

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26th September 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)

Nineteen members of the public were at the meeting to bring to the attention of the Council the action taken by DNPA at Reddacleave Breaks on 8th August. The Chairman advised that Mr J Dance (the owner) attended the August Parish Council meeting, when the Council agreed to wait for a request for comment from either Dean Prior Parish Council or DNPA.

In addition on 9th September 2011 a High Court Judge ordered that the land at Reddacleave Breaks should not be used as a golf course, or promoted or advertised as such by any means. (Copies of the injunction and photos were circulated to Councillors at the meeting.)

The Council was asked to support Mr Dance as many people in this parish have used the facility over the years. It was noted that the planning application for use as a golf course was refused in 1996 and consistently rejected at every stage since.

The Chairman advised that this matter is not on the agenda for this evening but will be included on the agenda for the Parish Council meeting on 17th October. (Nineteen members of the public left the meeting.)

PC 1-9-11 Record of members present

Cllr Mark Copleston in the Chair; Cllrs Mandy Haley, Peter Kelly, John King, Jane Maunder, Cathie Pannell, Glyn Richards, John Summers, Greg Wall and Donna Warne were present; Julia Willoughby clerk to the Council was in attendance.

Five members of the public remained.

PC 2-9-11 Apologies for absence

Apologies have been received from Cllrs Laura Howe and Donald Wiseman.

PC 3-9-11 Declarations of interest (nature and extent) with regard to items on the agenda

Cllrs Cathie Pannell and John King declared a personal interest in item 9 (2) South Brent Community Energy Partnership requests a letter of support from the council – as this project includes the Village Hall.

Cllr Peter Kelly declared a personal interest in the same item as he is a member of the Partnership.

Cllr Glyn Richards also declared a personal interest in the same item as the Old School Centre is part of the project.

PC 4-9-11 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda

Nothing was raised at this point.

County Councillor Trevor Pennington wished to bring forward his report in order to attend another meeting; this was agreed by the Council. Cllr Pennington advised the Council about the Snow Warden scheme whereby participants can receive 5 tonnes of salt/grit from DCC (this is on the agenda). He also asked whether the Council wished to apply for further salt/grit bins through his locality budget.

Cllr Pennington has been contacted by an ITV reporter regarding a TV programme about the use of land at Marley Head (as had others in the room). Cllr Pennington was thanked for attending the meeting and left.

District Councillor Cathie Pannell advised that SHDC and West Devon continue to work on shared services, and although the district council no longer meets very often as a body, housing issues are a recurring theme.

District Councillor Peter Smerdon reported that DCC is campaigning to ensure the Drybridge over the A38 will be replaced.

Mr John Nutley introduced himself as DNPA Parish Council representatives; and if the Council has any questions to please contact him. The Chairman thanked Mr Nutley for attending the meeting.

Mr Goss was present regarding Vicarage Road Allotment Association (agenda item 11) the Council agreed to bring this item forward on the agenda.

- i) VRAA may wish to submit a planning application for sheds and a greenhouse at the allotment field; the Parish Council must consider the implications of the uplift clause on the land. VRAA wishes to submit a planning application for two sheds and a greenhouse in corners of the allotment field. The clerk explained that when the land was purchased by the Council an uplift clause was included which will take effect if within 10 years of the date of purchase any planning permission is granted for the land. This will result in the value of the field being re-assessed and if there is any increase between the purchase price and the new valuation, 50% of the sum has to be paid to the previous owners. The clerk added that if before agreeing to submit the planning application a valuation exercise could be carried out, the Council would have a better indication of whether the application could involve additional expenditure.

Mr Goss added that it may be possible that a planning application will not be necessary, this will involve checking case law e.g. Crowborough Parish Council v district council.

The Chairman advised that enquiries are in hand regarding a valuation of the land for the Council.

- ii) The lease agreement needs to include the pedestrian access and path in the 25 year lease (rather than the short term 6 year lease). Cllr Peter Kelly proposed that the pedestrian access (nearest the village hall) and path are included in the 25 year lease rather than the 6 year lease – by means of changing the status of a narrow strip of land along the road side boundary of the field; this was seconded by Cllr Greg Wall and **resolved** by the Council.

