

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Bigbury Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel on WEDNESDAY 12th February 2014 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr S Watts (Chairman), Cllrs, B Carson, P. Cook, A. Klidjian. 5 residents also present together with Hugh Ridgway, part owner of Royal Oak.

- 1.0 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR. A resident has expressed an interest and will be meeting with the clerk to see what the work would entail.
- 2.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllrs T Boys and R Owen
- 3.0 MINUTES OF DECEMBER MEETING were signed as a correct record
- 4.0 MATTERS ARISING Minute references relate to December unless otherwise stated).
- 4.1 (5.2) Affordable Homes: The chairman reported that SW Housing Association had produced an outline plan which had been discussed with Mr B Rogers (representing the Rogers Family Trust, owner of the playing field) by Cllr Carson and Cllr Watts in relation to a footpath running through the playing field. Cllr Watts would provide the SW Housing Association with Mr Rogers' contact details.
Action: Cllr Watts
- 4.2 (5.3) Millennium Steps: A successful request had been made for some TAP funding to obtain half the costs involved for the repairs (£500). AGREED: letter of thanks to be sent to Cllr Mumford
Action: Clerk
- 4.3 (5.9) Clematon Hill NT footpath: An agreement has been reached between the various parties involved and some limited planting and fencing will be carried out.
- 4.4 (5.11) Luscombe Maye : an oak tree had been planted on the edge of the playing field on 16th December with two members of the firm present. AGREED: letter of appreciation to be sent to Luscombe Maye.
Action: Clerk
- 4.5 (7.0) Royal Oak: Cllr Carson declared a personal interest and did not take part in this agenda item. The Chairman announced that the application to list the property as a Community Asset of Value had been turned down but a public meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 26th February in the Memorial Hall. As the meeting has been arranged by the parish council, Cllr Watts is willing to chair the meeting and hopes for a positive outcome. Mr Ridgway stated he is willing to field questions but hoped the evening would not be of an aggressive nature. If there is a chance of the Royal Oak to reopen there will be a need for a Steering Group.
- 4.6 (9.0) TAP Fund application: The Chairman had been in contact with Ringmore Parish Council and together they have applied for a grant from the TAP Fund towards the cost of skips for the two

- parishes. The matter should be resolved at the Cluster Meeting in March.
- 4.7 Folly Hill: DCC had published a Traffic Regulation Order including double yellow lines on Folly Hill. It is known that several people have written in support. Nick Colton (DCC Highways) hopes that the parish council may not incur any expense.
- 4.8 Broadband supply: A resident had sent a copy of his letter to the Chief Executive of BT. With continuous building work carried out in Bigbury-on-Sea, the Broadband service seems to deteriorate with each new dwelling.
- 4.9 B-o-S toilets: A letter had been received from SHDC listing public toilets at risk of seasonal closure. BoS toilets are not on the list but might be subject to usage charges.
- 5.0 OPEN SESSION .
- 5.1 A resident congratulated Cllr Watts on his letter in the Kingsbridge Gazette about planning consultation by SHDC. She then referred to the proposed site for affordable housing and stated she had understood that the site entrance was on the back road but now it seems that it may be on the main road. Cllr Watts stated that no detail has been finally determined as yet.
- 6.0 PLANNING: Pending :-
- 6.1 Atlantic House for which the parish council had expressed infrastructure concerns
- 6.2 Folly Farm wind turbines. Parish council had objected
- 6.3 Land adjacent to Holywell Stores - councillors had had no objection at an earlier site meeting
Conditional approval given to:
- 6.4 Agricultural building at Easton; Bigbury Golf Club; Challaborough Bay Holiday Park (with mitigation measures to restrict light pollution); Hingston Farm; Sea Thrift, B-o-S; Sunnynook, Clematon Hill, BoS; The Small House, Easton; Westerlea, Bigbury village; Willows, Parker Rd, BoS
Awaiting decision from parish councillors:-
- 6.5 Hillcrest, Warren Rd, BoS: work to garage roof
- 6.6 Wavecrest, Marine Drive, BoS: new garage with living area.
- 6.7 High Tidings, Clematon Hill, BoS: extension
- 6.8 Cllr Watts stated that a pre-application approach had been made regarding the Cundy family land at St Ann's Chapel. However, it was stated that when this site was originally offered for Affordable Housing a few years ago, there was overwhelming opposition to the proposal. It was agreed that the parish council could not countenance such a proposal while there is still a plan in for affordable homes elsewhere in St Ann's Chapel. The Chairman will send a letter submitting this view. **Action: Cllr Watts**
- 6.9 Mobile Infrastructure Project – pre-application proposal for installation of a 14m high Lattice Tower Mobile Phone Base on land r/o Houghton Cottage. As this would be of benefit to the Bigbury community there were no objections.

