

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 13th APRIL 2011 in the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel at 6.45 p.m.

PRESENT; Cllr T Edgcombe in the chair, Cllrs. G Davis, Mrs J Grace, S Watts and D Cllr Carson. Neighbourhood Beat Manager Rachel Ward (Kingsbridge Police) along with Mr Malcolm Elliott (SHDC) and Mrs Debbie Holloway (SHDC). Mr M Hammond (Chairman Ringmore Parish Council) and 6 residents also present

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr J Owen.

2 AFFORDABLE HOUSING;

Mrs Debbie Holloway spoke on the subject of Affordable Homes stating that Cllr Carson had informed her many times that there was a need for affordable housing in the Bigbury Parish. As a result of a survey carried out by the Community Council of Devon at the request of the Parish Council, it had been proved that this was the case with 24 people requesting affordable housing. Under the Village Housing Initiative it is now possible for small sites to become available which are ideal for these schemes. In these cases, for example, 15 affordable homes with 2 for the open market could be built on a relatively small site. Landowners are now becoming more willing to release small parcels of land for such a purpose. Under the scheme the landowner releasing the land is offered either a ready-built house, or the money towards the cost of building a property and one other house would be sold by the Housing Association to contribute to the costs of the development of the affordable homes. A planning workshop would be held in the parish very shortly and it would be hoped the parish council would be represented with the event open to all including those hoping to be considered for accommodation.

Mr Malcolm Elliott said that this meeting should be regarded as the start of the process and that he will arrange for a map of the proposed affordable homes site to be published in the next Bigbury News so that residents will know exactly which site is being considered. It appears that South Western Housing Society is interested in the scheme. It is hoped that, if lucky, there may be a Government grant of £20,000 towards the costs. There would be a variety of homes available with some part-shared, some bought with a mortgage and some just for rental. The property must be the occupiers' main home and cannot be used for second home purposes. There was a hope that the proposed scheme might incorporate some land for allotments. Mr Elliott said he would arrange for a workshop to be held in St Ann's Chapel in May. The chairman thanked Mr Elliott and Mrs Holloway for attending and they then left the meeting.

3 NEIGHBOURHOOD BEAT MANAGER RACHEL WARD reported that 15 crimes had been recorded over the past year out of 856 throughout the Kingsridge/Salcombe patch. In some cases if the report is of a domestic nature it is not initially listed as a crime but details are taken which are then on file if there should be any future incident. There was one non-dwelling burglary (eg shed, garage), 7 thefts, one driving of drugs or over the alcohol limit and six others. To date there have been no incidents recorded this year. She referred to a series of letters of an obnoxious content received by Burgh Island Hotel and having linked up with other forces there was a person who had been successfully apprehended up the line. She referred to the Project Kraken plan which is aimed to prevent crime within the Maritime Environment and to Project Pegasus which is aimed at strengthening our borders by working with the aviation community. In both schemes, residents are asked to keep an eye and ear open for anything suspicious in our community. She was thanked by the chairman for her report and left the meeting.

4 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. Cllr Edgcombe thanked the councillors for attending the meetings and for the work they and the clerk do between the meetings. He thanked D Cllr Carson, C Cllr Mumford and the police for their regular attendances and reports. Special thanks went to Jim and Rose Owen for all their work for the Bigbury News. Cllr Edgcombe said how much appreciated Tony and Margaret Singleton were for their work picking up litter around Bigbury during their dog-walking and special thanks to Tony for his work as Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.. He expressed his appreciation to Mr Alan George for the hard work he does as the parish Footpath Warden and to David Hammett who carries out a large amount of strimming around Bigbury on Sea and to Grasshopper Services for maintaining Bigbury Village Green. In general he wished to thank anyone who works hard to make this parish a better place. He reported on the new public footpath from Ringmore to St Ann's Chapel and felt this will be much safer for walkers. It is hoped that perhaps in future it could include an upgrade for cyclists. In the meantime there will be an official opening shortly.

5 FINANCIAL REPORT The clerk gave the financial report as follows;

Income		Expenditure	
Brought forward	9,391.94	Subs & donations	1,133.00
Precept	7,325.74	Office expenses	849.97
Bank Interest	5.64	Clerk	1,422.00
SHDC recycling cr.	118.27	Hall & play.field expenses	280.47
P3	-	P3	70.00
Sundry credit	1.53	Insurance	234.68
		Audit fees	210.00
		Environment	1,808.00
		S317s	290.00
VAT refund	254.59	VAT	228.10
Bigbury News	149.93	Bigbury News	482.38
		Royal wedding mugs	414.72
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	17,247.64		7,423.32
Deposit.Account.	9,194.24		
Current Account	<u>660.08</u>		
	9,854.32		
- unrepresented chqs	<u>30.00</u>		
	9,824.32		
+ Expenditure	<u>7,423.32</u>		
	17,247.64		

A resident enquired why the parish council had increased the precept by £75 when he did not consider they needed the extra money. It was explained that two sheets of figures of a precept calculation were always handed to each councillor a week before the meeting. The councillors had carefully weighed up what was expected during the forthcoming financial year and had acted accordingly. It was proposed that some footnotes could be added explaining some expenditure next year. This was agreed and the accounts were approved.

6 OPEN SESSION

Mr M Hammond asked if the parish council were supporting a fast broadband project. It was agreed to ask C Cllr William Mumford to seek the advancement of the fast broadband to all villages. He also commented on the fact that Ringmore had not had the plans for Beachdown Bungalows until they had seen the parish council notice on the boards and had sought a set from Planning Department. Whilst Bigbury Parish councillors supported the proposed application, Ringmore Parish councillors were against. Cllr Grace suggested that in future both the parish council chairmen should contact each other on Challaborough planning applications.

A resident asked what had been done to advance the Parish Plan. It was explained to her that the subject had been on each parish council agenda for many months until councillors were certain that each item on the Plan had been sorted. Cllr Grace suggested that each member of the Parish Plan Committee should go through the Plan and produce a statement of the results and publish it in Bigbury News.

Meeting closed 9.0 p.m. (to be followed by Parish Council meeting.)