

MINUTES

of

SHAUGH PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL**Meeting****Held on****Wednesday 2nd October 2024**

at

Lee Moor Public Hall

Present: Chairman Cllr Stone
Cllrs Sims, Spencer, Mrs Chater, Mrs Francis-McLeod, Mrs Proctor and Mrs Burkill

District Cllr Chris Oram

2 Members of the public

Apologies: Cllrs Mrs Tyler & Mrs Boulting, County Cllr Hart, DNPA Rep Cllr Smerdon, PC Tungate

Minute Number		Action
118/24	<p>Chairmans Business</p> <p>The Chair wished to bring forward Agenda item (Chairman's Business) to remind Cllrs of their conduct during PC meetings. He asked all Cllrs to read the adopted Standing Orders and adopted Code of Conduct documents which had been circulated to all Cllrs prior to the meeting. Cllrs were reminded to raise their hand if they wished to speak during the meeting and that it would be helpful if background chat could be kept to a minimum in order to make it easier for the Clerk to take notes of the meeting.</p>	
119/24	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>Mr Clewer raised the on-going issue of bikers using the B3417 Lee Moor Road and that there had been recent complaints of bike riders riding towards horse riders using the bridleway. Mr Clewer had reported the matter to the police through 999 calls on 2 occasions and that their response had been very positive each time. It was noted that no prosecutions could take place in relation to bikes parking within the vicinity of the Portworthy Lane junction due to the lack of markings/Traffic Regulation Order.</p> <p>Julia Sanders gave a brief update on matters relating to the Beacon</p>	

120/24	<p>Medical Group and how SystmConnect had replaced the previous eConsult system. From feedback it would appear that there are still some major issues regarding the new system with patients, who want to speak to somebody, having to wait in a queuing system for lengthy periods of time. It was agreed that the PC should try and get someone from Beacon Medical to attend our next meeting in order to respond to some of the issues which had been raised by parishioners.</p> <p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>No declarations had been received by the Clerk.</p>	Clerk
121/24	<p>Police Report</p> <p>In his absence, the Clerk read out a report provided by PC Tungate:</p> <p>03/09/24 Abandoned call, this turned out the caller needed an ambulance rather than police</p> <p>06/09/24 report of two motorbikes racing Lee Moor Hill.</p> <p>10/09/24 call from Shaugh Primary School requesting assistance with a child walking away from staff. Advice for staff to take positive action, Police would not do anything the staff couldn't achieve themselves.</p> <p>10/09/24 call from Imerys about a suspicious van driving around the site looking for scrap, they had ejected the vehicle but warning that the van was heading to Aggregate Industries next. Police attended but couldn't locate the vehicle.</p> <p>13/09/24 report of a possibly stolen Motor bike left at Cadover with parts missing. Officer attendance not reported as stolen so referred to Council to remove it.</p> <p>13/09/24 report of five cars hammering down Collard Lane like they are rally driving, not located by Police.</p> <p>15/09/24 Second report about the same Motor bike as of 13/09/24. Later the owner has contacted Police detailing he had crashed and was waiting for a friend to help him recover the bike.</p> <p>16/09/24 Report of RTC involving car vs Motorcycle.</p> <p>16/09/24 second report of the same RTC</p> <p>17/09/24 Car on roof near Harscombe.</p> <p>22/09/24 Third hand report of an ABH assault at Cadover Bridge, the aggrieved had been seen with a cut to his head but had left the area prior to officer attendance, the reporting person has since provided the aggrieved's contact details.</p> <p>22/09/24 Single vehicle RTC Cadover.</p>	
122/24	<p>County and District Councillor Reports</p> <p>Whilst Cllr Hart was not at the meeting, District Cllr Oram provided a County Cllr Report which was as follows:</p> <p>Celebrating Zero Waste Week</p> <p>Zero Waste Week, an annual campaign that encourages people to reduce waste and to adopt more sustainable practices. Food waste is a big deal. A study in Devon two years ago found that nearly a third of black bin waste is food waste, with nearly 80 per cent of it avoidable. More than a third of that food waste was thrown away still in its</p>	

packaging. Community Fridges and Larders are publicly accessible fridge/freezer/ambient spaces that offer food for free to everyone in the local area, making use of surplus food that would otherwise have gone to waste. Most of it is from businesses, but some is from households. Our Recycle Devon website has a list of community fridges and larders that we're aware of around Devon that are open to all and aim to reduce food waste.

