

SOUTH BRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24th January 2011 at 7.30 p.m. at South Brent Village Hall.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Open Forum for discussion with members of the public (maximum 15 minutes)

Mr Hedges representing the Action Group wished to draw the attention of the Council to the number of untidy sites at the entrances to the village. The Chairman thanked Mr Hedges for bringing this to the attention of the Council and advised the next Planning Committee would consider the matter; it was noted that the planning application for the London Inn is to be decided on 4th February. (Mr Hedges left the meeting.)

PC 1-1-11 Record of members present

Cllr Mark Copleston in the Chair; Cllrs Jill Elms, Mandy Haley, Susan Jozsa, Peter Kelly, Jane Maunder, Cathie Pannell, Glyn Richards, Greg Wall, Donna Warne and Donald Wiseman were present; Julia Willoughby clerk to the Council was in attendance. Two members of the public were present.

PC 2-1-11 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr John Summers; District Councillor Colin Jones and County Councillor Trevor Pennington.

PC 3-1-11 Declarations of interest (nature and extent) with regard to items on the agenda

Cllr Donna Warne declared a prejudicial interest in item 12, reimbursement of electricity costs for the Christmas lights as her business was one of those supplying electricity.

PC 4-1-11 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda

Nothing was raised.

PC 5-1-11 Police report (Crime & Disorder reduction)

PC Jacqui Hopper had sent in the report for December; there were seven crimes of note: two incidents of theft from a shop (alcohol), theft of farm gates and a wind chime, drive with excess alcohol, criminal damage to a vehicle and assault with actual bodily harm (domestic related).

PC Hopper also advised that there will no longer be Police Surgeries, but an 'open' sign will be displayed when appropriate, and the phone in the blue box can be used to arrange for a local officer to make contact.

Metal thefts are on the increase and everyone is asked to be vigilant and report immediately to the Police any suspicious vehicles or activity.

PC 6-1-11 District / County Councillors and DNPA Parish Council representatives report

Cllr John Baverstock – Chairman of South Hams District Council explained that he was visiting as many of the 59 parish and town councils in the South Hams as possible. Before retiring he was a Police Officer, and he is a member of Stokenham Parish Council. This evening he is delighted to be able to present the Parish Council with the certificate of achievement of Quality Council status,

demonstrating that this community is well served by the Parish Council, and congratulated the clerk on her efforts.

Cllr Baverstock invited questions and was able to advise that he thought it unlikely that the districts of South Hams and West Devon will merge, although shared services have saved nearly £2 million. Despite Government cuts SHDC has no intention of increasing Council Tax, and front line services should not be too badly affected as SHDC has reserves of funds to draw on.

Cllr Baverstock was thanked for the efforts by SHDC staff on 22 and 23 December clearing snow from the pavements in the village.

Following the presentation of the certificate of attainment of the Quality Council benchmark, the Chairman thanked Cllr Baverstock for attending the meeting.

Cllr Cathie Pannell advised that the SHDC budget will be finalised during the coming weeks; many issues including the possibility of introducing car parking charges are yet to be decided. Cllr Pannell advised that a 'closed lid policy' will be introduced for wheelie bin collection (lids need to be closed for safe loading onto collection vehicles).

PC 7-1-11 Confirmation of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th December
The minutes were confirmed and signed.

PC 8-1-11 Report matters arising from these minutes - for information only
Land Registry has confirmed that land next to Clobells steps where an oak tree is subject to a Tree Preservation Order has no registered owner.

PC 9-1-11 Consider whether 'snow wardens' might be helpful in future freezing weather conditions, or other practical self-help proposals
Cllr Mandy Haley advised that many people contacted her and other Councillors during the freezing weather last month when salt in the DCC bins was used up. It has been suggested that a salt spreader could be used on pavements in the village, and volunteers could co-ordinate clearing the snow as soon as practicable. The Council agreed that a Working Group meeting should be held on 16th February (for one hour) inviting anyone interested to attend.

It was noted that a volunteer cleared the pavement at the Higher Railway Bridge; a letter expressing the Council's thanks will be sent.

PC 10-1-11 Possible lease of the Station Yard car park
SHDC has acknowledged the Council's interest in obtaining a lease for the car park. Cllr Cathie Pannell advised that Dittisham Parish Council has made a similar arrangement. Enquiries need to be made regarding insurance, services and maintenance of the car park.

PC 11-1-11 Progress with a revised design for the proposed pedestrian crossing in Station Road
DCC Highways can carry out a survey and design work for around £3,000, but a deposit of £2,500 has been requested. The Open Spaces Committee meeting on 17th January recommended that a firm price is obtained for the survey and design work and a deposit of a maximum of 50% is considered. A further email has been received today by the clerk, but Mr John Halliday – DCC has provided no further useful details and no formal quotation at all.

The Council agreed that staged payments could be considered if a formal quotation is received either from DCC or another suitable consultant.

