p>Date and Place of Next Parish Council Meeting</p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 1st April 2020 at Shaugh Prior Recreation Hall starting at 7.30pm.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.24 pm.</p> <p>Signed:.....Chairman</p> <p>Date:</p>	
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