

## BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON 13 JULY 2011 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL, BIGBURY AT 7.30 PM

<b>Present</b>	Cllr Terry Edgecombe	TE	Chairman
	Cllr Janie Grace	JG	
	Cllr Alan Klidjian	AK	
	Cllr Stuart Watts	SW	
	Cllr Trudy Watts	TW	
<b>In attendance</b>	County Cllr William Mumford	WM	
	Peter Javes	PJ	Clerk
<b>Apologies</b>	District Cllr Bryan Carson		
	Cllr Jim Owen		

Members of the public present: 17

#### 14/11 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2011 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 15/11 **MATTERS ARISING**

##### 15.1 **Goalposts and spring on gate**

Following 4.1/11 it was reported that the fittings were to be galvanised shortly.

##### 15.2 **Bus Lay-by**

Following 4.2/11 there was nothing to report. The Clerk had chased this matter but heard nothing further.

##### 15.3 **Affordable Homes**

Following 6/11 it was reported that the Old Chapel Inn was back on the market.

##### 15.4 **Footpath on Burgh Island**

Following 4.3/11 there was nothing to report. The Clerk had contacted DCC about this matter.

##### 15.5 **Parking on Beach**

Following 12.4/11 Cllr Grace reported that the vehicle being parked on the beach by the surf school was clearly there as part of the surf school's activity. As such it was unlikely to lead motorists to believe that any car could be parked on the beach.

##### 15.6 **Defibrillator**

It was reported that nearly enough money had been raised to complete the purchase of one defibrillator. The second would be bought by the PC. Invoices would be raised by the South West Ambulance Service. It was agreed that the order should be placed.

One defibrillator would be kept at St Anne's Chapel and the second in the bus shelter in Bigbury.

#### 16/11 **PLANNING**

##### 16.1 **New Applications**

No new applications had been received.

##### 16.2 **Current Applications under consideration**

[1603/11/F](#) **Sea View, Parker Road, BoS, TQ7 4AT**

Resubmission of application 05/0683/11/F to replace double garage. All councillors were invited to visit the site after which the application could be discussed.

All

#### 17/11 **CORRESPONDENCE**

##### 17.1 **Playing Field Inspection Report**

The letter from SHDC dated 27 June 2011 relating to the insurance examination of the play equipment was noted. At the suggestion of Cllr Grace it was agreed to

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obtain an estimate for the cost of all repairs listed in the report. Once the costs were to hand the matter would be discussed again with a view to carrying out the most urgent repairs. Clerk

### 17.2 Hope Cove Lifeboat

Letter from Hope Cove Lifeboat dated 25 June 2011 thanking the PC for a donation of £150 towards the lifeboat.

### 18/11 COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

#### 18.1 Planning

Two members of the public raised the question of the impartiality of councillors in dealing with planning matters, i.e. could a councillor who had already raised an objection to a planning application contribute impartially to the Council's debate on that application? The Chairman commented that all councillors had been elected to the Council and that he would ensure a fair hearing for any application and that any councillor who had a particular interest in a matter should declare it and not take part in any discussion or vote on that matter.

#### 18.2 Potholes

A member of the public raised the matter of potholes on the back road towards Duke's Mill and elsewhere in the village. The Clerk was instructed to write to DCC requesting repairs. (It was noted that the DCC website (<http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/transportroads.htm>) had a facility for any member of the public to report potholes or other defects on roads or road signs).

### 19/11 FINANCE

The following payments were approved:

C J Rogers- playing field rent -£1  
Kingsbridge Website - £299  
Kingsbridge Website - £100  
Bigbury Memorial Hall – rent - £50

### 20/11 WEBSITE

Cllr Watts spoke about the potential of the new website and encouraged all to use it. Cllr Grace thanked Cllr Watts for his work on the website.

### 21/11 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Cllr Grace read to the meeting notes from a meeting held on 22 June 2011 (attached at Annex A). The PC would continue to review the outcomes of the meeting.

A discussion followed on progress with approaches to local landowners. It was noted that the planning authority would prefer any site selected for development for affordable housing to be in the area of St Ann's Chapel. Cllr Watts suggested setting up a steering group or sub-committee to progress this matter. The Chairman volunteered to visit local landowners before the next meeting with a view to establishing their interest in selling land for an affordable housing project. It was agreed to defer the formation of a sub-committee until Cllr Edgcombe had reported back on this matter. The next meeting of the PC would then be able to establish if a further public consultation meeting would be appropriate.

TE

WM commented that the sub-committee envisaged above should be comprised of councillors. Villagers in need of local housing should be encouraged to put themselves on the housing list.

### 22/11 COUNTY COUNCILLOR

WM reported that DCC had come in at just under budget in the year ended March 2011. Year to date expenditure was on target. This was felt to be an achievement since the budget for 2011/12 was £55m less than the previous year. WM went on to summarise the change in directorships, now reduced to just three and

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commented on the re-organisation in Highways. He re-iterated that road repairs and faults could be reported through the DCC website (<http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/transportroads.htm>).

