

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26 November 2012 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, South Brent. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited all to stand and join in a minute of silence to mark the passing of former Cllr Fred Burrows.

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

Nothing was raised by those present.

PC 1-11-12 Co-option of a Councillor for the Village Ward

Mrs Linda Austin has applied for this post, but unfortunately she is unwell at present. Cllr John King proposed that Mrs Austin is invited to join the Council; this was seconded by Cllr Jane Maunder and resolved by the Parish Council.

PC 2-11-12 Record of members present

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

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

PC 3-11-12 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from County Councillor Trevor Pennington and Mrs L Austin.

PC 4-11-12 Declarations of interest (nature and extent) with regard to items on the agenda

Cllr Peter Kelly declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 16 regarding the South Brent Community Energy Society share issue, as he is Chairman of the South Brent Community Energy Society.

PC 5-11-12 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda

Nothing was raised.

PC 6-11-12 Police report (Crime and Disorder Reduction)

PC Hopper's email states there were fifteen crimes of note in the parish during October: Assault (domestic related); Criminal damage – stock fencing cut in numerous places; Theft from motor vehicle; 2 x Vehicle interference (lock forced); Theft from motor vehicle (door forced + tools stolen); 2 x Burglary (insecure garage and locked garden shed); Burglary (commercial premises); Damage to motor vehicle (stone thrown and school coach); Attempt burglary (garage door); Theft (eggs); Theft (shop); Misuse of telecommunication system; Criminal damage (toilet and shelter).

PC Hopper has requested crime figures (regarding part-night street lighting) these will be available early next month.

PC 7-11-12 Confirmation of the accuracy of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 22 October

Minute 9-10-12 was amended to read "SHDC recently proposed that the number of district councillors should be reduced from 40 to 30 members."

The minutes were then confirmed and signed.

PC 8-11-12 Report matters arising from the minutes – for information only

Cllr John Summers attended a meeting at SHDC aiming to revitalise our High Streets, with Cllr Cathie Pannell and three other representatives from South Brent.

Two whitebeam trees have been planted on 'The Patch' and it is hoped they will be dedicated in April 2013.

The winter carnival on 24 November was cancelled due to bad weather; the Christmas lights were also postponed. The Council agreed that the lights should be switched on on 1 December.

PC 9-11-12 District / County Councillors and DNPA Parish Council representatives report

District Cllr Cathie Pannell advised that following recent High Court proceedings all those living at the unauthorised travellers' site at Marley Head will have to leave by 31 March, except for one family which must leave by the end of July 2013. DNPA has the option of direct action if anyone remains on the site.

Cllr Pannell reported that at a meeting of the Executive earlier this month it was agreed that there would be consultation on all free car parks across the South Hams including Follaton House. Cllr Pannell stated that this reflects well on this community, which fought hard to demonstrate to SHDC that picking three car parks to impose charges was unfair.

District Councillor Peter Smerdon commented that there is a lack of traveller sites in the South Hams.

PC 10-11-12 Parish Council Committees and working groups:

Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 15 October (minutes attached)
recommendations:

1. A new sign saying "No ball games" is erected in the play area; proposed by Cllr Glyn Richards, seconded by Cllr Donna Warne and resolved by the Council.
2. When the parish handyman is asked to carry out works, if he is unable to complete these within 28 days he should state a timescale or provide an alternative; proposed by Cllr Glyn Richards, seconded by Cllr Donna Warne and resolved by the Council.

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

PC 11-11-12 Planning matters:

A) Decisions.

0508/12 Single storey extension to front and side of existing dwelling and replacement of perimeter boundary, 5 Sanderspool Cross, South Brent; application granted.

39 45/2274/12/F Full application to lay rolled stone crane pad, together with associated access track spur from existing farm track and installation of an electrical equipment store, North Park Field, Marley Thatch Farm, South Brent; application granted.

BB/JC/27/15/1(47) Hedgerow removal notification: Marley Grange, Stidston, South Brent; DNPA has not issued a hedgerow retention notice.

B) Applications:

23/2485/12/F Solar PV development and associated works at SX 7509 5925, Hazard Farm, Harberton, Totnes; noted with reservations – there is a lack of policy and a strategic view of applications for renewable energy developments when there is a proliferation of such applications in the South Hams.

PC 12-11-12 Correspondence circulated to Councillors:

- 1) Mrs L Austin: application for the post of Councillor (see minute 1-11-12 above).
- 2) Mr D MacDiarmid: Draft survey of Station Road car park, South Brent; should the final report be forwarded to SHDC? The Council agreed that the survey and concluding comments comprehensively set out the issues if parking charges are introduced by SHDC in the Station Yard car park. Mr MacDiarmid will be thanked for his excellent work, and Cllr Glyn Richards proposed that the survey should be forwarded to SHDC; this was seconded by Cllr John Summers and resolved by the Council.

