

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the parish council held in the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel on Wednesday 11th NOVEMBER 2009 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr G Davis in the chair and Cllrs.B Carson, J Owen, Mrs C Heath . C Cllr W Mumford also attended as well as 5 residents.

The acting chairman asked councillors present if they wished to adjourn to discuss the single application for consideration for co-option to fill councillor vacancy. With no councillors calling for such an adjournment, the application of Mrs Janie Grace was considered. The chairman, Cllr Edgcombe had written supporting Mrs Grace's co-option. Cllr Owen proposed, Cllr Carson seconded and it was agreed that Mrs Grace be co-opted. Mrs Grace signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took her seat.

- 1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Edgcombe, Cllr Lawrence.

- 2.0 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING were approved by those present and signed by the chairman. .

- 3.0 CTY CLLR W. MUMFORD was invited to address the meeting. Cllr Mumford gave an update on the Local Government Reform review stating it looks unlikely that any decision will be made prior to a General Election next year. DCC is anticipating a shortfall of several millions of pounds and therefore it must run more efficiently from now on. Funds will not now be available to support projects like Morwellham Quay. Key decisions must be made and they are going to have to make some redundancies with a view to reducing £20million on the funding. It is hoped to reduce the Chief Executive's Office by 2 – instead of 7 directorates there will now be 5 – mainly by natural wastage. DCC has 560 care homes with average price per bed for one week at £900 – savings can be made on this by buying care in the private sector. School leavers are suffering with many unable to find jobs being out of work for more than 18 months. In a national highways survey Devon had come out 4th out of 26 participating councils. He then gave an update on projects he has chased up in the Bigbury parish. Cllr Owen reported to Cllr Mumford that the path leading to the Challaborough cliff path is now a quagmire with builders at Glenthorne parking vehicles and heavy goods delivering to the site. He had already phoned Peter Guy on the matter as it is a County Footpath. It was reported that drivers are not always stopping at dotted lines at road junctions in Bigbury-on-Sea. Cllr Mumford stated that if the clerk would email him on the matter he will raise the matter with the relevant department.
Cllr Davis referred the matter of signposting at Bigbury Village Green and Cllr Mumford said he will chase the matter up with the Highways Superintendent.
C Cllr Mumford then left the meeting.

- 4.0 MATTERS ARISING
- 4.0 The clerk had written to Miss Helen Buckingham to thank her for her attendance and talk at the September parish council meeting.

- 4.1 Land Registry had responded re the bus shelter and this had been copied to councillors.. It was proposed by Cllr Owen, seconded by Cllr Carson and agreed that £40 be sent for the fee and acknowledged that there may be a further invoice for £40 to cover Land Registry surveyor's costs. .
- 4.2 Children's play area: response from Inspector Chivers stating that there will be increased patrols in the area Cllr Heath reported that there is an amount of dog waste in the play area with small dogs being able to get under the gate. It was agreed to report the matter to SHDC and ask for something to be fixed to cover the space below the gate. Cllr Owen asked if 2 new signs indicating dog ban could be erected at the Hall with one each end of the building. It was proposed by Cllr Owen, seconded by Cllr Heath and agreed that if the notices were below £20 each, an order could be placed.
- 4.3 Bigbury Village Green: an acknowledgement to the clerk's letter had been received but to date, no further information received.
- 4.4 Children's play area: letter had been received from SHDC Landscape Officer (Alexander Whish) to state an order has been placed to change the seat arrangements in the play area. Cllr Heath reported that this work has now been done. He also supplied details with regard to ball-catch netting and it was agreed to obtain quotes from two sources. It was agreed to ask Cllr Edcombe to measure the requirements and to also look at the gate. .
- 4.5 Young Carers: A response had now been received from the organisation when they telephoned the clerk to state there are no young carers in this parish in their records.

5.0 OPEN SESSION

- 5.0 Dr Watts asked if the parish council would support the Aune Conservation Society initiatives in 1: Interpretation boards possibly along Stakes Road and one at Cockleridge and 2: to request there be a public warning system when there is a sewage overflow into the River Avon. At present SWW is allowed to release an overflow of sewage 10 times a year and they are not obliged to give any notification. Cllr Heath proposed, Cllr Grace seconded and it was agreed that the parish council offers support to Aune Conservation Society on these matters and a letter would be sent to the Society to this effect. It was understood that the Society will be financing the information boards.
- 5.1 Mrs J. Gubbins reported that there are many instances of delivery vehicles being unable to locate addresses in Bigbury-on-Sea and this is even more difficult in multiple occupancy developments. AGREED Request in next edition of Bigbury News asking residents to ensure their property names are clearly visible from the road.
- 5.2 Mrs Gubbins also asked if it would be possible to have an additional notice board in the BoS bus shelter as too often the parish council notice board is full with parish council notices and there is no room for any other notice. Cllr Davis reported he still has the 2 Viking notice-boards and he would fix them to the back wall at the shelter. Cllr Owen offered to assist.
- 5.3 Mr N Stone referred to his planning applications for alterations at Crosswick, St Ann's Chapel. He produced plans which the councillors had seen and asked what the councillors would be willing to accept.

- 6.0 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT D Cllr Carson gave an update regarding the information board at the viewing platform at BoS car park. A replacement board would cost in the region of £500. SHDC Chris Lucas had secured £200 and it was

agreed that a letter be sent to SHDC stating the Parish Council would be willing to contribute £300 towards the cost of the replacement. It was reported that the Millennium Steps were in need of an overhaul and it was proposed by D Cllr Carson, seconded by Cllr Davis and agreed to ask a local person to carry out the work to weatherproof the woodwork and to infill on the steps. It was agreed that the insurers will be contacted once the board is in situ. The clerk asked if it was possible for a handrail to be installed at the side of the Tom Crocker slipway as the path surface was very slippery especially with sand on the surface. It was agreed to write to DCC to advise them of the problem and the danger of pedestrians slipping down. D Cllr Carson reported on SHDC-owned beaches and that the District Council were looking at problems such as sand-yachting.

