

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 25 June 2012 at 7.30 p.m. in the Old School Centre, South Brent.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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

Mr Tim Harvey of the 1st South Brent Scout Group stated that the summer expedition to the Forest of Dean would include caving, kayaking etc. with all the leaders paying their own way. He added that he could not absolutely guarantee that a grant would be returned to the Council (as happened last year).

PC 1-6-12 Presentation by Mr Steve Prime – CEO, South Devon Rural Housing Association

Mr Prime explained that his organisation may be involved in the development of Avondale House into 6 affordable homes for rent, with SHDC. A planning application is being prepared and the building would no longer be used for temporary housing. If the project goes ahead it will be aimed at local people who will need to be on the housing register held by SHDC. Mr Prime will return when the planning application is before the Council.

PC 2-6-12 Record of members present

Cllr Mark Copleston in the Chair; Cllrs Mandy Haley, Peter Kelly, John King, Jane Maunder, Cathie Pannell, John Rawlinson, Glyn Richards, John Summers, Greg Wall, Donna Warne and Donald Wiseman.

Four members of the public were present and Julia Willoughby clerk to the Council was in attendance.

PC 3-6-12 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from County Cllr Trevor Pennington and District Councillor Peter Smerdon.

PC 4-6-12 Declarations of interest (nature and extent) with regard to items on the agenda

Cllr Peter Kelly declared a prejudicial interest in the grant application made by Totnes and Dartmouth Ring & Ride item 14 (2), as he is a trustee of the organisation; he would also remain out of the room for discussion of a grant application by Ivybridge & District Community Transport Association.

Cllr John King declared a personal interest in item 14 (1) a grant application from South Hams Citizens Advice Bureau, as he has connections with the organisation.

Cllr Mandy Haley declared a prejudicial interest in the grant application made by the 1st South Brent Scout Group item 14 (4), as she will be part of the expedition.

PC 5-6-12 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda

Mrs M Orr stated that the planning application for Marley Head is an illegal occupation of land which the travellers do not own. The site is a blot on the landscape of the Dartmoor National Park, and is inappropriate at the approach to the village. Will DNPA continue with enforcement action?

The Chairman advised that Mr S Belli of DNPA had assured the Council that enforcement action is proceeding through the High Court. Anyone has a right to make a planning application, and due process is being followed.

Mr G Cleave hopes to attend later and would like to speak on this matter; this was agreed by the Council.

PC 6-6-12 Police report (Crime and Disorder Reduction)

PC Hopper's email states there were eleven crimes in the parish during May: Assault (juveniles); Criminal damage to vehicle (scratches); Burglary (isolated out building - metal cable stolen); Theft Non specific (garden tools); Criminal damage (perspex panels smashed); Criminal damage (glass window broken); Assault (juveniles); Burglary (outbuilding - pedal cycle stolen); Burglary (outbuilding - off road motorcycles stolen); Theft (isolated field - chicken hutch/run stolen); Theft (chain and padlock).

PC Hopper has advised that she will be monitoring parking in Wellington Square and dealing with vehicles parked on the pavements. (Cllr John Summers left the meeting.)

Mr Cleave arrived and wished to comment on the planning application for Marley Head; this is the third or fourth application and the site has been occupied for nearly 5 years. The Chairman stated that enforcement will be monitored as legal action is continuing, and the public meeting held regarding the site made local people's views clear. (All members of the public left the meeting.)

PC 7-6-12 Following two incidents in recent months, would the Council support a survey of young people through 'Young Devon'

Anti-social behaviour in the Exeter Road area is being tackled by the Police; in addition 'Young Devon' can engage with our young people and start by carrying out a survey. Cllr Glyn Richards proposed that the Parish Council supports 'Young Devon' with their work in South Brent; this was seconded by Cllr Peter Kelly and resolved by the Parish Council. Cllr Donna Warne has been speaking to young people and is willing to help with the survey.

PC 8-6-12 Confirmation of the accuracy of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28 May

The Parish Council minutes were confirmed and signed.

PC 9-6-12 Report matters arising from the minutes – for information only

Mr Guy Pannell has advised that a replacement tree for 'The Patch' will cost about £38.

PC 10-6-12 Response from SHDC regarding parking charges proposed for the Station Yard car park, and SHDC consultation

A Freedom of Information request was made on 1 June for SHDC to provide all information relevant to car park charges and the possible introduction of car park charges held by SHDC since the election in 2011.

In particular, a copy of the complete research and report compiled by Chris Lucas into potential income from the three car parks at Beesands, Aveton Gifford and South Brent, together with information on the current status of proposed parking charges for Beesands and Aveton Gifford. SHDC has 20 working days to respond to this request.

Helen Dobby at SHDC has advised the clerk that an exhibition could be part of the SHDC consultation, and the Parish Council will have input regarding questions to be asked; the timescale is not known.

PC 11-6-12 Parish Council Committees:

Planning Committee minutes of the meeting held on 14 May (available at the meeting) are adopted; agreed.

