

SOUTH BRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th July 2011 at 7.30 p.m. in South Brent Village Hall.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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

Nothing was raised.

PC 1-7-11 Record of members present

Cllr Mark Copleston in the Chair; Cllrs Mandy Haley, Laura Howe, Peter Kelly, John King, Jane Maunder, Cathie Pannell, Glyn Richards, John Summers, Donna Warne and Donald Wiseman were present; Julia Willoughby clerk to the Council was in attendance. Two members of the public were also present.

PC 2-7-11 Apologies for absence

Apologies have been received from Cllr Greg Wall.

PC 3-7-11 Declarations of interest (nature and extent) with regard to items on the agenda

Cllr Glyn Richards declared a personal interest in planning application 0336/11 as he lives nearby.

PC 4-7-11 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda

Nothing was raised.

PC 5-7-11 Police report (Crime and Disorder Reduction)

A report from PC Jacqui Hopper states there were six crimes in the parish during June: theft (handbag left insecure), two incidents of theft from a vehicle, assault (domestic related), damage to a vehicle and theft in dwelling (ex tenant).

Police are urging residents to be on the lookout for cold callers to homes offering products and services which have not been requested. Burglars can pose as officials from utility companies or the council to gain entry into people's homes; once inside, one burglar will keep the owner occupied while the other searches the home. Another tactic is to pretend to be a workman who needs to get into the property.

Tips when someone calls at the door:

- Are you expecting anyone?
- Chain the door
- Always check identification.

To report anything suspicious call 08452 777 444.

Insp. Tomlinson is seeking the views of communities on how best to deploy Special Constables; the Council agreed the following comment: "This community would like the Special Constables to be seen, a visible Police presence is always preferable (particularly for our summer and winter carnivals)."

Concerns regarding parking in Exeter Road for Tilly's car sales will be passed on, it would be preferable if customers could park on the site.

PC 6-7-11 District / County Councillors and DNPA Parish Council representatives report.
District Councillor Cathie Pannell advised that the payment of business rates by one of the owners of the Marley Head site have been waived by SHDC (raised at the public meeting in June).

District Councillor Peter Smerdon added that he understands council tax will be levied on occupants of the unauthorised traveller's site at Marley Head.

Consultation is continuing regarding the removal of Dry Bridge over the A38 near Rattery by the Highways Agency. If any local people wish to contact Cllr Smerdon, he is gathering information on this issue.

PC 7-7-11 Confirmation of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 27th June
The minutes were confirmed and signed.

PC 8-7-11 Report matters arising from the minutes – for information only

DNPA has responded to concerns about the visibility at the egress from the London Inn development; it has been discussed with the Highways Officer and is satisfactory (compared to the usage as a public house). It was noted that previously drivers could see across the car park, where houses will be built.

PC 9-7-11 Correspondence circulated to Councillors:

- 1) Devon Association of Local Councils: Cllr Glyn Richards was congratulated on being elected to the County Committee 2011-2015.
- 2) Crimestoppers: grant application. The Chairman referred to the Council grant aid policy which states that no grant will be made to a national organisation unless it carries out a clearly identifiable function in South Brent. Cllr John Summers proposed that no grant is made; this was seconded by Cllr John King and **resolved** by the Council.

(Chairmanship of the meeting was handed to Cllr Glyn Richards Chairman of the Planning Committee for the next item only.)

PC 10-7-11 Planning matters

i) Application:

0336/11 Removal of condition (b) of permission reference 0491/03 relating to a personal use condition at Little Orchard, South Brent; the Parish Council has no objection to this application.

ii) Any amended applications: none received.

PC 11-7-11 Parish Council Committees

Planning Committee minutes of the meeting held on 11th April were adopted by the Council.

Open Spaces Committee minutes of the meeting held on 20th June and recommendations:

A) £50 should be available during the financial year towards the cost of maintaining the planters in Wellington Square, if supported by receipts.

B) SHDC carry out repairs to the safety surface under the slide costing £110.33 +VAT.

C) The fascia board on the 'Millennium' shelter is replaced, and the shelter opposite Noland Park is refurbished (exterior).