PC 12-1-11 Consider reimbursement of the electricity costs for the Christmas lights

(Cllr Donna Warne left the room whilst this matter was discussed.) Cllr Peter Kelly advised that he considers the three businesses in the village which supply electricity for the Christmas lights should be reimbursed, and he proposed a sum of £20 to each; this was seconded by Cllr Susan Jozsa and resolved by the Council.

PC 13-1-11 Correspondence available on the table at the meeting (or by arrangement with the clerk):

- a) South Brent Primary School: Christmas card.
- b) SB Action Group: the Toll House bell and market toll board will be discussed at the January meeting.
- c) Mrs H Hall (Sustainable South Brent): the question of planning permission for the potting shed used for the Community Garden is unclear at present.
- d) National Association of Local Councils: briefing on the Localism Bill.
- e) DCC: summary of workshop held on 8.12.10 regarding service delivery and views of communities. Cllr Glyn Richards and the clerk attended this meeting in Ivybridge and it had little relevance to South Brent; therefore should this Council continue to send a representative to the Ivybridge & District Association of Local Councils? This question will be included on the agenda for 28th February.
- f) DCC: Harbournford does not meet the criteria for either a primary or secondary gritting route.
- g) SHDC: Community Safety Forum event 10.2.11, 12.30-16.00 at the Watermark, Ivybridge.
- h) Devon Assoc. Local Councils: news of Council activities requested.
- i) DNPA: contact details for the Conservation Works Service; these will be forwarded to relevant local organisations.
- j) Supt. Sharpe: update.
- k) Insp. Tomlinson: monthly news.
- l) Devon & Cornwall Police Authority: two conferences will be held in the Spring (16.2.11 in Exeter).
- m) Environment Agency: Flood Link news sheet.
- n) SHDC: The Chairman invites teams to take part in a charity quiz night on 8.2.11.
- o) DNPA: request for information for the 'What's On' publication; this will be passed to the Carnival Committee.
- p) DCC: 'Emergency Management' newsletter.
- q) DCC: Tough Choices budget consultation programme findings.
- r) SHDC: minutes of the Executive.
- s) South Hams CVS: 'Voluntary Vine' newsletter.
- t) Tor Homes: 'Open Door' newsletter.

All noted by the Parish Council.

PC 14-12-10 Parish Council Committees:

Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 11.10.10 and 6.12.10 were adopted by the Council.

PC 15-1-11 Report by Cllr Peter Kelly on progress with:

- i. Community Spaces skate park project and payment details; the skate park is finished and there will be an opening ceremony in the Spring.
- ii. The adventure trail at Palstone Park; the earthworks are complete and this project should be completed in February.

PC 16-1-11 Report highway matters and street cleaning required.

Cllr Greg Wall advised that all comments and complaints about the snow have been sent to DCC, and the responses forwarded to County Councillor Pennington – particularly as he has offered to help three with new salt/grit bins.

Regarding the pedestrian access/egress at the Allotment Field, Adam Keay at DCC has stated that signs are not justified (and there is no funding available). Cllr Wall will advise Vicarage Road Allotment Association, although it is understood that a sign can be erected on private property. Resurfacing works have been carried out in Exeter Road, DCC will be asked to reinstate the grass verges.

PC 17-1-11 Finance

Accounts for payment:

SWW (Direct debit): charges for toilet at Sanderspool Cross	7.00
South West Grounds Maintenance: January invoice	270.00
Entanet Int. Ltd (Direct debit): monthly broadband fee	16.30
Entanet Int. Ltd (Direct debit): charge for visit by BT engineer	170.38
South Brent Village Hall: room hire	9.38
SB Old School Centre: room hire	14.45
EDF Energy (Direct debit): charges for toilet at Sanderspool Cross	43.61
T Fivash: delivery of newsletter	60.00
Veaseys Printers: December newsletter	140.85
Devon County Council (Supply Zone): 11 ink cartridges	115.62
SLCC Enterprises Ltd: SLCC Regional Conference 2011	78.00
South Hams District Council: refurbishment of shelter at S. Cross	1221.78
Eden Design: invoice re. Skate Park	600.00
Full Circle Leisure Ltd: manufacture, supply & installation of new skate park equipment	49,720.42
Payroll	1364.15
	TOTAL
	53,831.94
RECEIPTS	
South Brent Recreation Association: skate park	600.00
Groundwork (Community Spaces): grant (skate park)	49,720.42

The accounts were approved for payment and the cheques signed.

PC 18-1-11 Items for press release and/or the newsletter

Press releases will be prepared regarding Quality Council status and the Snow Working Group meeting. An item on Himalayan Balsam could be included in the March newsletter.

PC 19-1-11 Items for the next agenda

None raised. The meeting closed at 9.07 p.m. and the Finance Committee carried out an internal audit of cheque number 002091.