

## **BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the parish council held in the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr S Watts (Chairman), Cllrs. B Carson, J Grace, A Klidjian, T. Boys and J. Simes attended together with C Cllr W Mumford and PCSO Stacey Thorn. There were 2 residents present.

- 1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: none
- 2.0 MINUTES OF MARCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING were taken as read, adopted, and signed by the Chairman
- 3.0 MATTERS ARISING: Annual Parish Meeting – South West Water will send a speaker to address the meeting and answer questions.
  - 3.1 Affordable Homes: See 6.0, below.
  - 3.2 Notice boards: The selected contractor was unable to proceed with the order. Another quotation received at the beginning of the year was still being held but Cllr Carson proposed that additional competitive quotations should be sought. This was agreed.

**Action:** J Grace
  - 3.3 Allotments: It was agreed that a notice will be put into Bigbury News to test demand.

**Action:** T Boys
  - 3.4 HM the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebration: Cllr Grace confirmed that Mr Vanstone is holding the licence, draw tickets are being printed and there will be other attractions such as sand art for children. It was proposed by Cllr Boys, seconded by Cllr Klidjian and agreed that Cllr Grace will pay for the insurance and be reimbursed by the Parish Council. The remaining balance of the £500 grant towards costs will be paid direct to the organising committee.
  - 3.5 Charterlands Ward Parish 'Cluster' meeting: Bigbury will host the next meeting on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr Carson will organise the Agenda and invitations.

**Action:** B Carson
  - 3.6 Seagull notices: Cllr Klidjian will laminate and post the A4 notices.

**Action:** A Klidjian
  - 3.7 Parish Council meeting Minutes: Cllr Grace asked if the new process for correcting the Minutes before publication was working well. The Chairman confirmed that it was. Cllr Grace asked for the notes for the Bigbury News account of the meeting to be drawn from the approved version, to avoid any discrepancies. This was agreed - Minutes would be approved for publication by the Chairman after consultation with Councillors. The Clerk would submit abbreviated notes taken from the approved Minutes to Bigbury News.
  - 3.8 Casual Vacancy for Parish Councillor: the formal Position Description for Parish Councillors prepared by the Chairman was approved and will appear in Bigbury News along with an invitation for residents to apply for co-option to fill the one remaining vacancy.
- 4.0 POLICE REPORT: PCSO Stacey Thorn reported there had been two incidents in the parish since 1<sup>st</sup> January – a neighbourhood dispute and the theft of a wetsuit. Police posters for Farm Watch were issued for display. Boat-related crime is on its usual seasonal increase. Scrap metal collectors with a blue van have been reported bullying residents in the area; residents should report such matters to the police. There is a big increase in forced entry into empty houses and the police ask that residents keep a close eye on neighbouring empty properties and would alert our own Neighbourhood Watch representative, Tony Singleton, to publicise the problem. Residents should not hesitate to dial 999 if they see anything suspicious.
- 5.0 DEVON COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Cllr Mumford reported that DCC had not increased their part of the Council Tax. The County Council has listened to feedback from Parish Councils and will now put more money into the Parish Lengthsmen Service and into better road maintenance in the country lanes. Current highways work on local main roads is now coming to an end.

The introduction of high speed Broadband is still on track; contracts will be issued in early autumn this year. The Chairman interjected with a reminder that private individuals and

businesses should all lobby for a better local service and register their current broadband service speeds via the following link: <http://www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/connection-speed-survey/>

The speed limit of 40 mph is now operational between Dunstone Cross and Yealmpton instead of the variable speeds previously.

Councillors Locality Budgets will change with an allowance of £1 per voter from DCC funds plus 10p per voter from SHDC with the latter managing the payments. DCC's Nick Colton is being allocated some funds for work on the tidal road and assorted other problems such as managing the speed limit on the descent of Aveton Gifford hill from Kingsbridge.

Cllr Mumford confirmed he will chase up the £1500 payment to the Parish Council for the defibrillator purchased last year.