D) No changes are required to the terms of reference.

Cllr Glyn Richards proposed that (A) to (D) are adopted, this was seconded by Cllr John Summers and **resolved** by the Council.

The Council agreed that a letter of appreciation should be sent to the residents of Wellington Square for the lovely display in the planters; the Square looks very well cared for.

Finance Committee minutes of the meeting held on 20th June and recommendations:

I) The accounting statements and governance statement on the Annual Return are accepted.

II) Allocations to earmarked reserves:

£2,000 - for Station Road survey and design (from wayleave)

£1,100 to open spaces, £642 (from 'local projects) + £459 (from 'open spaces');

and reserves held for 'play equipment' are renamed 'open spaces'.

III) Members of the Finance Committee plus the Vice Chairman of the Council should be the nominated bank signatories.

IV) The Parish Council changes to a 'Family 30' broadband package costing £18.95 per month (rather than £15.95).

Cllr John King proposed that (I) to (IV) are adopted, this was seconded by Cllr John Summers and **resolved** by the Council.

PC 12-7-11 Removal of the phone kiosk in Exeter Road; consider the options available

Following discussion the Council agreed that BT will be asked that this phone kiosk is returned to operation and moved to the edge of the development site (a short distance up the hill at the step-in above the site).

The kiosk has not been connected since a power line came down about seven weeks ago; a BT engineer came to make repairs, but would not do so as the kiosk was within the building site. (County Councillor Trevor Pennington arrived.)

PC 13-7-11 Progress with the design for the proposed pedestrian crossing in Station Road

Following a site meeting on 13.6.11 there has been no contact from Ian James – DCC Highways, despite emails. Mr Halliday will be advised that the Council is surprised and disappointed by this, and that the next Council meeting will take place on 15th August.

PC 14-7-11 Possible lease of the Station Yard car park

The clerk has attended a site meeting with the Estates Manager to discuss a possible lease; this question will be deferred to the Open Spaces Committee for further investigation.

PC 15-7-11 Report on progress with the Adventure Trail at Palstone Park, proposed summer workshops and payment arrangements

Cllr Peter Kelly reported that the adventure trail has been inspected by RoSPA and a new litter bin has been installed.

PC 16-7-11 Consultation on child seat belt wearing on buses and coaches

The Council supports the proposal at Annex A 7 (b):

“not to have a criminal sanction at all, but to impose a duty on operators to take all reasonable steps to ensure child passengers wear their belts, and to provide for the traffic commissioner to be able to issue a notice to an operator.....”

The clerk will advise the Dept. for Transport.

PC 17-7-11 Report on SHDC Super Cluster meeting 13th July

Cllr Jane Maunder said this was a very enjoyable meeting, with most parishes represented. Cllr John Hart (DCC) has pledged £1 per elector for a specific parish project (either for the parish or working collectively with other parishes).

Information will be sent out by SHDC about the possible role of Link Officers for cluster meetings. The Chairman thanked Cllrs Jane Maunder and Laura Howe for attending the meeting.

PC 18-7-11 Report on the DNPA workshop 14th July

Cllrs Glyn Richards and Laura Howe attended; there was an introduction to the DNPA draft development management plan, pre-application advice (in draft form at present) will be included on the next Planning Committee agenda.

There was discussion of the electronic systems DNPA has in place and material considerations for planning applications.

PC 19-7-11 Update on local website proposal for car sharing

Cllr Laura Howe has been unable to make progress with this project as the webmaster is unable to assist. A request for help could be included in the next Council newsletter.

PC 20-7-11 Council representation with the Dartmoor Partnership

Cllr John King advised that this organisation has been set up to promote the development of tourism on Dartmoor and encourage business and trade within the National Park. There is a membership scheme (for a fee) with technical assistance for websites and to assist businesses. Cllr John King is happy to be the point of contact and will write an item for the newsletter

PC 21-7-11 Consider how the Parish Council could mark Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee

Suggestions include planting a tree; a civic service possibly followed by a picnic and a suitable addition to the obelisk in Wellington Square. The cost implications will need to be considered for the next financial year, and parishioners will be asked for their suggestions in the next newsletter.