Be the change this Fairtrade Fortnight

Did you know that Devon is a Fairtrade County? Devon was first awarded Fairtrade County status in October 2008 and has been successful in renewing its status ever since. Each year we join in celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight, which this year takes place from Monday 9 September to Sunday 22 September. This year's theme emphasises the collective impact of individual shopping choices in bringing about change. It aims to highlight how everyone can make a difference by choosing products with the Fairtrade Mark and by sharing stories about the difference Fairtrade has made to the lives of some of the poorest people in the world. Find out more on the Fairtrade website.

Are you eligible for Pension Credit and not receiving it?

The Government is encouraging pensioners to check if they qualify for pension credit, and if so, to apply for it in order to receive the winter fuel payment. If you get Pension Credit, you can also get other help, including:

- Housing Benefit if you rent the property you live in
- Winter Fuel Payment
- Support for Mortgage Interest if you own the property you live in
- a Council Tax discount
- a free TV licence if you're aged 75 years old or over
- help with NHS dental treatment, glasses and transport costs for hospital appointments, if you get a certain type of Pension Credit
- help with your heating costs through the Warm Home Discount Scheme
- a discount on the Royal Mail redirection service if you're moving house

Pension Credit tops up your weekly income to £218.15 if you're single; or your joint weekly income to £332.95 if you have a partner. You could get additional benefits depending on your circumstances.

You can apply for Pension Credit up to four months before you reach State Pension age. You can apply any time after you reach State Pension age but your application can only be backdated by three months. You can apply online, over the telephone, or by post.

Currently, only 63 per cent of people who are eligible nationwide for Pension Credit are receiving it. That's nearly four in every 10 pensioners who are entitled to Pension Credit, because of their low income, aren't claiming it. To find out if you are eligible for Pension Credit, visit the Government's website.

Green light for Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority

Devon and Torbay's proposal to create a Combined County Authority (CCA) has been given the green light by the new Government. It means that a whole raft of powers, responsibilities, and funding will be

devolved to Devon and Torbay from Whitehall, enabling important decisions to be made locally on local priorities such as jobs and skills, housing, and the environment. Last month, the two Leaders of Devon County Council and Torbay Council initially wrote to the new Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Rt Hon Angela Rayner MP, asking the Government for a meeting to discuss the proposal. And now, the Government has confirmed that the Devon and Torbay proposal, first submitted to Government in May 2024, is officially back on track. It's hoped that with draft regulations to create the CCA to be made this Autumn, the Devon and Torbay CCA could hold its first meeting early in the New Year. Read more in the full story on the news page of our website.

Key Stage 2 test results better than national average

New figures published by the Government's Department for Education show that many Devon pupils with additional needs who sat their Key Stage 2 (KS2) tests this summer have performed better than the national average. Results for this summer's KS2 pupils in Devon with special educational needs (SEN) who are receiving additional support in the classroom show an improvement on last year's results (2022/23) in science, grammar, punctuation, spelling, maths and reading. Read the full story on the news page of our website.

NHS urges parents to help protect their children ahead of winter with flu vaccine rollout

Parents and carers of two and three year olds are being invited to book their children in for a flu vaccine ahead of the colder months when people gather indoors and viruses spread. The vaccine is usually given to children as a quick and painless spray up the nose – without the need for an injection – unless your child cannot have porcine gelatine in medical products, in which case an injected flu vaccine is available as an alternative. It's important that those eligible come forward when they can to top up their protection ahead of winter, to prevent them from developing serious illnesses as immunity wanes over time and viruses change and adapt each year. Read the full story on the NHS website.