- 7.0 AONB GATEWAY SIGN
- 7.1 Cllr Watts presented a mock-up of a replacement 'Bigbury' sign provided by the AONB Unit but councillors did not find it acceptable for several reasons.
- 8.0 ROAD DAMAGE AT BIGBURY ON SEA
- 8.1 A discussion took place on damage caused to the roads at Bigbury-on-Sea by heavy goods vehicles serving the several building sites in the village. The suggestion was made that there should be a tonnage restriction as the roads in BoS are not of strong construction and depth. AGREED: Mr N Colton of DCC Highways should be asked his views on the subject
Action: Clerk
- 9.0 SECOND HOMES COUNCIL TAX
- Cllr Cook reported on personal correspondence exchanged with Gary Streeter MP and Eric Pickles MP in which the suggestion had been made that owners of second homes should pay more than 100% council tax and this would provide much needed extra income for SHDC. It was understood that only a low percentage of the homes are let out on a commercial basis for which they would be subject to Business Tax.
- 10.0 FINANCIAL
- 10.1 It was proposed by Cllr Watts, seconded by Cllr Carson and agreed that the following cheques be drawn:
£30 to Memorial Hall for hall hire October, November & December; £450 to St Lawrence's Church towards the upkeep of the Burial Ground; £50 to Jeremy Gilbert for Christmas lighting at village green; £90 Grasshopper Gardening Services for mowing village green; £20 to Cllr Cook for travelling expenses to a meeting with Cllr Watts at SHDC.
- 10.2 Letters of appreciation for donations sent by the parish council had been received from S Hams CAB and S Hams CVS.
- 10.3 The clerk had been informed that Windows XP will not be supported by Microsoft after 1st April and that use of the current computer would not be safe. Quotes will be obtained for a replacement laptop PC with more recent software.
Action: Clerk
- 10.4 It was agreed that the Parish Council should reject the SHDC-sanctioned Councillors' Allowances but will continue to claim for computer stationery and any mileage expenses to meetings incurred.
- 10.5 The clerk will contact Steve Allwood with regard to maintenance of the War memorial.
Action: Clerk
- 11.0 CORRESPONDENCE
- 11.1 DALC; February newsletter
- 11.2 Best Kept Village Competition 2014 – it was agreed not to participate this year.
- 11.3 SHDC Dan Antill: new Dog Control Orders
- 11.4 Parish Cluster Meeting – 10th March – Cllr Watts will attend
- 11.5 Councillors' Allowances

- 11.6 W.Mumford – high speed broadband report.
- 11.7 SHDC Carol Trant: S Hams Business Voice
- 12.0 D.CLLR CARSON reported that following a new computerisation of systems, savings will be made by staff reductions through natural wastage. Also some savings are being made on benefits being paid out and also on staff pension fund. £80,000 is being saved by seasonal closure of public toilets and a further £71,000 on Leisure Centre costs. Quite a lot of staff are now working from home – with the use of computers and Skype. The Chief Executive (Richard Sheard) retires in March and two directors will cover SHDC and West Devon Council.
- Hemerdon Tungsten Mines have reopened and will be creating more jobs – it is the world’s 4th largest tungsten mine.
- 13.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS
- 13.1 It was reported that Mr Tucker has got 10,000 tress to plant and would appreciate any available help
- 14.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING Wednesday 12th MARCH n the Memorial Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Meeting closed 9.35 p.m.