PC 13-11-12 Consider any evidence to substantiate the removal of Lutton Green from the commons register in 1973 and consider the Parish Council remit regarding fencing of this land

Mr Warren's solicitor has written to the Council explaining that Mr Warren claims ownership of Lutton Green.

The Chairman outlined that this ongoing issue is causing distress and conflict in Lutton, but that it could be considered a civil matter.

Cllr John King proposed that the Parish Council does not agree with fencing of the land at Lutton Green and all parties should be encouraged to meet and discuss the matter; this was seconded by Cllr John Summers.

Then Cllr Peter Kelly proposed that the Parish Council does nothing until any further information is received from Devon County Council regarding the removal of the Commons registration on this land; Cllr Glyn Richards seconded this proposal.

The Parish Council voted first on Cllr King's proposal and then on Cllr Kelly's and the second proposal succeeded. The Chairman added that this matter will be taken off the agenda until further information is received from DCC.

PC 14-11-12 Reports:

- A. TAP Fund (SHDC Northern cluster), meeting held on 24 October in excess of £5,000 is still available. The Chairman attended this meeting with Sue Burgess, and the application for funding for South Brent & District Caring was successful, with £4,500 being awarded from the Town and Parish Fund. There are still funds available if any other organisation would like to contact the Parish Council with a suitable project which crosses more than one parish.
Also, the same meeting revealed that SHDC may host a website to which Parish Councils across the South Hams might subscribe.
- B. Report on the SHDC Executive meeting held on 8 November re. Station Road car park; Cllr Greg Wall attended this meeting, and has nothing to add to Cllr Pannell's comments (minute 9-11-12 above).

PC 15-11-12 Consider an amendment to the deed of Community Benefit Dividend for the solar farm at Marley Thatch

Following the October Council meeting, the Council's solicitor recommended inserting an additional phrase in the Community Benefit deed sent by Lightsource; this was agreed and an amended document has been sent to the Council and circulated to Councillors before the meeting. Cllr Glyn Richards proposed that the amended deed of Community Benefit

Dividend should be signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman; this was seconded by Cllr Donald Wiseman and resolved by the Council.

PC 16-11-12 Can the Parish Council take part in the South Brent Community Energy Society share issue?

(Cllr Peter Kelly left the room while this item was discussed.) Cllr Glyn Richards advised that a minimum of £200 and maximum of £20,000 shares could be purchased before 18 January. The clerk advised that the General Power of Competence would give the Council the same rights as an individual and as an example, shares in the Community Energy Society could be purchased; the clerk is about to submit the relevant module for the Council to be qualified to use the GPC. It was agreed this matter should be carried forward to the next meeting.

PC 17-11-12 Vandalism in the play area during half term and options for repair or reimbursement.

During October the shelter in the play area was subject to offensive graffiti and a lit firework was put down the toilet, breaking the pan – the toilet has remained locked since. The Police are dealing with the matter, but the cost of replacing the toilet with a stainless steel unit will be obtained from SHDC (and the wallgate is sending water onto the floor).

PC 18-11-12 Grounds maintenance tender required from 1.4.13

The current three year contract will end on this date; Cllr Glyn Richards proposed that a further three year grounds maintenance contract should be sought by advertising in the Ivybridge Gazette; this was seconded by Cllr Greg Wall and resolved by the Council. Cllr Cathie Pannell reminded the Council that SHDC will no longer be carrying out grass cutting for DCC, so there may be a reduction in the reimbursement received for 2013-14, the clerk will check.

PC 19-11-12 Part night street lighting in the centre of the village – options for any changes

A request to DCC to change the present part-night lighting needs to come from both the Parish Council and the Police for valid crime or safety related reasons; the crime figures are due to be received in a few weeks.

PC 20-11-12 Parish Council representation with Sustainable South Brent and implications for declaration of interest

Cllr John Rawlinson is the Council representative with SSB and there was a question over whether the Council representative would be an observer at meetings or a trustee of the organisation. At the extraordinary Council meeting held on 19 November, it was decided that Councillors should leave the room for disclosable pecuniary interests (Appendix A) but not for interests in other organisations (Appendix B) – when a Councillor may speak on the matter but not vote.

Cllr John Rawlinson reported that the Council representative with SSB will be an observer and will now be able to report to the Council on the work of the organisation (due to the agreed change to the Standing Orders).