District Cllr Oram kindly provided a report to Cllrs prior to the meeting which included the following points:

Butterfly Conservation calls on Government to take urgent action

<https://butterfly-conservation.org/emergency>

Following a record low for butterflies this year, Butterfly Conservation is declaring a Butterfly Emergency. Now, we need the Government to declare a Nature Emergency and take immediate action before it's too late. Butterfly Conservation is the UK charity dedicated to saving butterflies and moths. Each year, its Big Butterfly Count – the biggest citizen science project of its kind in the world – helps us assess the health of our environment. The average number of butterflies spotted per Big Butterfly Count in 2024 was the lowest in the 14-year history of the scheme. The results are in line with wider evidence that the summer of 2024 has been very poor for butterflies. 80% of butterflies in the UK have declined since the 1970s. Half of all British butterfly species are Red Listed as Threatened or Near Threatened with

extinction. Butterflies are an important indicator species, and they have been sounding the alarm that something is wrong for some time. Years of habitat destruction and fragmentation, climate breakdown and pesticide use have taken their toll. While banning neonicotinoid pesticides won't solve the Butterfly Emergency or the Nature Emergency, it is a vital first step in restoring butterfly numbers.

The Nature Emergency is bigger than Butterfly Conservation. It is bigger than DEFRA. And addressing it must be the mission of the entire Government. It's time to stand up and show a departure from the policies that have led us to this point and start to restore nature now. The road ahead is clear. Declare a Nature Emergency. Ban neonicotinoid pesticides without exception. And start the process of bringing back our butterflies before it is too late.

Polling station consultation

As part of a review of polling districts and polling stations, we want to know what you think about our current polling stations.

- Do you think your local polling station is convenient?
- Can you get to it easily walking, by car or public transport?
- Can you suggest a better location?
- Is there somewhere more accessible for those with disabilities?

Let us know your ideas and thoughts by 5 p.m. on Monday 7 October via the South Hams website.

Gambling consultation

We're required to review our gambling policy, known as the 'Statement of Principles', every three years. The policy sets out the principles South Hams District Council will apply under the Gambling Act 2005 when dealing with applications, enforcing legislation and making decisions. The main proposed changes include new sections on 'safer gambling and social responsibility' and 'gaming in alcohol licensed premises', as well as further information on our expectations in relation to gaming machines and small society lotteries. We welcome any comments about the draft policy during our public consultation.

<https://shgamblingpolicy.commonplace.is/>

More affordable homes for Ivybridge

We are supporting Plymouth Community Homes (PCH) to deliver more affordable homes – one of our top priorities. PCH has secured a further 24 energy-efficient homes in Ivybridge. The Filham Chase development is being built by Bloor Homes and is located close to Ivybridge town centre, with great access routes to the A38 and local primary and secondary schools. Of the 24 homes, 14 will be offered for affordable rent and 10 homes will be made available for shared ownership. The homes will be prioritised to those with a local connection to the area to meet the specific needs of the community.

Be aware of parking scam

We have been made aware of a potential Parking Charge Notice (PCN) scam text message going around which leads to a copycat government website. Copycat websites aim to earn your trust by mimicking official organisations and known brands, often government bodies, transport companies or couriers. Typically, these scams charge you a fee for something you can do for free or tell you you've done something wrong and need to pay a fine to avoid further

