

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15th August 2011 at 7.30 p.m. in The Old School Centre, Totnes Road, South Brent.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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

Mr G Jordan expressed the hope that something can be done to improve the state of the signal box in Station Yard, as sadly it is an eyesore. (Mr Jordan thanked the Council and left the meeting.)

PC 1-8-11 Record of members present

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

PC 2-8-11 Apologies for absence

Apologies have been received from Cllrs Jane Maunder and Laura Howe; District Councillor Peter Smerdon and County Councillor Trevor Pennington.

PC 3-8-11 Declarations of interest (nature and extent) with regard to items on the agenda

Cllr Greg Wall declared a personal interest in item 9 (2) St Petroc's Churchyard Committee request for a grant of £400, as he is a Church Warden.

Cllr Peter Kelly declared a personal interest in planning application 45/1793/11 as he is a member of the Community Wind Turbine Project.

Cllrs John King and John Summers declared a prejudicial interest in application 0352/11 as they live nearby; both also declared a prejudicial interest in application 0383/11 as they know the owner.

Cllr Donald Wiseman declared a prejudicial interest in application 0369/11 as he knows the owner.

Cllr Glyn Richards declared a personal interest in item 15 (f) new charges at The Old School Centre if discussed, as he is the Centre Manager.

Cllr Cathie Pannell declared a prejudicial interest in item 9 (2) St Petroc's Churchyard Committee request for a grant of £400, as her husband is Chairman of the Committee.

The clerk declared a prejudicial interest in application 0383/11 as she lives next door.

PC 4-8-11 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda

Nothing was raised at this point.

PC 5-8-11 Police report (Crime and Disorder Reduction)

PC Jacqui Hopper reported there were twelve crimes in the parish during July: two incidents of assault (actual bodily harm); two incidents of burglary (from a garage and a shed); two drive with excess alcohol; harassment; damage to a vehicle; having an article with a blade or point; attempt burglary; theft of cycle and theft from a vehicle.

Police are urging residents to ensure property is secure and out of sight.

PC Hopper will monitor traffic speeds in Exeter Road to discover whether the new cycleways make a difference.

It was noted that in the first weeks of the school holiday 400 water bombs were collected from the play area at Sanderspool Cross; also damage to the infant equipment in the last few days has been reported. Police are checking the new play trail too. (PC Hopper was thanked for attending and left the meeting.)

PC 6-8-11 District / County Councillors and DNPA Parish Council representatives report. District Councillor Cathie Pannell advised that SHDC and West Devon have been successful in a project to improve broadband access for rural areas. District Councillor Peter Smerdon has reported that Drybridge over the A38 will not be demolished in February 2012, as planned.

PC 7-8-11 Confirmation of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th July
The minutes were confirmed and signed.

PC 8-8-11 Report matters arising from the minutes – for information only
There has been no progress with outstanding highways matters.

PC 9-8-11 Correspondence circulated to Councillors:

- 1) P Bennett - BT Payphones: If a payphone is to be retained in Exeter Road, the existing red kiosk will be removed and a modern kiosk provided. One member of the Council was keen to adopt the red kiosk, as its use has reduced; another considered it perverse that this pre 1953 red kiosk has not been Listed; the permission for development of the London Inn site shows the phone box moved onto the pavement nearby; the Council **agreed** that the existing red kiosk should be retained and operational at this location, and according to Ofcom procedures an objection will be lodged.
- 2) St Petroc's Churchyard Committee: *(Cllr Cathie Pannell left the room while this matter was discussed.)* Request for a grant of £400 towards the cost of materials for improvements to the entrance to the 1910 cemetery. Cllr Glyn Richards proposed that a grant of £400 should be made, as requested; this was seconded by Cllr John Summers and **resolved** by the Council.

The Council agreed to bring forward on the agenda planning applications and the future of the Signal Box, as members of the public had attended the meeting regarding these matters.

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

Planning matters

i) Applications:

0352/11 *(Cllrs John King and John Summers left the room while this application was considered.)* Create new vehicle access, car parking and hardstanding in field to the rear of 1 Feoffee Cottages at land to the rear of 1 Feoffee Cottages, Aish, South Brent; the Parish Council recommends refusal of this application – there is very poor visibility and this proposal would be an encroachment of domestic usage into open countryside. If the DNPA Committee is minded to grant the application, a site visit is requested.