PC 21-11-12 Report on the Service of Remembrance and Re-dedication

The service was well attended with all the orders of service being handed out (150-200 will be required for next year). The Chairman gave a vote of thanks to all those who took part in the Remembrance Service including the uniformed youth groups, and a letter of thanks will be sent to the bugle player.

PC 22-11-12 Options for secure storage of Parish Council deeds and documents

This item will be carried forward as there has been no response to enquiries.

PC 23-11-12 Draft dates for Parish Council meetings in 2013

The Council agreed that that the Annual Parish Meeting should take place on 29 April in the side hall at the Village Hall; the meeting in October will be held on 21 (not 28).

PC 24-11-12 Correspondence available on the table at the meeting (or by arrangement with the clerk):

- a) Ms A Palmer: as a resident of London Inn Mews, Ms Palmer is very concerned about the danger for motorists leaving this location. This email will be forwarded to DCC Highways and DNPA.
- b) Totnes and Dartmouth Ring & Ride: grant application for 2013-14. This will be deferred to the new financial year.
- c) SHDC: South Hams Business Forum budget meeting 28 Nov.
- d) DNPA: a new granite trough would cost at least £250; a comprehensive approach to issues in Wellington Square including updating the street furniture could be considered. This will be deferred to the Open Spaces Committee.
- e) DCC Highways: there will be a further safety audit of the crossing point in Station Road next March (the contribution made by the Council will be retained until this has been completed); the Traffic Regulation Order request for this location has been noted.
- f) DCC: temporary road traffic restrictions for winter carnival (24 Nov.)
- g) DCC: temporary road traffic restriction 4-6 Dec. Plymouth Road (Bowling House to 5 Ply. Rd.)
- h) Dartmoor Hill Farm Project: autumn newsletter.
- i) Mrs N Wood: card thanking the Council for the flowers received.
- j) SHDC: report to the Executive on free car parks held by SHDC.
- k) SHDC: a further Northern area cluster meeting will be held on 23 Jan. to consider further TAP fund applications.
- l) DCC: from January 2013 the mobile library will no longer stop at Didworthy as it has not been used for some months.
- m) Staverton PC: views on the DCC lengthsman service are requested. The Council noted that it would make more economic sense to extend this service, which could be discussed at an SHDC cluster meeting.
- n) C Rees (Wild Running): a map of the intended routes for an event in February is attached and is substantially on footpaths.
- o) South Hams Citizens Advice Bureau: grant application for 2013-14. This will be deferred to the new financial year.
- p) Clerks & Councils Direct magazine.
- q) Came & Company (Parish Council Insurance) newsletter.

All noted by the Parish Council.

PC 25-11-12 Report highway matters and street cleaning required

Cllr Greg Wall advised that the lay-by in Station Approach which keeps flooding is an open enquiry. Pot holes and loose paving slabs are being reported. During torrential rainfall at the weekend, the new Jubilee Crossing in Station Road diverted surface water down Stockbridge Lane.

Cllr John King advised that DCC Highways are doing what they can within their budget, and deserve credit for their work especially following such heavy rain.

PC 26-11-12 Finance:

Accounts for payment:

SWW (Direct debit): charges for toilet at Sanderspool Cross	11.50
Entanet Int. Ltd (Direct debit): monthly broadband fee	19.78
South Brent Carnival Committee: grant towards insurance costs for 2012-13 (to be refunded depending on surplus income)	700.00
South West Grounds Maintenance: Oct. & Nov invoices	612.00
South Brent Village Hall: room hire	10.00
South Brent Old School Community Centre Ltd: room hire 21.75, laminating 0.60	22.35
Ricoh UK Ltd: photocopier usage	7.72
The Information Commissioner: annual data control fee	35.00
SHDC: repairs to play equipment	76.19
R Illman: paint interior of bus shelter at Pool Park	100.00
Rattery Sawmills: new picnic table for play area	198.00
G Pannell: one Devon whitebeam tree for the Diamond Jubilee	36.84
SLCC-CiLCA Management: submission of section 7 (GPC)	20.00
South Brent & District Caring: TAP Fund payment (below)	4500.00
Payroll	1448.74
TOTAL	7798.12

The accounts were approved for payment and the cheques signed.

From 2013 a new budget line for payments which are not from the precept will be included (e.g. funds redirected to South Brent & District Caring this evening and the new Community Benefit Dividend).

PC 27-11-12 Items for press release and/or the newsletter

Press releases will be prepared on the switching on of the Christmas lights and the co-option of our new Parish Councillor.

PC 28-11-12 Items for the next agenda

Youth Club options available for 13-17 year olds; Primary School Link Governor report and Signal Box working group report will be included on the next agenda.

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm.