

MINUTES

of

SHAUGH PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL**On-Line Zoom Meeting****Held on****Wednesday 3rd March 2021**

Present: Chairman Cllr Wassell
Cllrs Friendship, Hitchins, Stone, Taffurelli, Pearce, Mrs Burkill,
and Mrs Tyler.

Cllr Smerdon (DNPA Representative)

Apologies: County Cllr Hart, District Cllr Spencer
Sgt Ryan Canning

5 members of the public in attendance (on-line)

Minute Number		Action
18/21	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>On behalf of South Dartmoor Community Energy, Teresa Godfrey gave a brief presentation on the idea of the proposed community-owned wind farm at Lee Moor. After the presentation there followed a question and answer session, where Teresa and her colleagues (Peter Crone and Als Parker) assisting in responding to the points/questions asked.</p> <p>Teresa mentioned it was good to see that the Parish Council had declared a climate emergency and it was agreed by Cllrs that the Climate Change Community Action Group should take an active role in the project, were it to go ahead. It was confirmed that the wind turbines (if approved) would be sited on brownfield land (former clay mine land) and as such Dartmoor National Park are initially in support of the project (although all of the land actually falls within the boundary of SHDC). The site has been identified as one of the best potential wind turbine sites in Devon and whilst referred to as Lee Moor, the site would actually include land in both Cornwood and Sparkwell (hence why both Councils in these Parishes have also been consulted).</p> <p>A community steering group would have to be established in the project was to move forwards and the PC would have to produce a Neighbourhood Plan which included reference to the wind turbines.</p>	

	<p>Whilst Peter Crone confirmed that it would be up to the PC how many turbines would be provided, he confirmed that the scale of the project would have to be relatively large in order to make it financially viable and if the project came forward as a stand-alone site, then around 6 turbines would be necessary to make it worthwhile. It was highlighted that there were no Government subsidies at present in relation to wind farms.</p> <p>It was highlighted that any surplus income made by the scheme would go back into the local community and could help to reduce energy bills for local residents. There would also be the opportunity for local residents to buy shares in the scheme and between 2 and 8 full-time jobs would be created.</p> <p>Moving forward it was suggested that perhaps an on-line Zoom meeting could be set-up by South Dartmoor Community Energy which was open for all residents to attend so that people were able to ask questions about the project. It was also agreed that the provision of plans showing the proposed location of the turbines, would be useful. The Chair wished to thank Teresa and her colleagues for attending the meeting and looked forward to seeing how the project progressed.</p> <p>Julia Sanders expressed her thanks from Dartmoor Speedwatch for the funding the PC provided at the Feb PC meeting for the fencing project. She also raised the issue of the bad smells at Browney Cross due to the material being spread on the fields. With the fields now being ploughed it was hoped that this should now improve the situation.</p>	
19/21	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Cllr Hitchins highlighted his on-going declaration regarding Minute 25/21 (Planning) and in particular any discussion on the Woolwell application. It was agreed that Cllr Hitchins would take no part in any discussion on this matter.</p> <p>Cllr Tyler also declared a personal interest in Minute 8/21(e) in relation to the Access Track to Wotter Play Area as this track also provides access to Dartmoor Cottages (where Cllr Mrs Tyler lives).</p>	
20/21	<p>Police Report</p> <p>Although he wasn't able to attend the meeting, Sgt Ryan Canning provided the Clerk with a report prior to the meeting which was as follows:</p> <p>Overall crime numbers remain low. There was a report of a theft of an electric fence at Collard Lane, Wotter with the remaining offences being in relation to breaches of lockdown rules. A meeting has been set-up with the managers of the various 'works' in the area such as Imerys, Aggregate Industries etc for the 22nd April 2021. Therefore, if the PC have any issues they want raising then could you please let Ryan know.</p> <p>The Rural Affairs Team will shortly be putting up posters in various locations which are popular with dogwalkers reminding them to keep their dogs on leads due to it now being lambing season.</p>	

