

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20 August 2012 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)

Nothing was raised by those present.

PC 1-8-12 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 and Donald Wiseman.

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

PC 2-8-12 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Donna Warne and District Councillor Peter Smerdon.

PC 3-8-12 Declarations of interest (nature and extent) with regard to items on the agenda

Cllr Jane Maunder declared a pecuniary interest in correspondence item (3) a grant application from her daughter.

Cllr Mandy Haley declared a non-pecuniary interest in correspondence on the table item (j) 1st South Brent Scouts: postcard thanking the Council for the grant of £175, as she attended the expedition.

PC 4-8-12 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda

Mrs J Fox referred to her letter to the Council (correspondence item (2) a letter signed by 69 people expressing disappointment at the lack of Council organised celebrations for Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

The Chairman advised that South Brent Parish Council held a civic service 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 in the autumn.

Commemorative book marks were presented to children aged 11 years and under in the parish.

Proposals for the long weekend were outlined in the Council newsletters delivered to 1,300 households and businesses from December 2011. No additional suggestions came forward from anyone and the weather was most inclement, with half term also during the same week. The Parish Council has to make arrangements well in advance e.g. the Christmas lighting was ordered in July; no one suggested that bunting might be put up early (and the Council would have had to hire a cherry picker to carry out this work).

Street parties came under the heading 'Big Jubilee Lunch' and local papers carried articles with information on applying for street closure notices for parties with relevant dates etc. The Council always welcomes ideas for bringing our community together and Mrs Fox and Mr Jordan were thanked for attending the meeting.

Cllr Jane Maunder gave apologies for Miss Williams who is attending the international jamboree.

PC 5-8-12 Police report (Crime and Disorder Reduction)

PC Hopper's email states there were eight crimes in the parish during July:

Theft from shop (juvenile); Theft from shop (adult); Burglary (secure barn and shed broken into); Burglary with intent (laundry room of care home entered); Criminal damage to shop window; Criminal damage to car wing mirror; Male arrested for being drunk and disorderly; Assault.

Officers will be contacted regarding motorists who persistently park on the dropped kerb at the Jubilee Crossing in Station Road causing an obstruction.

PC 6-8-12 Confirmation of the accuracy of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23 July

The minutes were confirmed and signed.

PC 7-8-12 Report matters arising from the minutes – for information only

Cllr Glyn Richards will attend the Community Council of Devon conference on 28 September.

Unregistered land at Lutton has been fenced, should the Council take any action?

The Council agreed to bring this matter forward on the agenda.

The Council has received various emails objecting to the fencing of land at 'Lutton Green'; the Chairman stated that the Council must bear in mind that this could be considered a civil issue as it seems the land is unregistered.

Cllr John King proposed that Mr Warren be contacted to enquire by what right the land at 'Lutton Green' has been fenced, and to request proof of ownership; this was seconded by Cllr John Summers and resolved by the Parish Council.

Mr Hobbs indicated that it may be possible to find out who owns this land, or to find out why Commons registration of the area did not succeed. Mr Dunn considers that the appearance of the area has improved and that community use of the land would be difficult to prove. (Four members of the public left the meeting.)

PC 8-8-12 Response from SHDC to the Freedom of Information request regarding parking charges proposed for the Station Yard car park, SHDC consultation and report on the informal meeting held on 13 August

The complaint to the Information Commissioner will go ahead as the response from SHDC dated 3 August provides information on the review of car park charges for 2012-13, rather than the introduction of parking charges to Beesands, Aveton Gifford and South Brent.

Richard Sheard - SHDC Chief Executive wrote to the Council on 17 August, following an informal meeting with the Parish Council; this letter has been circulated to members of the Council and states that three options were discussed on 13 August:

- SHDC install and manage pay and display meters in the existing car park;
- The Parish Council manage the car park by leasing it from SHDC;
- Possible purchase of the land by the Parish Council.

As a result of the discussions consultation with residents will be postponed until a report on all free car parks can be considered (for 2013-14) and the possibility that the parish precept is increased to cover a lease with SHDC is investigated if appropriate.

Mr Sheard will be advised that the Parish Council welcomes the full review of all free car parks across the district, but would not commit to increasing the precept without a Parish Poll on the matter.

A survey of the use of the car park was carried out earlier in the year the author will be invited to comment on the data collected and the Parish Council will then decide whether the information should be passed to SHDC.