	<p>payments or even legal action. Please be advised that we will NOT notify residents of a PCN via text. A PCN will be either attached to your vehicle or sent to you via post. More information can be found on our website. For your safety, avoid clicking on any links from unknown numbers. If you are ever unsure about the legitimacy of a text or letter, please contact us for confirmation. If you believe you have been a victim of this scam, report the matter to Action Fraud or call 0300 123 2040.</p> <p>Days out on your doorstep Our partners, Visit South Devon have officially launched 'Days Out On Your Doorstep' teaming up with some fantastic local attractions, hotels and eateries to provide special offers just for locals. You could get discounted tickets to some of our top family attractions, money off meals outs, free hot drinks and even discounted stays! Plus, with Stagecoach offering £2 bus tickets and five for the price of two group tickets, it's even easier to explore South Devon from your doorstep! Sign up on their website to receive the voucher sheet, straight to your inbox! To be eligible for these offers you must live in a Devon EX, TQ or PL postcode. Try one of Devon's fantastic days out, a great way for us all to help the local economy and our own wellbeing - win-win!</p> <p>Hidden homelessness Citizens Advice is conducting a major research project with the University of Plymouth into the issue of hidden homelessness in the South Hams, Plymouth and SE Cornwall. They want to hear from people who are sofa surfing, living in overcrowded accommodation, living with someone where the relationship has broken down but neither side can afford to move out or adult children living with parents where this is causing a problem such as straining relationships, financial issues or unsuitable living arrangements. The survey will help inform the research to be published later this year and shared with local and national policymakers, other charities and interested organisations. https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/plymouth/uncovering-hidden-homelessness</p> <p>Cllr Spencer wished to raise some concerns regarding the Woolwell Planning Application and how (despite the planning application going to Planning Committee on the 14th November) there was no reference to such in Cllr Oram's report? Cllr Oram confirmed that he rarely includes Development Management proposals in his monthly report as he actually sits on the DM committee at SHDC. It was however the general view of Cllr Oram that there is a concern regarding the Woolwell Urban Extension and it's associated impacts. He also confirmed he was well aware of local residents views on the proposals. It was the overall view of Parish Cllrs that DM matters should be included within Cllr Oram's monthly report.</p>	
123/24	<p>DNPA Report</p> <p>In his absence there was no DNPA Report from Cllr Smerdon.</p>	
124/24	<p>Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 18th September</p>	

	<p>2024</p> <p>All Cllrs agreed that they had received a draft copy of the minutes of the September meeting and resolved that they were an accurate reflection of the minutes of that meeting. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Proctor and seconded by Cllr Mrs Chater. Resolved by Cllrs to agree the draft minutes of the September PC meeting.</p>	
125/24	<p>Matters Arising</p>	
8/24(a)	<p>Highway Matters</p> <p>The Chair referred to a conversation he had with Nick Colton of DCC Highways regarding the temporary traffic lights installed at Cadover Bridge and how the signals could be replaced with suitable signing instead.</p>	
8/24(b)	<p>Cllr Sims confirmed that the speed activated sign in Shaugh Prior was no longer working and sought to obtain advice/guidance from the sign supplier. The Clerk also agreed to speak to DCC Highways to establish if they had anyone who could assist on this matter.</p> <p>Shaugh Prior Community Fund</p>	Cllrs Sims/Clerk
8/24(c)	<p>No applications for funding have been received this month.</p> <p>Tribute to Cllr Norman</p>	
8/24(e)	<p>The Clerk confirmed that there were no further updates and a response from Peter Davies was awaited.</p> <p>Wotter Play Area Improvements Working Group</p>	
8/24(f)	<p>Having made a decision on the preferred option at the last PC meeting (that being Rhino Play), the Clerk confirmed that an application for £20k had now been submitted to the National Lottery Awards for All and a decision on that funding application was expected at the end of December 2024.</p> <p>It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Chater would provide a brief update for both the website, parish magazine and FB page.</p> <p>Emergency Plan</p>	
8/24(g)	<p>As a result of focussing on the Wotter Play Area Improvements, there was no further progress on the EP at present.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>Cllr Spencer gave a brief update on matters relating to the NP. A meeting of the communications group was due to take place on the 16th October 2024 which will help to develop the strategy for such and how news and information relating to the NP is disseminated to parishioners and interested parties. A meeting of the NP steering group will then take place on the 4th November 2024 where the outcomes of the meeting of the communications group will be</p>	