21/21	<p>There have been no reports of off-road bikers for a while and finally, there has been lots of misinformation on social media regarding dogs being stolen in the area whilst being walked, taken from gardens etc. People should be aware that to date there have been no 'dog-nappings' in the South Hams.</p> <p>County and District Cllrs Report</p> <p>In Cllr Hart's absence, the Clerk read out a brief report. Covid cases in Devon continue to fall and we now have one of the lowest rates per 100,000 people in England. This is in no small part to everyone following the lockdown rules so thanks to everyone but please ensure that you continue to follow the guidelines (social distancing, wash hands etc).</p> <p>Vaccine roll-out is going well in Devon and if you get the chance to have a vaccine then please take it – this will be the only way we beat this virus. Devon also has one of the highest rates in the Country in respect of numbers of people who have already been vaccinated.</p> <p>The County Council budget was approved last month. Over 73% of the net revenue budget of £545.5million will be spent on caring and supporting vulnerable people, both young or old. Spending on Adult service will rise by £21.7Million to £283.5million, on Children's Services by £11.4m to £158.3m and there will be extra money for potholes and drainage. We are also putting another £600,000 to top up the £1million hardship fund that was set up in the current financial year for those hardest hit by the pandemic. This will all result in a Council tax increase of 4.99%. Band D Council Tax will rise by £71.82 a year or £1.38p per week.</p> <p>In relation to District Council matters, in Cllr Spencer's absence there was no report.</p>	
22/21	<p>DNPA Report</p> <p>Cllr Smerdon provided the following report:</p> <p>Kevin Bishop recently provided a briefing in relation to the findings of the Glover Review. The review of looking at the management of all National Parks across the UK and could include the setting-up of a new National Landscape Service (which would also include AONB's) providing high quality services including a dedicated Ranger Service. Further details will come out in due course.</p> <p>Plans are currently being developed looking at the management of the National Park this summer in respect of the expected increase in visitors due to many people deciding to stay in the UK this summer as a result of Covid-19. To help address car parking issues, rangers have been trained in traffic management and it is hoped extra rangers will be employed along with security personnel at busier locations.</p> <p>The Moor Otters Project will take place again this year (which was delayed last year as a result of Covid). It is hoped that the Otter Trail will commence in late May/early June.</p> <p>Some discussion then took place regarding the lack of bins for dog poo and how this resulted in bags being left in hedges/trees etc. It</p>	

23/21	<p>was commented that around Burrator Reservoir dog owners are advised to flick-away dog poo using sticks and as a result there were no issues with dog poo in this area.</p> <p>Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday the 3rd February 2021</p> <p>All Cllrs at the meeting confirmed receipt of the minutes of the February PC meeting and it was proposed by Cllr Stone and seconded by Cllr Mrs Burkill that the draft minutes be accepted which was agreed by all.</p>	
24/21	<p>Matters Arising</p>	
8/21(a)	<p>Highway Matters</p> <p>The Chair, Cllr Stone and the Clerk reported that they had recently met-up with the new Parish Lengthsman John Widdicombe to show him those areas of the Parish which are currently flooding due to blocked drains. John will be starting to clear the drains with immediate effect, concentrating on those drains on the main road where it was felt that there was the greatest likelihood of serious accidents occurring due to standing surface water. The Clerk confirmed that John had returned the signed contract and risk assessment. It was noted that due to the number of blocked gullies on the main road, the budget that the PC had set aside for such works was unlikely to be enough and therefore further funding may have to be requested from DCC.</p> <p>The Clerk referred to a recent email received from Tim Thomas asking the Parish Council to consider a reduced speed limit (30mph) on the section of road leading down Shaugh Hill to Dewerstone Car Park. It was agreed by all Cllrs that vehicles travel through all of our villages well in excess of the speed limits that are in operation and it was therefore agreed by Cllrs that this matter should be raised by the Clerk with DCC Highways.</p> <p>In the same email Tim also highlighted the absence of a safety rail as vehicles go down the hill on the approach to Dewerstone Car Park (there appeared to have been a post and rail in place many years ago which has now eroded away). As this is downhill with vehicles travelling at speed, there was a danger of vehicles losing control and going off the road. It was agreed by Cllrs that this should also be raised with DCC Highways.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
8/21(b)	<p>Newnham Solar Fund</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Burkill confirmed that no meeting had taken place since the last PC meeting with the next due to take place on the 11th March 2021. She mentioned that an application for funding had been received from one of the halls along with an application from Dartmoor Cottages Residents Association.</p>	
8/21(c)	<p>Shaugh Prior Community Fund</p>	

8/21(d)	<p>The Clerk confirmed that no applications had been received this month.</p> <p>Parish Council Vacancy</p>	
8/21(e)	<p>The Clerk mentioned that the posters had gone-up advertising the vacant Cllr post but as yet no applications had been received.</p> <p>Access Track to Wotter Play Area</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Tyler confirmed that the resident's association had submitted an application for funding to the Newnham Solar Fund for the works to the access track and were waiting to hear back on this and other applications they have submitted. They are currently in the position of obtaining quotations for the undertaking of the works and this should be known shortly. They have also been liaising with the land owner David Cobbold.</p>	
8/21(f)	<p>Tree Planting Survey</p> <p>Cllr Pearce mentioned that there had been 7 responses to the survey so far, many of which being people with private gardens that would be happy for trees to be planted on their land. It was agreed that the survey needs to go in the Parish Magazine once it is back up and running again.</p> <p>It was also hoped to raise the profile of the survey in the general area and that the delivery of more tree planting in the Parish could be something that the Climate Change Emergency Group could lead on. It was also suggested that perhaps the Primary School could play an important role in getting the message out to people.</p>	
10/21	<p>Wind Turbines on Lee Moor</p> <p>It was agreed that much of the discussion on this matter had been discussed during the Open Forum.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Tyler suggested that the provision of a Neighbourhood Plan seemed to a good idea although this would take lots of time and energy to develop. It was also suggested that we should seek the views of Cllrs in Cornwood and Sparkwell PC's to see what they think about the proposals. The potential of a workshop in one of the halls was discussed (once lockdown restrictions are lifted) along with possibly visiting a community where a community-owned wind turbine is in operation (it was noted that there doesn't seem to be any in Devon at present).</p>	
16/21	<p>Wotter Defib Relocation</p> <p>Cllr Taffurelli confirmed that the works to install the electricity meter for the defib were taking place on the 8th March 2021 after WPD had re-connected the electricity supply. A Direct Debit had been set-up with an energy supplier (EDF) for the cost of £10 per month. In reality it is likely that the costs would be much less than this and therefore we will be able to review this after 6 months. The Clerk wished to express his thanks to Cllr Taffurelli for all his hard work</p>	