PC 9-8-12 District / County Councillors and DNPA Parish Council representatives report
County Councillor Trevor Pennington was advised of the problem of motorists parking in Station Road on the Jubilee Crossing; he advised contacting the DCC Officer for this area.

District Cllr Cathie Pannell advised that SHDC Development Management Committee voted against the officer recommendation that the planning application for Marley Head should be approved. (Cllr Pennington was thanked for attending and left the meeting.)

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

PC 10-8-12 Planning matters

A) Decisions:

0268/12 Change of use of land to gypsy and traveller site accommodating up to fourteen pitches; revised scheme with 50% transit pitches, The Roadhouse, Marley Head, South Brent; application refused.

0328/12 Solar panels on roof of outbuilding to supply solar energy to dwelling (retrospective application), Furze Pen Farm, South Brent; application granted.

0351/12 Erection of uPVC conservatory at rear of property at Farriers, Glazebrook Court, South Brent; application granted.

0379/12 Replacement of existing Lawson Cypress hedge with 1.8m high close-boarded fence to facilitate installation of new footway and cycleway 2.5m wide (retrospective application), Hill View, Exeter Road, South Brent; application granted.

B) Applications:

0391/12 Renewal of extant permission ref. 0799/07 for the stationing of 38 mobile homes and 1 mobile home for site manager's dwelling and removal of 64 permanently stationed caravans, Great Palstone Caravan Park, Exeter Road, South Brent; the Parish Council has no objection to this application.

0520/11 (Amended) Revisions to permission 0869/07 to include extension to cottage 2, new garages to serve cottage 1 & barns 1 & 2, parking to cottage 1 and minor revisions to the conversion of the barns; the Parish Council has no objection to this application.

0351/12 (Amended) Erection of uPVC conservatory at rear of property at Farriers, Glazebrook Court, South Brent; this application has been granted (see Decisions above).

23/1754/12/F Temporary use of solar farm, with static arrays of photovoltaic panels and ancillary plant, fencing and electrical equipment at SX 7370 5932, Blue Post Lane, Harberton, Totnes; the Parish Council has no comment.

Tree Preservation Order: application to pollard an oak tree north of Clobells, South Brent; this application has been made by the Parish Council; noted.

PC 11-8-12 Correspondence circulated to Councillors:

- 1) SHDC: response to Freedom of Information request regarding possible parking charges in the Station Yard car park, South Brent. (See minute 8-8-12 above.)
- 2) Mrs J Fox: letter signed by 69 people expressing disappointment at the lack of Council organised celebrations for Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. (See minute 4-8-12 above.)
- 3) L Williams: (*Cllr Jane Maunder left the room while this matter was considered.*) Request for support in a Girlguiding trip to Switzerland. Section S 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. The clerk advised that the Audit Commission has drawn attention to the fact that grants should not be made to individuals. Miss Williams will be advised of this, although the Council supports the project and wishes her every success.
- 4) Mr and Mrs DM Ayres: a small area of scrubland at the rear of their property will be enclosed by them, as no owner has come forward. The Council acknowledges that it cannot condone what is proposed, but wishes Mr & Mrs Ayres every success.

PC 12-8-12 A new code of conduct has been adopted; all Councillors should complete the new notice of registrable interests form

The clerk advised that all forms are nearing completion; SHDC will provide the relevant details for the Parish Council website. Standing orders will need to be altered to allow for the provisions of the new Code of Conduct.

PC 13-8-12 Unregistered land at Lutton has been fenced, should the Council take any action?

(See minute 7-8-12 above.)

PC 14-8-12 The Maye family is aware of receipt of planning permission for the allotment field in Vicarage Road (regarding the uplift clause)

Mr Maye has visited the site and contacted the clerk for details of the uplift clause; these have been sent on.

PC 15-8-12 The cycling Tour of Britain will pass through South Brent at approximately 13.15-13.30 on Saturday 15 September; what arrangements could be made?

Cllr Mandy Haley advised the Council that this is her last meeting as a member of the Parish Council; she is resigning as she will be moving away.

Information on the Tour of Britain is available on the website and is being made known to local businesses.

PC 16-8-12 Community Benefit Dividend from renewable energy generation

Cllr Peter Kelly had raised this item in relation to the South Brent Energy Society Ltd. and the proposed wind turbine at Marley Thatch Farm where a share issue may be introduced.