WM reminded the PC of the benefits of having a designated and trained snow warden. These included extension of public liability insurance and a supply of 4 tonnes of grit to be stored in the village. WM advised that neighbouring villages were considering purchasing a towed gritter and that it might be possible to share the use of such equipment with, say, Aveton Gifford.

If the village felt the need for more grit bins application needed to be made to DCC. If these qualified as an approved location then they could be bought through his locality budget and would be filled by DCC. If not approved then such bins would have to be bought by the PC and filled at the PC's expense.

WM advised that he had access to £3,000 of funding to promote encourage activity in the village. This could be used for the purchase of one of the defibrillators mentioned in minute.

### 23/11 MATTERS OUTSTANDING

#### 23.1 Burgh Island Path

The Clerk was instructed to chase this matter, see 15.4 above..

Clerk

#### 23.2 Bus Lay-by

Still pending, see 15.2 above.

#### 23.3 High Speed Broadband

Cllr Watts reported that the campaign for better broadband had resulted in £30m being allocated for development of broadband in rural areas in the south west. The procurement process had started. It was anticipated that the full tender would be released in summer 2012 for completion by 2015.

### 24/11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

#### 24.1 Easton to Ashford Road

It was noted that the heavy vehicle restriction signs had been removed from each end of the Easton to Ashford road. This road was clearly not suitable for large commercial vehicles and the signs should be re-instated. The Clerk was instructed to contact DCC.

Clerk

#### 24.2 Solar-Powered Compressing Litter Bins

Cllr Grace had noticed solar-powered compressing litter bins in Plymouth and wondered if they could be useful in the parish. More research would be undertaken (see Annex B).

JG

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Next meeting: Wednesday 14 September 2011

Annex A

### Affordable Housing Initiative

Notes from a meeting held in the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel, on Wednesday 22 June. (The full minutes will be attached to the July Parish Council Meeting Minutes)

#### Outcomes:

- A well attended community meeting populated by interested parties from the parish and without, most notably Ringmore Parish, allowed a useful information exchange and the expression of spirited views and comment.
- The sense of the meeting was that a clear majority was in favour of the principle of affordable housing for local people, in the interests of establishing a sustainable community. This sense was

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gleaned from an early show of hands and some much applauded personal statements, although no vote was taken.

- Many people were dissatisfied with the survey process underpinning the initiative and questioned the true extent of the 'need', referring back to the responses to the 2008 Parish Plan survey.
- The Parish Council was widely criticised for the fast pace of this initiative and the lack of community involvement and consultation. The proposed site was generally thought unsuitable for a variety of reasons. The Parish Council was urged to ensure that all local landowners are fully aware of the Village Housing Initiative opportunities and to call for alternative site proposals to be submitted for consideration. Despite a call for a fresh survey, it was suggested that a combination of the Community Council of Devon Survey, the 2008 Parish Plan, together with the mood of the meeting, did demonstrate an ongoing demand for affordable homes, making a second survey unnecessary. The Planning Workshop on the 6th July was cancelled.

### Next Steps:

The Parish Council will

- Inform the landowner of the proposed site about the outcomes of the meeting and elicit his views/position given this new information.
- Review the outcomes of the meeting at the next PC meeting on July 13th.
- Approach local landowners regarding any land they may wish to offer for affordable housing. Explore any new site options which might be deliverable and draw up a short list, which might also include the existing site, unless sold beforehand.
- Present the short listed sites to the parishioners in early September at an open meeting. Following this consultation with the parishioners, determine the favoured site at our September Parish Council meeting.
- Request the SHDC to re-convene the cancelled (July 6th) meeting for early October.

## Annex B

### Business ideas

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#### Solar-powered bins not a rubbish idea

By Michelle Hammond

Wednesday, 23 March 2011

Solar-powered rubbish bins that compact their own litter recently went on trial in the UK, indicating the industry could be set for a breakthrough in Australia.

BigBelly bins, a US brand, use the power of the sun to compress rubbish, allowing them to hold eight times more content than a regular bin.

The revolutionary technology means council workers need to empty them less often, dramatically reducing the carbon footprint of waste collections.

Once the bin is 85% full, it sends out a wireless signal alerting council staff that it needs to be emptied.

The bins, which can hold 800 litres of waste, use a compaction mechanism to exert force on the rubbish. The mechanism uses no hydraulic fluids and runs on a standard 12-volt battery, which is charged by the solar panel.

Bob Carter of Cambridge City Council says the bins only need a small amount of daylight to operate, stating: "The bin literally gets filled to a certain level and then a sensor cuts in and crushes the rubbish."

What other areas could solar-powered technology power in order to change our everyday lives?