	<p>discussed and agreed. In order to support the recent grant application made for external funding, Cllr Spencer confirmed that he was waiting to hear back from other PC's he had contacted and which had developed their own NP's in relation to the associated costs of planning consultants who had been engaged by those PC's to help develop their NP's. He mentioned that he had also tried to seek guidance on this matter from SHDC (lists of potential planning consultants) but to date had received no response to these enquiries raised. Cllr Oram agreed to look into this and get back to Cllr Spencer. It was also agreed to keep Cllr Oram copied in on correspondence sent to SHDC which relates to the NP so that he can assist where necessary.</p>	Cllr Spencer
109/24	<p>Meeting with Rebecca Smith MP</p> <p>The Chair mentioned he had received a letter from the new MP for our area Rebecca Smith asking if the PC would like to meet with her to run through any issues we or our parishioners may have? It was agreed by all Cllrs that this would be beneficial and that issues we may want to discuss with her included:</p> <p>B3417 Lee Moor Road (speeding traffic issues) Future Wind Farms in the Parish Wotter Surgery</p>	
126/24	<p>It was noted that as the MP is usually at Westminster during the week, it would be unlikely that she would be able to attend a monthly PC meeting and instead a separate meeting is likely to be necessary.</p> <p>Planning</p> <p>The Clerk mentioned that there had been some developments in relation to the planning enforcement case regarding the use of land at Lee Moor. Following receipt of a number of complaints from residents regarding both the burning and burying of commercial trade rubbish, the EA have now investigated and taken appropriate action. It was hoped by Cllrs that the planning enforcement case on the same land will now be concluded as swiftly.</p>	Clerk
127/24	<p>Reports from Committees – Feedback from HR Sub Committee</p> <p>Cllr Mrs Burkill gave an update following a recent meeting of the HR Sub Committee which involved reviewing our adopted Cllr Code of Conduct following an issue raised during a recent PC meeting. Having reviewed the document it was the view of the HR Sub Committee that all Cllrs had a duty to fully read the document and make sure that they are acting in accordance with the adopted Code of Conduct at all times and not do or say anything which could be considered as bringing the PC into disrepute. It was also recommended by the HR Sub Committee that those Cllrs who hadn't undertaken recent Cllr training may benefit from a refresher in respect of the role of a Parish Cllr and their responsibilities. Cllr Mrs Burkill also confirmed that one of the outcomes of the recent</p>	

<p>130/24</p>	<p>Wotter and Lee Moor (the associated cost of which being £235 + VAT for each of the play areas).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email from Devon Communities Together identifying funding for outdoor and indoor play equipment and toys in rural communities. • Email from DCC confirming the start of public consultation on the Local Transport Plan (LTP) 4, the deadline for which being 30th November 2024. It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate the email to Cllrs for information/review. • Email newsletter from NALC • Email newsletter from SLCC <p>Finance</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that on the 1st October 2024 there was the sum of £20,614.12 in the Treasurers Account which included the second annual precept amount of £7,571.00 from SHDC.</p> <p>The Clerk also confirmed that he would have the 6-month bank reconciliation available for sign-off at the Nov PC meeting and had recently submitted to HMRC the necessary application for the recovery of VAT paid during 2023/24 (£1,114.48).</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>131/24</p>	<p>Payments and Receipts</p> <p>It was agreed to make the following payments:</p> <p>£22.00 direct debit payment to EDF Energy (electricity for Wotter defib)</p> <p>£100.00 cheque to Scott Smy (final Clerks annual expenses payment for 24/25)</p> <p>£753.40 cheque to Scott Smy (3 months Clerks wages July-Sept)</p> <p>£502.40 cheque to HMRC (PAYE for 3 months Clerks wages)</p> <p>Receipts</p> <p>£1,114.48 payment from HMRC (recovery of VAT for 23/24)</p> <p>£7,571.00 payment from SHDC (second annual precept payment)</p>	
<p>132/24</p>	<p>Works and Maintenance</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that James Friend was currently working his way through the list of defects provided by HSDC at both Lee Moor and Wotter Play Areas. He had also removed the chain to the swings which are due to be replaced at Wotter Play Area as they could have been considered as being a safety hazard. It was also noted that James was due to remove the old PC noticeboard at Lee Moor very shortly (having already installed the new replacement one).</p>	
<p>133/24</p>	<p>Date and Place of Next Parish Council Meeting</p> <p>The next meeting of Shaugh Prior Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 6th November 2024 at Lee Moor Public Hall starting at 7.30pm.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.03pm</p>	

	<p>Signed:.....Chairman</p> <p>Date:</p>	
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