PC 5-9-11 Police report (Crime and Disorder Reduction)

PC Hopper has sent a report advising there were three crimes in the parish during August: two incidents of theft (child's scooter and mobile phone) and drive with excess alcohol.

Police are urging residents to ensure their homes are secure (leaving keys in a safe place, not near letterboxes).

There is now a Facebook page for Totnes Police.

PC 6-9-11 District / County Councillors and DNPA Parish Council representatives report.
(See minute 4-9-11 above.)

PC 7-9-11 Confirmation of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15th August
The minutes were confirmed and signed.

PC 8-9-11 Report matters arising from the minutes – for information only
The new bench for Corn Park has been delivered.

PC 9-9-11 Correspondence circulated to Councillors:

- 1) Audit Commission: the audit for the year ended 31.3.11 has been completed with no matters to report; the clerk was congratulated.
- 2) EJC Chapman: South Brent Community Energy Partnership requests a letter of support from the Council; Cllr Greg Wall proposed that a letter of support should be sent; this was seconded by Cllr John Summers and **agreed** by the Council.
- 3) Insp. Tomlinson: new non-emergency number 101 introduced; noted.

PC 10-9-11 Parish Council Committees

Christmas lights working group notes of the meeting held on 22nd August;
recommendations:

A) The festoon cables are covered in red tinsel to provide daytime impact, and a variety of 9 features (to include the Crumbs & Cuppa) are installed for 2011, at a total cost of £2,000 + VAT; proposed by Cllr Cathie Pannell, seconded by Cllr John Summers and **resolved** by the Council.

B) The Christmas lights are switched on at 6.00 p.m. on the evening of the winter carnival by the Community Champion; proposed by Cllr Cathie Pannell, seconded by Cllr John Summers and **resolved** by the Council.

The Chairman reported that sponsorship of £100 has been received to date for wall features for this year.

Media Committee minutes of the meeting held on 5th September; recommendations:

Freedom of information policy the charging structure is amended to 'the actual cost of postage' and the charge per sheet is doubled to help cover administration costs. The clerk requested that this matter be deferred for further investigation of the current pricing guidance; this was agreed by the Council.

Finance Committee minutes of the meeting held on 5th September; recommendations:

i) Terms of reference:

- 5 (c) add 'Policy'
- Add '5 (e) Lone Working Policy'
- 5 (f) Disciplinary Procedure
- 5 (g) Grievance Procedure
- 14 'Review the Grant Aid Policy annually;'

Proposed by Cllr Greg Wall, seconded by Cllr John Summers and **resolved** by the Council.

ii) Financial Regulations:

The cross references at the end of this document should be amended.

- 5.3 Add signed by three 'authorised' members of Council;
Proposed by Cllr Greg Wall, seconded by Cllr John Summers and **resolved** by the Council.
- iii) Complaints procedure: no changes are required.
- iv) There will be a refresher course for councillors on 19th October from 6.30-9.00 p.m. in Ivybridge; the Committee encourages as many councillors as possible to take part in this training. Cllr Peter Kelly would like to attend.
- v) A mobile phone has been purchased at £29.99 and a SIM card at £4.99; the Committee recommends that our cleaner is reimbursed - proposed by Cllr Greg Wall, seconded by Cllr John Summers and **resolved** by the Council.

Station Yard working group meeting held on 13th September
Cllr Cathie Pannell reported that this initial meeting elected Cllr Pannell as Chairwoman, and would like to be known as the Signal Box restoration working group.
Contact has been made with Network Rail and it is hoped a site visit can be arranged.
The group will meet again on 13th October, and anyone interested in the project is invited to attend.
The group will report back to the Council again, and will advise parishioners of progress in the Council newsletter.

Open Spaces Committee report any urgent matters from the meeting held on 19th September. Cllr Peter Kelly advised that feedback from DCC on the plans for a pedestrian crossing in Station Road is being forwarded to DNPA for comment.
A complaint about damage caused during grass cutting has been forwarded to the contractor.
The Old School Centre would like a seat stored there to be removed when possible.

PC 11-9-11 Vicarage Road Allotment Association:

- iii) VRAA may wish to submit a planning application for sheds and a greenhouse at the allotment field; the Parish Council must consider the implications of the uplift clause on the land;
- iv) The lease agreement needs to include the pedestrian access and path in the 25 year lease (rather than the short term 6 year lease).

(See minute 4-9-11 above.)

PC 12-9-11 Progress with the design for the proposed pedestrian crossing in Station Road

Mr I James – DCC Engineer has advised the following:

- Cost using tarmac (black top) rather than granite setts would reduce the cost by £5,000 – but is unlikely to be acceptable to DNPA.
- A coloured area of road surface to show the pedestrian crossing may not be acceptable to DNPA, but would cost £450 to surface dress the existing road.
- Kerb stones at road level to minimize difficulties for large vehicles would not pass the safety audit, and the design allows a single decker bus or HGV to exit the junction even with vehicles parked opposite (alongside the Mare & Foal charity shop).
- Cycle racks could be located on any of the of build-out areas.

Comments from DNPA will be awaited.

PC 13-9-11 Cycleways in Exeter Road

Cllr Glyn Richards is very concerned about the safety of the cycleways which were marked out over the summer, especially as the shared footway/cycleways have no signage. The

Council agreed that half the scheme is worse than none at all and the DCC Lead Councillor will be contacted.

PC 14-9-11 Update on the removal of the red phone kiosk from Exeter Road

The clerk has written to Ofcom, Dr Sarah Wollaston M.P., BT, Dartmoor National Park Authority, South Hams District Council and Devon County Council Highways demanding the return of our red King George phone kiosk. The company which removed the kiosk is MVM in Poole; Cllr Donna Warne offered to try to contact them to find out the current state of the kiosk (as the clerk has had no reply to emails and phone calls).

PC 15-9-11 Consider the provision of salt/grit bins and spreaders for the winter

Cllr Greg Wall reported that DCC is offering 5 tonnes of salt/grit to parishes which sign up to the snow warden scheme. The snow warden must be nominated as suitable by the parish council, receive DCC training and agree to work within the arrangements set up by DCC.

District Cllr Smerdon advised that in Rattery new salt/grit bins and spreaders have been funded by County Cllr Pennington.

Three new salt/grit bins have previously been requested; Cllr Wall will follow this up and investigate the snow warden scheme in more detail. It is clear that DCC is passing its duty to local councils, but further measures need to be sorted out soon – this item will be included on the Planning Committee agenda for 10th October.

PC 16-9-11 Election of a Parish Council sustainable transport representative

This item will be carried forward to the next agenda.

PC 17-9-11 Consider plans for the Service of Remembrance and 11th November 2011

The Chairman will meet with Rev Winnington-Ingram, Cllr Peter Kelly will check the bell on the Toll House and Mr Akehurst the village crier and Miss Gower will be contacted to request their assistance again.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman will be readers, and Cllrs Donna Warne and Peter Kelly offered to read the names of the fallen. Service personnel will be contacted to take part in the Remembrance Service if possible, or local uniformed youth organisations could help.

PC 18-9-11 Consider how Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee should be celebrated

Celebrations will take place on the weekend of 2-5 June 2012; Rev Winnington-Ingram will be asked whether a Civic Service could be held, and the cost of further lettering on the plinth in Wellington Square will be established. A street party or picnic could be arranged, perhaps at the Recreation Field.

PC 19-9-11 Provision of 'Gateway to the Moor' signs

This item will be carried forward to the next agenda.

PC 20-9-11 Correspondence available on the table at the meeting (or by arrangement with the clerk):

- a) DCC: Totnes Road to the primary school will be added to the list of primary routes for salting.
- b) J Nutley: letter of introduction from a new Parish Councils representative with DNPA.