Should individual organisations or a new trust decide where the benefit to the parish should go?

This matter will be carried forward to the September agenda, as the community benefit from the solar farm at Marley Thatch Farm needs to be considered.

PC 17-8-12 Erroneous court judgement against the Parish Council – update

Windeatts are waiting to hear from the Court; our M.P. could be asked for assistance.

PC 18-8-12 Maintenance of public footpaths

Cllr Glyn Richards wished to raise this issue: the L'Aune footpath is overgrown and has dangerous metal spikes protruding from the ground and Clobells steps are overgrown. Cllr Greg Wall has met with officers from DCC to pass on these concerns, and DNPA was advised about the metal spikes some months ago.

PC 19-8-12 Update on the play area at Sanderspool Cross and the provision of toilet tissue

A single sheet toilet tissue dispenser is available free of charge; recycled toilet tissue can be purchased in 36 packs for £17.80 Cllr Glyn Richards proposed that this tissue is provided in the toilet at Sanderspool Cross; this was seconded by Cllr Cathie Pannell and resolved by the Council.

PC 20-8-12 Correspondence available on the table at the meeting (or by arrangement with the clerk):

- a) SHDC: Draft Council Tax support scheme consultation.
- b) Devon Assoc. of Local Councils: consultation on payments by councils; deferred to the Finance Committee.
- c) Devon & Cornwall Police Authority: on 15 Nov. Police and Crime Commissioners will be elected.
- d) SHDC: a consultation on household recycling is underway.
- e) DALC: expressions of interest are requested for a three day course on Localism; this may be of interest to this Council.
- f) DCC: Roadstuds can only be used in specific locations; the payments made by the Council for the Jubilee crossing are likely to be returned after the safety audit.
- g) SHDC: A super cluster meeting will be held on 12 Sept at 7.00 pm regarding the electoral review of the South Hams; Cllr Greg Wall offered to attend.
- h) Southbrentfolk: feedback on the Folk Festival in July.
- i) South Hams CAB: letter of thanks for the grant of £100 from the Council.
- j) 1st South Brent Scouts: postcard thanking the Council for the grant of £175.
- k) Totnes and Dartmouth Ring & Ride: letter of thanks for the grant of £400 from the Council.
- l) Ivybridge & District Assoc. of Local Councils: next meeting (was 12 Sept) 19 September.
- m) Dartmoor Hill Farm Project: newsletter etc.
- n) South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty: nominations are sought for the partnership committee.
- o) DALC: AGM and conference 6 October £20 per person; Cllr Glyn Richards would like to attend.

All noted by the Parish Council.

PC 21-8-12 Report highway matters and street cleaning required

Cllr Greg Wall met with DCC officers recently regarding loose paving slabs, broken kerbs, potholes – particularly in Totnes Road and blocked buddle holes. Weeds at New Orchard have been treated.

Cllr John King advised that following recent heavy rain the lane above Aish Lane is to be repaired.

PC 22-8-12 Finance:

Accounts for payment:

Royal Mail: P.O Box address and delivery VAT (cheque signed on 13 August)	46.00
Ivybridge & District Community Transport Association: grant	100.00
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: invoices for July & Aug.	612.00
South Brent Village Hall: room hire	10.00
South Brent Old School Community Centre Ltd: room hire	6.75
South Brent Flowers: (Chairman's allowance) 2 bouquets	40.00
The Consortium: ink cartridges	43.92
Public Works Loan Board: loan for new cemetery and Allot. Field	1833.88
Payroll	1464.59
TOTAL	4188.42

The accounts were approved for payment and the cheques signed.

PC 23-8-12 Items for press release and/or the newsletter

The deadline for the next newsletter is 9 September, the letter from SHDC received on 17 August will be included, as will an item on the problems caused by motorists parking at the Jubilee Crossing.

PC 24-8-12 Items for the next agenda

The vacancy caused by Cllr Mandy Haley moving away will be included on the next agenda; the Chairman thanked Cllr Haley very much for all her efforts and for volunteering for so many things for the Parish Council.

PC 25-8-12 Dates of Parish Council meetings

Possible change of date of October Council meeting to 22 October (from 29 October): this was agreed by the Council – although Cllr Greg Wall gave his apologies for 22 October.

The meeting closed at 9.44 pm.

Following the meeting the Finance Committee carried out a successful internal audit of cheque number 002303.