0383/11 *(Cllrs John King, John Summers and the clerk left the room while this application was considered.)* Replace existing conservatory with single storey

orangery extension at Didworthy House, Didworthy; the Parish Council has no objection to this application.

0395/11 Replacement of existing single storey conservatory on side of house at Moor View, Didworthy, South Brent; the Parish Council has no objection to this application.

0369/11 (Cllr Donald Wiseman left the room while this application was considered.)

Certificate of Lawfulness in respect of use of holiday let as a dwelling at Umber House, Harbournford, South Brent; the Parish Council has noted this application.

45/1793/11 Temporary anemometer mast 30m high to measure wind speed at the site of South Brent Community Wind Turbine (SX 72804 60195), Marley Thatch Farm, South Brent; the Parish Council recommends approval of this application.

ii) Any amended applications; none received.

Tabled papers (d) J Jenkins – Action Group: Network Rail would like to know how the Signal Box might be used if it is restored. Now that the Signal Box is in the Conservation Area the Action Group has contacted Network Rail regarding its restoration; Network Rail wishes to know how the building would be used. It was noted that the base is a concrete tank, and the cost of any works would be considerable; Heritage Lottery funding might be available but it may depend on whether the building is Listed.

The Council agreed that an initial meeting of members of the Council and the Action Group should be held on 13th September to discuss the possibility of a museum and Dartmoor archive. (Cllr Donna Warne and the members of the public left the meeting.)

- 3) SHDC: Consultation on the future of standards – replacing the current provisions for regulating the conduct of councillors; Cllr Glyn Richards proposed that the Finance Committee should consider this matter and respond on behalf of the Council; this was seconded by Cllr Greg Wall and **resolved** by the Council.
- 4) SHDC: Summary of outcomes of the super cluster meeting held on 13.7.11; the Council noted that if delivery of services is considered, funding must follow function.

PC 10-8-11 Planning matters
(See minute 9-8-11 above.)

PC 11-8-11 Parish Council Committees

Planning Committee minutes of the meeting held on 11th July (available at the meeting); recommendation:

(Cllr Mandy Haley declared a prejudicial interest and left the room while this matter was discussed; Cllr Donald Wiseman declared a personal interest.) A grant of £750 is made to the Scouts towards the summer expedition, unless the expedition is fully funded from other sources, when the grant should be returned to the Council (withdrawing the proposal to deliver the newsletter for the coming year). Cllr Greg Wall proposed that a grant of £750 should be made as recommended; this was seconded by Cllr Cathie Pannell and **resolved** by the Council.

PC 12-8-11 Progress with the design for the proposed pedestrian crossing in Station Road
Ian James – DCC Highways has provided a draft design for a pedestrian crossing point in Station Road, the proposed scheme would cost an estimated £29,000.

Mr James will be contacted to clarify the following points:

- A total cost using tarmac (black top) rather than granite setts;
- Could a coloured area of road surface be used to show the pedestrian crossing, and at what cost?
- Should the kerb stones be at road level to minimize difficulties for large vehicles?
- Where could a cycle rack be located?

It was noted that when a proposal has been agreed a copy should be sent to the Primary School, and the Co-op.

PC 13-8-11 Council deeds may be relocated for safe keeping in Glasgow

The clerk was advised by the bank that this could happen soon; as an alternative the Council deeds could be placed in the County Archive.

PC 14-8-11 Consider the appointment of a Parish Council sustainable transport representative

The Council agreed that this would be a good idea.