7.0 PLANNING - SHDC notices received

7.0 Mr D Murphy: Glenthorne, Marine Drive, BoS: GRANTED

7.1 Mrs Fordham: Mariners, Bigbury: fell one conifer GRANTED.

7.2 Mr B Owen: notification of appeal against SHDC refusal for unrestricted use of an access track at The Mill Pond, 4 Combe Farm Barns, Aveton Gifford.

7.3 SHDC: Planning Breach Notification in respect of work carried out on forecourt of the Pilchard Inn and covering gateway to cottage next door. The clerk had telephoned Planning Dept and had been informed that a response was not obligatory but the parish council is welcome to submit comments. SHDC will be informed that the parish councillors thought that the work already carried out is provocative and unneighbourly.

8 CORRESPONDENCE

An amount of correspondence had been circulated to councillors in time for the October meeting and by the November meeting was out of date.

8.0 SHDC Executive Forward Plan

8.1 DCC In Touch Newsletter

8.2 S Devon Rural Housing: "Save Our Villages" campaign

8.3 DAPC: Report feedback and notification proposal to put subscription up by 2%

8.4 SHDC Vanguard Review of Development Management Service communication

8.5 NALC employment briefing

8.6 DCC Empowering Communities in Devon Conference Report

8.7 Love Food Hate Waste poster

8.8 SHDC Mr Munday: 2 documents he omitted from his previous letter

8.9 Totnes Town Council: relating to last elections

8.10 SHDC letter asking if Parish council would like to take over ownership of Sedgwell Beach: With responsibilities for accidents etc, councillors unwilling to adopt it.

8.11 S Hams CVS: Voluntary Vine magazine

8.12 Senior Council for Devon magazine

8.13 DCC: new policy on street lighting

8.13 SW Lifelong Learning Network at University of Plymouth: letter of thanks from Gregory Borne for completing questionnaire which was done months ago

8.14 SHDC Members' Allowances and Parish Remuneration Panel meeting on 24 November

All above in circulation

8.15 DCC: Proposed new public footpath from Ringmore to St Ann's Chapel. A response would be sent indicating the parish councillors' full support for the scheme

- 8.16 Clematon Hill FP: the parish footpath warden (Mr Alan George) had written stating he considers the official footpath which skirts the cliff to be dangerous and that the well-worn one crossing at an earlier spot to be safer. It was agreed to write to DCC Helen Buckingham to request for a Deviation Order to follow the safer route.
- 8.17 Mr George will be attending the P3 Christmas Event at Fisherman's Rest on 27th November. The clerk was in consultation with him about any requirements needed for indication on the end of year return to P3 department.

9 FINANCIAL

- 9.0 The clerk asked if councillors would be willing to join the Ivybridge & District Association of Local Councils – which holds 2 workshops for clerks each year – she had attended both workshops this year and had found them useful. The subscription is £8 per annum. Although the parish council already belong to the Saltstone Group, it was agreed that the parish council join the Ivybridge group.
- 9.1 The Parish Council Internal Auditor, Mr Tony Knapton, had written stating that he will be terminating his ICAEW registered auditor membership but will continue to be a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. He was unsure whether his decision would disqualify him from continuing as Internal Auditor. The clerk had phoned the District Audit Office and had been assured that Mr Knapton may still continue. It was agreed to notify Mr Knapton that the parish council wishes him to continue as Internal Auditor.
- 9.2 Bulbs for the parish. It was agreed that the parish clerk should contact Tuckers Seeds of Ashburton.
- 9.3 It was proposed by Cllr Heath, seconded by Cllr Owen and agreed that cheques be drawn as follows:
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| i. | Viking Direct stationery for clerk | £55.46 |
| ii | DCC: stationery for Bigbury News | £76.02 |
| iii | Bigbury Memorial Hall: hire of hall | £20.00 |
| iv | Land Registry: bus shelter | £40.00 |

10 MATTERS OUTSTANDING

- 10.0 Mirror at Pickwick crossroads. Cllr Owen had received further details about spraying the mirror which would need to be done about once a month. Solar panelled mirrors cost around £900
- 10.1 Evidence User Forms New Quay and Cleveland Drive
- 10.2 Land Registry – bus shelter at BoS:.
- 10.3 Information board, viewing area, BoS car park

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 11.0 Following the parish council's agreement to purchase more toddler furniture, Cllr Heath reported that each table is £100 and the chairs are £10.50 each ex VAT. It was agreed that Cllr Heath proceed to purchase with the invoice to be directed to the Parish Council.
- 11.1 Cllr Owen asked if DCC could be asked to carry out an inspection of the hedges and verges in Bigbury on Sea in an endeavour to ensure the double yellow lines are properly exposed. A request had been made in Bigbury News and whilst a minority of householders had complied, there are still many instances of lines being obscured by overhanging hedges and overgrowth. AGREED a letter be sent to DCC.
- 11,2 The clerk reported that DCC Mr N Oxtan had telephoned to say that John Halliday had noticed the Bigbury village nameplate is broken and would the parish council like it repaired or replaced. Any work would not be done until after April.

14.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING Wednesday 9th NOVEMBER at 7.30 p.m.
Meeting ended 10.20 p.m.