

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the parish council held in the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel on Wednesday 14th MARCH 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr S Watts (Chairman), Cllrs. B Carson, J Grace, A Klidjian, T. Boys and the Clerk, Pam Trundle. There were 7 residents present.

CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR Mr John Simes had informed the Chairman and Clerk that he was willing to be considered to fill one of the vacancies of councillor. Upon invitation from the Chairman, Mr Simes addressed the meeting explaining that he and his wife have been in Bigbury on Sea/Challaborough for 16 years and that he had been head of a comprehensive school and was involved with various organisations. The Chairman invited Councillors to vote and as a result Mr Simes was unanimously elected and formally welcomed to join the Parish Council. He signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and took his seat.

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE nil – N.B. Cllr Carson arrived after the co-option of John Simes.

2.0 MINUTES OF 8th FEBRUARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING . Cllr Grace asked for two amendments which were approved:-
Minute 6.2 'asked if' - to replace 'pointed out'
Minute 13cannot cope with 'the existing buildings' – to replace 'any new buildings'.

The amended Minutes were duly signed.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING

3.1 NALC Planning Explained booklet: a request has been made for more copies in order for each Parish Councillor to have one for reference.

3.2 Two copies of the Standing Orders for Local Councils had been received for inspection by the Clerk and the Chairman with a view to purchasing one for each councillor.

3.3 DCC: N Colton had written regarding to T bar signs for BoS. He explained the signs are on order and he has also ordered new No Entry signs to replace the existing ones at Bigbury Village Green. He was unable to give a date as they will be completed when gaps in the works programme arise. At the same time, the finger post at the Village Green indicating Challaborough will be moved in order to improve forward visibility when approaching from St Ann's Chapel.

3.4 DCC: N Colton had written regarding double yellow lines for Folly Hill. This request would come under the Traffic Orders scheme and initial costings were approximately £5,000: Councillors considered this too expensive for the Parish Council to consider paying in order to expedite the change. Meanwhile, the police have been requested to carry out patrols down Folly Hill to ensure no dangerous parking of vehicles takes place.

3.5 'SLOW' signs will be painted on the road around the Easton Junction but the junction signage on the approaches from both StAnn's Chapel and from Bigbury needs to be improved first.

4.0 AFFORDABLE HOUSING: the Clerk had written to Debbie Holloway but had not received a response. Cllr Boys asked if there could be a waiting list for allotments but it was felt this might be premature until more progress is made on the housing scheme. Cllr

Carson reported that he had spoken with John Cullen regarding the land he has offered for this project and had mentioned to him that it would be beneficial if it were possible to have a bit of spare land on the site for allotments, etc. For information, Cllr Watts noted that SHDC's Village Housing Initiative makes no provision for extras such as allotments.

5.0 OPEN SESSION

- 5.1 A resident stated that she had heard there have been sewage problems in St Ann's Chapel although she had no details. She asked if the sewage arrangements were adequate especially in the light of the proposed affordable homes. Cllr Carson explained that it would be possible for the new homes to have their own separate system and that in any case SWW would be consulted for their input to the project. It was agreed that SWW should be asked to carry out a review of the sewage arrangements throughout the whole of the Bigbury Parish, explaining that there are legitimate concerns regarding the Parker Rd/Warren Rd area at Bigbury on Sea and at St Ann's Chapel.

Action: Clerk

6.0 PLANNING

- 6.1 Holwell Farm, St Ann's Chapel: Councillors had no objection to the proposal for the installation of domestic scale ground-mounted solar panels.
- 6.2 Follyfoot, Challaborough: Councillors had no objection to the proposal for a dormer window to the rear of the building.
- 6.3 Combe Barton Cottage: Councillors had no objection to the proposal for a new driveway.
- 6.4 Watersmeet, Ringmore Drive, BoS: applicants had won the appeal against SHDC's refusal of their application.
- 6.5 Cllr Watts stated that there appears to have been some delay by SHDC in the publication of a decision concerning the outstanding application at Avonmouth, BoS.
- 6.6 Following his recent attendance at a DALC 'Planning Explained' training course, Cllr Watts thought it would be sensible to write a piece for Bigbury News regarding the Parish Council's role in planning matters to help manage parishioners' expectations. Furthermore, when the Government's National Planning Policy Framework is finally published, there might be an opportunity to develop a Neighbourhood Plan to help shape planning in Bigbury. However, such a plan could not override SHDC's Local Plan and could not be a 'NIMBY' charter.