PC 15-8-11 Correspondence available on the table at the meeting (or by arrangement with the clerk):

- a) Sustainable South Brent: A meeting to discuss local projects is suggested for 1st September. It will be suggested that representatives of the Village Hall, Old School Centre, Recreation Association and Allotment Association are also invited; Cllrs Cathie Pannell, Peter Kelly and the clerk are able to attend. (Cllr Donna Warne SSB representative will be advised.)
- b) South Brent Primary School: Link Governor report July 2011.
- c) South Brent Primary School: the Governing Body has agreed to become part of a Multi-Academy Chain.
- d) J Jenkins – Action Group: Network Rail would like to know how the Signal Box might be used if it is restored (see minute 9-8-11 above).
- e) SHDC: Polling districts and places review 2011; SHDC will be advised that two separate polling station for the South Brent wards are not necessary.
- f) Old School Centre: new charges effective from 1st September 2011.
- g) DCC Highways: new cycleway in Exeter Road – Regulations do not allow a solid white line in the centre of the road and provision of shared footway/cycleway on both sides of the roundabout is being looked into. The Council is concerned that work has progressed when the shared footway/cycleway has not been investigated; has a risk assessment for cyclists been carried out?
- h) Ivybridge & District Association of Local Councils: Chairman's report 2011.
- i) I & DALC: a new Chairman and Secretary have come forward.
- j) SSB: report on the Marsh Community Compost and Re-Use Centre.
- k) DCC: temporary road closure order 17.10.11 to 4.11.11 East Leigh Cross to East Moore Cross.
- l) SWW: An application has been made for a temporary road closure order from 10.10.11 to 6.11.11 Dean Cross to Harbournford Cross.
- m) Village Hall Committee: A weekend of celebrations for the Centenary of the Hall will take place 16th to 18th September.

- n) Devon Renaissance: This not for profit organisation offers assistance with community regeneration or development projects.
- o) DNPA: 60th Anniversary Dartmoor community quiz; 5 local Parish related questions are invited – this will be forwarded to Mr G Jordan.
- p) SHDC: Responding to major emergencies leaflet.
- q) Totnes and Dartmouth Ring & Ride: Letter of thanks for the grant from the council.
- r) South Hams Citizens Advice Bureau: Letter of thanks for the grant from the council.
- s) DALC: When next updated SHDC website might be able to include an alert regarding licensing applications to the local council; this will be requested.
- t) Dartmoor Hill Farm Project: Summer newsletter and contact details.
- u) Totnes on the Move notes of steering group meeting held on 20th July.
- v) SHDC: Minutes of the Executive 14.7.11.
- w) South Brent Primary School: Governors newsletter.

All noted by the Parish Council.

PC 16-8-11 Report highway matters including the poor state of the road surface in Totnes Road, and street cleaning required.

Cllr Greg Wall is concerned that Totnes Road is due to be resurfaced in the next budgetary period, but that as a result of damage to the road surface caused by lorries, treating the area with chippings will not be sufficient. A letter will be sent to DCC Highways, also stating that Plymouth Road is designated the entrance to the village for large vehicles, but in practise Totnes Road is used predominantly, and the area between Fore Street and the Primary School in particular is now in a very poor state of repair.

The new bench for Corn Park is due to be delivered soon.

Salt/grit bins and spreaders will be included on the next agenda.

The spring at the top of Aish Hill (which freezes in the winter) will be sorted out when possible.

A farmer is repairing the footpath below Owley.

PC 17-8-11 Finance:

Accounts for payment

SWW (Direct debit): charges for toilet at Sanderspool Cross	7.50
South West Grounds Maintenance: invoice for July	275.40
Entanet Int. Ltd (Direct debit): monthly broadband fee	19.78
South Brent Village Hall: room hire 9.38+2 cupboards 55.00	64.38
South Brent Old School Centre: room hire	6.30
Public Works Loan Board (Direct debit): cemetery & allotment field	1880.00
DALC: Chairmanship course 26.7.11	30.00
R Illman: installation of new seat in Exeter Road	335.88
Payroll	1432.80
1 st South Brent Scout Group: S 137 grant towards summer expedition – unless fully funded from other sources	750.00
TOTAL	4802.04

The accounts were approved for payment and the cheques signed.

PC 18-8-11 Items for press release and/or the newsletter

Newsletter items have to be submitted by the coming weekend; the Chairman will write an item on damage to the play area.

PC 19-8-11 Items for the next agenda

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. DCC Highways has failed to respond to the Council regarding these matters – which affect the quality of life of parishioners. Outstanding matters will be included on the agenda for 26th September.

The meeting closed at 9.54 p.m.