- 6.0 AFFORDABLE HOUSING: Cllr Carson reported he has been in talks with SHDC's Chief Planning Officer, Malcolm Elliott. English Heritage and the Archaeological Society have been consulted regarding the favoured site as ancient artefacts may be present; no further progress can be made until their reports have been received.
- 7.0 OPEN SESSION: Badgers have enlarged a hole on the Cleveland Drive/Ringmore Drive/Folly Hill footpath. The Parish Footpath Warden will be asked to investigate. **Action:** Clerk
- 7.1 Some overgrowth on the garden wall of a house overlooking Bigbury Village Green is forcing traffic to go out into oncoming traffic to avoid it.
- 8.0 PLANNING: In order to streamline the review of applications by Councillors, it was agreed that as a standard operating procedure, the Clerk will retain any plans received and will notify councillors of the application number by e-mail in order that they can view the plans online. If any councillor needs to see the paper copy, they will contact the Clerk to arrange a date for viewing them.
- 8.1 Holwell Farm, St Ann's Chapel: SHDC Planning had recommended approval of the application for ground level solar panels.
- 8.2 Watersmeet, Ringmore Drive, BoS: Notification the applicants' appeal had been allowed.
- 8.3 Beachdown Bungalows, Challaborough. Phase 1: plans on circuit
- 8.4 Beachdown Bungalows, Challaborough. Phase 2: plans on circuit. It was agreed to arrange a site meeting with the agent.
- 8.5 Rockhaven, Folly Hill, BoS: plans on circuit
- 8.6 Rose Cottage, Bigbury: " " "
- 8.7 3 Combe Farm Barns: " " "
- 8.8 Fryer Tucks Takeaway: " " "
- 8.9 3 Folly Hill, BoS: " " "
- 9.0 FINANCIAL: It was proposed by Cllr Grace, seconded by Cllr Boys and agreed that the following cheques be drawn:-
- a. Devon Association of Local Councils: 8 copies Standing Orders - £150
  - b. Devon Playing Fields Assocn: subscription - £36.50
  - c. Viking: Stationery for Bigbury News (2012 payment in advance) - £590.86
- 9.1 It was confirmed that emergency approval had been given by the Chairman for the overdue payment of a cheque for £252.89 for Bigbury News' stationery that had been received in February. After allowing for the combined total of last year's grant outstanding (£75) together with this year's grant of £450 this will have resulted in an overpayment of £319 in the usual grant to Bigbury News which will be reimbursed to the Council. From this autumn, Bigbury News will be opening their own account with Viking and paying them direct to simplify transactions.
- 9.2 Cllr Carson asked members of the Council to consider expenses payments to Councillors for items like ink cartridges, computer paper, etc. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Carson, seconded by Cllr Boys and agreed that an allowance of £25 per annum per Councillor be allowed

against receipts presented to the Clerk for computer-related consumables. Councillor Klidjian abstained.

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 In Touch magazine – for circulation

10.2 Village Green – circulation

10.3 Devon Senior Voice magazine – circulation

10.4 Union Bunting flags and flagpoles – circulation

10.5 Underwood Discovery Centre, Beeson: information on concert 2<sup>nd</sup> June

10.6 SHDC: play area - Agreed to obtain quotes from SHDC and a local contractor for replacement of rotten wood panels and a new coat of preservative over all wooden kit

10.7 SHDC: Infrastructure Planning – Agreed: the Chairman would respond concerning likely future infrastructure needs such as improved sewerage arrangements.

**Action:** Chairman

10.8 May Gurney – road closure Ringmore Drive, BoS from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May

11.0 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING A brief Parish Council meeting will be held prior to the Annual Parish Meeting in order to elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year and also make appointments to committees. Cllr Grace reported that she would prefer another Councillor to take over as representative on the Memorial Hall committee as soon as possible as she has too many other commitments.

11.1 The Clerk reported that only the Chairman of the Memorial Hall and The Youth Club organiser had responded to invitations to present a report on their activities.

11.2 An agenda will be produced in advance.

**Action:** Clerk

12.0 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT - already covered.

13.0 WEBSITE: Cllr Carson stated that he would like it made clear that no website content is the responsibility of Bigbury Parish Council other than that clearly relating to Parish Council matters such as the Minutes and Agendas for meetings. This was agreed and a disclaimer will be inserted on the community website.

14.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING Wednesday 9th MAY at 7.30 p.m.

Meeting closed 9.35 pm