Open Spaces Committee recommendations (meeting held on 18 June) verbal report: Cllr Peter Kelly advised that further enquiries will be made regarding a suitable toilet tissue dispenser; soap in the new wallgate will be re-filled each week by SHDC and a shrub may be planted in the stone bin at Sanderspool Cross. (The recommendations and minutes will be on the next agenda.)

Christmas lights working group recommendations (meeting held on 18 June) verbal report: Cllr Glyn Richards advised that Mr Holdup of Torbay Display attended the meeting and it is hoped that a wall feature will be included on the Co-op and red tinsel will be wrapped around the festoon lights. (The recommendations and notes will be on the next agenda.) (Cllr Donna Warne left the meeting.)

PC 12-6-12 District / County Councillors and DNPA Parish Council representatives report
District Councillor Cathie Pannell advised that SHDC will hold a special meeting on 28 June regarding the new Code of Conduct.

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

PC 13-6-12 Planning matters

0268/12 (Cllr Cathie Pannell advised that she would listen to discussions, but not take part or vote.) Change of use of land to gypsy and traveller site accommodating up to fourteen pitches; revised scheme with 50% transit pitches at The Roadhouse, Marley Head, South Brent; the Parish Council recommends refusal of this application.

- The residential use of the land would constitute sporadic development and unjustified residential use of the land in the open countryside, which would detract from the character and appearance of this part of the Dartmoor National Park.

- The evidence from the Devon Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment indicates that there is no requirement for additional long term residential pitches in the Dartmoor National Park and there is no evidence that the proposal would provide accommodation to meet local needs.

- The proposal constitutes a non-sustainable development in an area in which there is a deficiency of public transport.

PC 14-6-12 Correspondence circulated to Councillors:

- 1) South Hams Citizens Advice Bureau: grant application. Cllr Glyn Richards proposed that a grant of £100 is made; this was seconded by Cllr Jane Maunder and resolved by the Council.
- 2) Totnes and Dartmouth Ring & Ride: (Cllr Peter Kelly left the room while this and the next item were discussed) grant application. Cllr Donald Wiseman proposed that a grant of £400 is made; this was seconded by Cllr Jane Maunder and resolved by the Council.
- 3) Ivybridge & District Community Transport Association: grant application for £100. This request will be deferred to the next meeting pending receipt of the annual report and passenger information.
- 4) 1st South Brent Scout Group: (Cllr Mandy Haley left the room while this item was discussed) grant application for £350 (refundable) to assist the 2012 expedition to the Forest of Dean. The clerk advised that Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, gives Councils the power to do anything that will benefit the community (or part of it) where there is not another specific power covering this action.

Cllr Donald Wiseman proposed that a grant of £175 is made; this was seconded by Cllr Cathie Pannell and resolved by the Council.

PC 15-6-12 The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 come into force on 1 July 2012 and there is a requirement that the code of conduct complies with the Localism Act 2011

Cllr Glyn Richards has been following the very recent information available from the National Association of Local Councils and SHDC. He also attended a meeting of the Devon Association of Local Councils today and it has been established that parish councils must adopt a new code of conduct to take effect on or after 1 July 2012.

As the SHDC meeting on this matter is due to take place later this week, Cllr Glyn Richards proposed that this item is deferred to the meeting on 23 July; this was seconded by Cllr Peter Kelly and resolved by the Council.

Cllr Glyn Richards was thanked for all the work he has carried out on this topic.

PC 16-6-12 Reports on training events:

- IT and internet development - Cllr Glyn Richards attended a DALC training course on 21 May when three IT matters were discussed. Consideration of a Vision ICT website will be deferred to the Media Committee; data storage will be discussed by the Finance Committee and digital mapping may be of interest to the Council. Cllr Jane Maunder proposed that the Council register for a Public Sector Mapping Agreement (whether the service is used or not); this was seconded by Cllr Cathie Pannell and resolved by the Council.

- Chairmanship - Cllrs Greg Wall and Donna Warne attended this course on 13 June; Cllr Wall advised that it was very enjoyable, and heartening to learn that South Brent Parish Council operates correctly.

PC 17-6-12 Notification of receipt of planning permission has been sent to members of the Maye family regarding the uplift clause on the allotment field in Vicarage Road

No response has been received; therefore a further notification will be sent to members of the Maye family by recorded delivery, and advice sought from Mr Osborne at Windeatts.

PC 18-6-12 Appointment of Dartmoor Partnership representative

This post has been held by Cllr John King, the Council agreed that he should retain this role.

PC 19-6-12 Arrange for the inspection of the deeds and trust documents in the custody of the Council, and consider storage arrangements

Cllr Mandy Haley offered to inspect the deeds etc. Windeatts will be contacted for advice on secure document storage, rather than Lloyds TSB holding them in Glasgow.

PC 20-6-12 Review of Councillors' Interests, and completion of amendment form as required

All forms will be completed shortly.

PC 21-6-12 Would roadstuds be appropriate to mark the crossing point in Station Road?