District / County Councillors and DNPA Parish Council representatives report

The Chairman invited County Cllr Pennington to pass on any information; on 28.7.11 at 12.45 a grit/salt spreader will be available to view at County Hall, since councils may be considering such a purchase following freezing winter weather.

The Highways Committee for this area will consider the question of the possible removal of Dry Bridge (over the A38) later this month.

PC 22-7-11 Correspondence available on the table at the meeting (or by arrangement with the clerk):

- a) SHDC: report on inspection of play area; this will be circulated to the Open Spaces Committee.
- b) Mr & Mrs R Mason: objection to the destruction of the telephone box in Exeter Road.
- c) Mrs S Hamilton: request that the phone box in Exeter Road is retained.
- d) P Ward-Green: the Action Group considers that the kiosk is redundant.
- e) SHDC: Tetrapak banks are funded by Tetrapak, and located at the busiest sites; a new site for a further glass recycling bank will be considered. A new glass recycling bank could be located at either Avondale House car park (Brent Mill); or Police Station car park.
- f) L Howe: information sent to our M.P. regarding recycling banks at Tesco stores.

- g) DALC: newsletter; including Chairmanship course 26.7.11 6.30-9.00 p.m. at Kenn, Nr. Exeter; Cllr Donald Wiseman will attend.
- h) SHDC: Executive forward plan.
- i) DNPA: notes of the National Park Forum meeting held on 27.5.11.
- j) DCC: 'Totnes on the move' steering group has been set up.
- k) South Devon and Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership leaflet.
- l) South Hams Connect magazine.
- m) 'Clerks & Councils Direct' magazine.
- n) Senior Council for Devon newsletter.

All noted by the Parish Council.

PC 23-7-11 Report highway matters and street cleaning required.

Cllr John King advised that he will deal with highways issues outside the village and Cllr Greg Wall will continue to report matters in the village (for newsletter). DCC Highways has been contacted regarding poor signage at the entrance to Church Street – vehicles regularly drive the wrong way in the one way system.

It was noted that the street cleaning team has not been visiting the village as regularly, and the bins in Church Street are often overflowing.

A water leak in Station Yard is being dealt with (again).

Outstanding matters: the hedge outside the phone exchange in Plymouth Road is still disintegrating; ownership of the hedge between Heather Park and Courtenay Park is not yet known and a dropped kerb at Town Farm Bungalow is too steep for mobility scooters to negotiate.

DNPA will be contacted to advise that a section of the footpath between The Sheiling and Headlands has fallen into the leat and there is a wasp nest in Fat Man's Alley.

PC 24-7-11 Finance:

Accounts for payment

SWW (Direct debit): charges for toilet at Sanderspool Cross	7.50	
South Brent PCC: 50% of grass cutting costs in 2010	589.50	
Entanet Int. Ltd (Direct debit): monthly broadband fee		16.64
South Brent Village Hall: room hire 9.38+12.00	21.38	
EDF Energy: electricity charge for toilet at S Cross	33.64	
Veaseys Printers: 1400 newsletters (June)	270.08	
Payroll	1415.04	
R Illman: refurbishment of bus shelter (opposite Noland Park)	260.80	
TOTAL		2614.58

RECEIPT:

Recreation Association: phase 2 of adventure trail	3887.21
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The accounts were approved for payment and the cheques signed.

The clerk would like to attend a conference of Devon clerks on 6.9.11, the Chairman proposed that she could do so; this was seconded by Cllr Glyn Richards and **resolved** by the Council.

PC 25-7-11 Items for press release and/or the newsletter

Newsletter items have been suggested throughout the meeting.

PC 26-7-11 Items for the next agenda

The question of new homes for social rent will be included on the next Planning Committee agenda; 'Gateway to the Moor' signs will be included on the agenda for 26th September.

The meeting closed at 9.34 p.m.

Following the meeting the Finance Committee carried a successful internal check of the accounts (cheque number 2173).

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