25/21	<p>on these works which are now nearing completion.</p> <p>Planning</p> <p>Cllrs Mrs Burkill, Mrs Tyler and Stone undertook a site visit for the planning application submitted for the proposed side extension at 3 Wotter Villas (application no 0355/21/HHO). Although Cllrs initially had some reservations about the wood cladding and metal roof, the overall recommendation was one of support.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed receipt of a Listed Building Consent application for an extractor fan and restoration of a window at Glebe Cottage, Shaugh Prior (app no 0084/21). It was the view of the Chair that due to the relatively minor nature of the application that a site visit was not required and the recommendation would be one of support.</p> <p>Finally, the Clerk confirmed that the PC had received notification of a request for a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) at The Oaks, Wotter. The Clerk had forwarded the request to the Parish Tree Warden but was yet to hear back from him and therefore agreed to chase him for a response.</p>	Clerk
26/21	<p>Chairman's Business</p> <p>The Chairman had little to report apart from saying that he was looking forward to the Parish Lengthsman starting work in the parish. He also mentioned that the grit spreader had been put into storage and therefore we will not be expecting to see anymore colder weather spells of weather (if we do, we know who to blame)!</p>	
27/21	<p>Defib Access Procedures</p> <p>It was noted that the access details held on the South Ambulance Trust database for Shaugh Hall were out-of-date. The Clerk agreed to clarify this when the next round of monthly reports are submitted.</p> <p>It was the general view of Cllrs that in respect of the recent incident regarding the use of the defib at Lee Moor Hall that the 999 operator responding to the call should have provided the caller with the code for the cabinet. It was agreed by Cllrs that the Clerk draft a response to the SW Ambulance Trust outlining the concerns of the PC in relation to this matter as we have now experienced two 'never events'. It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate the draft response to Cllrs for comment before responding to the Ambulance Trust. It was also highlighted that the length of time it took for the ambulance to arrive was unacceptable.</p>	Clerk
28/21	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>The Clerk mentioned he had received a further response from the resident at Lee Moor regarding the concerns with noise and air quality issues associated with Oakleys Coaches. The resident suggested that they would respond back to the Clerk on whether or not the measures put in place by Oakleys to address the issues,</p>	

	<p>were successful after the 8th March 2021 when all of the schools and colleges go back. Reference was also made by the Clerk to emerging information stating that as from the 6th May 2021 PC meetings will need to take place in public once more. Further information on this will be produced in due course but this will necessitate risk assessments of buildings etc.</p>	
29/21	<p>Annual Review of Risk Assessment</p> <p>As part of the Internal Annual Audit procedures the Clerk confirmed that each year the PC has to review its operational risk assessment. An updated document was therefore forwarded to Cllrs prior to the meeting. No issues were raised by Cllrs on the content of the updated Risk Assessment and it was therefore proposed by Cllr Taffurelli and seconded by Cllr Friendship that the revised Risk Assessment be approved and this was agreed by all at the vote.</p>	
30/21	<p>Finance</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed on the 25th February 2021 there was the sum of £12,757.35 in the Treasurers Account. The Clerk mentioned that he was still to recover the grant payment of £1,738 from DCC for the donation towards the replacement bus shelter at Wotter and that this would be done in the next few weeks. Taking into account the cheques raised but not yet cashed and the above-mentioned grant payment from DCC (yet to be requested), there would be approximately £12,700.00 remaining in the bank account at the end of the financial year (equal to around a year precept).</p>	
31/21	<p>Payments and Receipts</p> <p>It was agreed to make the following payments: -</p> <p><u>Payments</u> £14.39 cheque to Scott Smy (reimbursement for 1 month Zoom subscription) £32.00 cheque to Scott Smy (annual mileage expenses) £67.53 cheque to Scott Smy (reimbursement for postage and purchase of office supplies) £62.30 cheque to Scott Smy (reimbursement for purchase of replacement key pad for Lee Moor Defib Cabinet) £10.00 direct debit payment to EDF Energy (Wotter Defib electricity supply)</p> <p><u>Receipts</u> £400.00 grant from Imerys towards Wotter Defib relocation works</p>	
32/21	<p>Works and Maintenance</p> <p>Cllr Friendship confirmed that he hadn't been able to manufacture the replacement gate for the bus shelter at Wotter but had now</p>	