The Council agreed this should be requested of DCC.

PC 22-6-12 Is a zebra crossing suitable for Exeter Road (near Corn Park)

Ms Lisa Corston of DCC has advised that this request will be progressed.

PC 23-6-12 Should the Council (working with surrounding parishes) apply to the TAP Fund?
No suggestions have been received to date as a result of the item in the Council newsletter; this item will be carried forward to the next agenda.

PC 24-6-12 Consider whether the Council should fund works to the oak tree at Clobells steps

As the Parish Council requested that this tree should be subject to a Tree Preservation Order, Cllr Glyn Richards proposed that Mr Goodfellow (Arbtech) is asked for his advice on whether the tree should be pollarded or felled; this was seconded by Cllr Greg Wall and resolved by the Council.

PC 25-6-12 Could pedestrian safe routes be provided in South Brent?

Cllr Glyn Richards had brought this matter forward, and suggested that the road markers for the Jubilee Crossing are dealt with first; then possible pedestrian safe routes could be co-ordinated by the Open Spaces Committee.

PC 26-6-12 Current status of the listing of court costs against the Parish Council (in error)

Mr Osborne at Windeatts will send a letter to the Court advising that the costs in the case against the Recreation Association were discharged by that organisation, and therefore the unsatisfied listing against the Parish Council should be lifted.

The clerk advised that once this has happened she will seek advice on the question of damages.

PC 27-6-12 Should the Parish Council consider a postal box address?

Following on from the difficulties experienced by the clerk and her family (above), it has been established that the Parish Council could have a P.O. Box address with post being delivered to the clerk's home for a cost of £230 per annum. Cllr Glyn Richards proposed that subject to advice from DALC, the clerk should apply for a P.O. Box address; this was seconded by Cllr Cathie Pannell and resolved by the Council.

PC 28-6-12 Report on Jubilee celebration events

A civic service was held at St Petroc's Church on 3 June, followed by the unveiling of an additional inscription on the Jubilee lamp base in Wellington Square. There were many neighbourhood street parties across the parish and a tree will be planted on 'The Patch' next to the Village Hall. Commemorative bookmarks have been presented to children aged 11 years and under in the parish, and the Primary School held a Jubilee boat pageant.

This information will be passed on to a parishioner who was disappointed at the lack of community display for the Jubilee. Also, although Jubilee celebrations were featured in the Council newsletters from December 2011 no one approached the Council with any suggestions or volunteering to co-ordinate an event.

PC 29-6-12 Correspondence available on the table at the meeting (or by arrangement with the clerk):

- a) DCC: There will be a road closure at Aish from 23 July for drainage works.
- b) Community Council of Devon: Devon Community of the Year competition; details of our last submission will be sent to Cllr Cathie Pannell.
- c) SHDC: 'Our Councils' role in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour' leaflet.

- d) Consultation on a review of the Waste management Strategy for Devon (what to do with waste/recycling).
- e) SHDC: South Hams Business Voice – meeting 25.6.12, 6.30 pm at Follaton House.
- f) ‘Open Door’ newsletter from Tor Homes.
- g) Clerks & Councils Direct magazine.

All noted by the Parish Council.

PC 30-6-12 Report highway matters and street cleaning required

Cllr Greg Wall is in the process of completing the DCC winter service review survey.

Totnes Road may be re-surfaced during this financial year.

Cllr John King advised that drainage work is due to start at the top of Aish Hill on 23 July (the road will be closed).

It is not known whether DCC have adopted the footway along side New Orchard (opposite Phoenix House).

Debris in Plymouth Road from the water leak near the Pack Horse needs to be cleared.

It was requested that a suggested one way traffic system in South Brent is included on the next agenda.

PC 31-6-12 Finance:

Accounts for payment - including a twice yearly honorarium to the cleaner:

J Goodfellow: 50% towards cost of tree works at ‘The Patch’	200.00
SWW (Direct debit): charges for toilet at Sanderspool Cross	11.50
Entanet Int. Ltd (Direct debit): monthly broadband fee	19.78
South West Grounds Maintenance: monthly invoice	306.00
South Brent Village Hall: room hire	32.25
R Fivash: delivery of newsletter	65.00
Veaseys Printers: 1400 newsletters (8 pages)	299.97
S Trinder: plant troughs in Well. Sq.	25.00
Devon Association of Local Councils: 2 x Chairmanship training	60.00
M Copleston: (Chairman’s Allowance) 2 meals at Parish Dinner	38.70
Payroll	2216.24
TOTAL	3274.44

Receipt:

SHDC: reimbursement for grounds maintenance	2035.92
SHDC: Locality Fund grant towards Jubilee bookmarks	100.00

The accounts were approved for payment and the cheques signed.

PC 32-6-12 Items for press release and/or the newsletter

PC Hopper will be asked to contribute an item for the newsletter on parking in the flow of traffic at night.

PC 33-6-12 Items for the next agenda

Items have been raised during the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.58 pm.

DRAFT