Action: Chairman

7.0 FINANCIAL

It was proposed by Cllr Klidjian, seconded by Cllr Carson and agreed that the following cheques be drawn:-

- a: Grasshopper Gardening Services: mowing Bigbury Village Green £90
 - b: Mr J Gilbert: electricity for Christmas lighting at Bigbury Village Green £50
 - c: DALC: purchase 2 copies of Standing Orders £50
 - d: Clerk's fee and expenses £385.30
 - e: St Lawrence's Church: Burial Ground contribution £450
 - f: D Hammett: strimming £87.50
 - g: SHDC: expenses for local election 2011 £123.30
- 7.1 Notice boards: as these have not yet been installed, it was agreed to give a deadline to the contractor to complete the order.

Action: Clerk

7.2 Defibrillator contribution from County Councillor's Locality Fund: not yet received.
Action: Chairman

7.3 HMRC now require all Parish Clerks to be registered as Parish Council employees, subject to PAYE. SHDC would administer this on Bigbury's behalf for an annual fee of £100. Cllr Watts had provided the Clerk with all the necessary papers for completion and submission to SHDC and HMRC.

8.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1 In Touch magazine – for circulation
- 8.2 Clerks Direct magazine – circulation
- 8.3 Minutes of Parish Cluster Meeting held at Aveton Gifford
- 8.4 Domestic Crime and Abuse information – circulation
- 8.5 DCC: notification of road closure Pickwick crossroads to Bullhorn Cross 21st March for one day only
- 8.6 Notification of road closure A379 Ashford to Aveton Gifford from 18.30 to 05.00 from 27 February to 30 March.
- 8.7 Bus passes: new ones are to be issued and will be sent directly to registered addresses without the need to re-apply.

9.0 HM the QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

Cllr Grace reporting on a recent meeting of the Steering Group said that one of the ideas being investigated was to have each child in the parish plant a tree. There might be an opportunity to tie this planting into any affordable housing initiative, but if the timeframe does not allow for this, there is another possibility to plant just one tree, possibly a Sandringham Oak, in this Jubilee Year. Suitable pieces of land for both scenarios are being researched.

Action: Cllr Gracie

Further to the suggestion of a stone seat around the viewing platform at the beacon, Mr Tucker will be meeting with Cllr Klidjian to liaise on the matter.

Action: Cllr Klidjian

The beacon arrangements are being registered with the Official Jubilee Organisation and this will also involve insurance.

10.0 PARISH CLUSTER MEETING REPORT

A copy of the minutes of the meeting held in Aveton Gifford had been forwarded to Parish Councillors. Cllr Watts thought the meeting had been very worthwhile.. Bigbury will be hosting the next meeting which will probably be held in May or June subject to Cllr Carson's availability.

Action: Cllr Carson

11.0 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Cllrs Boys and Grace reported that they were unable to attend the scheduled meeting on 11th April so it was agreed to defer it till 9th May combining the Annual Parish Meeting with the AGM of the Parish Council. The Clerk would verify with DALC that this was legal. It was agreed to ask SWW if they would be able to send a representative to address the meeting to speak on the topic '**Bigbury's water. Where does it come from? Where does it go?**' and to answer questions relating to water problems in Bigbury Parish.

Action: Clerk

12.0 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Carson reported on joint services with West Devon , trying to save money to keep down council tax. Malcolm Elliott is now head of Planning for both SHDC and West Devon. It has been agreed that more money is going to be put into the Parish Lengthsmen service and also into District Councillors' training.

13.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Klidjian reported that he had seen one or two residents at BoS feeding seagulls. He explained that the birds cause considerable nuisance and potential health problems. It was agreed that he should design an advisory poster for display on lamp posts in BoS and for publication in Bigbury News.

Action: Cllr Klidjian

13.1 Cllr Grace reported that public benches in BoS were becoming overgrown with weeds. She asked if the Parish Council was responsible for the maintenance. and , as a result, it was agreed to ask Mr Hammett to strim around all the benches and also around the steps at the bottom of Cleveland Drive.

14.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING Wednesday 11th APRIL at 7.30 p.m .

Meeting closed 9.35 pm