- c) Dr Sarah Wollaston M.P.: Letter of support for the repositioning of the red phone kiosk at the edge of the development in Exeter Road.
- d) South Hams Connect: roadshows can be delivered at community events.
- e) 1st South Brent Scouts: postcard from the Scouts thanking the council for the grant.
- f) SHDC: clarification on licensing notifications.
- g) Community Council of Devon: South Brent Parish Councils entry for Devon community of the year 2011 has not been shortlisted.
- h) May Gurney: proposed road closure 14-19.12.11 at Beacon Terrace.
- i) BT: proposed road closure 15&16.12.11 in Station Road.
- j) SHDC: Totnes area parish cluster meeting – Chair needed for meeting on 23.11.11.
- k) DNPA: Dartmoor National Park Forum meeting 25.11.11; Cllr John Summers will attend.
- l) DCC: public meetings will take place across the county regarding further reductions in expenditure.
- m) DALC: AGM 8.10.11 at Exeter Racecourse 'Localism and You' (£15 per delegate); Cllr Glyn Richards will attend.
- n) Ivybridge Town Council: there will be a Christmas Day event again this year for people who might otherwise be on their own.
- o) SHDC: minutes of the Executive.
- p) DCC: Waste core strategy bulletin.
- q) DCC: Newsletter of the emergency planning service.
- r) Totnes on the move steering group meeting notes.
- s) Open Door Devon & Cornwall Housing Association newsletter.
- t) Clerks & Councils Direct magazine.

All noted by the Parish Council.

PC 21-9-11 Report highway matters including outstanding issues, and street cleaning required

- Dropped kerb outside Town Farm Bungalow is too steep;
- Collapsed hedgebank in Plymouth Road;
- Ownership of hedge between Courtenay Park and footpath.

Cllr Greg Wall is in regular contact with DCC, but these outstanding matters are not being dealt with, so the Council agreed that the DCC Lead Councillor should be contacted. DNPA will also be contacted regarding ownership of the land next to the footpath.

Totnes Road cannot be surfaced until 2012-13, and will be monitored by DCC.

More branches came down from the oak tree at Clobells steps; DCC carried out works and will inspect the tree.

Loose paving slabs in Church Street have been reported; overgrown hedges along Exeter Road will be reported to DCC.

The new bench for Corn Park has been delivered and Mr Illman has the installation details.

Cllr John King has contacted parishioners at Harbournford who have strong views about Drybridge over the A38.

PC 22-9-11 Finance:

Accounts for payment

St Petroc's PCC: grant towards enhancement of entrance to 1910 Cemetery	400.00
SWW (Direct debit): charges for toilet at Sanderspool Cross	7.50
South West Grounds Maintenance: invoices for Aug & Sept.	550.80
Entanet Int. Ltd (Direct debit): monthly broadband fee	19.78
South Brent Old School Centre: room hire Aug & Sept. 38.10 Photocopying 1.50	39.60
Ricoh (Direct debit): photocopier lease	56.75
Ricoh UK Ltd: photocopier usage Feb to July	12.07
T Fivash: delivery of newsletter (issue 30)	65.00
The Consortium: ink cartridges & stationery	142.90
Audit Commission: Audit fee 2010-11	660.00
SLCC Enterprises Ltd: Devon conference	48.00
Ivybridge & District Association of Local Councils: subscription	8.00
Earth Wrights Ltd: Adventure Trail workshop	900.00
Rattery Sawmills: bench for Corn Park	104.82
Payroll	2070.21
Total	5085.43
 RECEIPTS:	
South Devon Auto Repairs Ltd: donation for Christmas lighting	100.00
SHDC: Precept part 2	19731.00

The accounts were approved for payment and the cheques signed.

PC 23-9-11 Items for press release and/or the newsletter

None.

PC 24-9-11 Items for the next agenda

New benches for the play area will be included on the next Open Spaces Committee agenda.

The unauthorised golf course at Reddacleave Breaks will be included on the Parish Council agenda for 17th October.

All members of the Council are invited to a ploughman's lunch at The Leaze on 29th September.

The meeting closed.