

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Bigbury Parish Council meeting held in the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel on WEDNESDAY 11th June 2014 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr S Watts in the chair and Cllrs M. Baker, B. Carson, P. Cook, and R. Owen. Also present were 3 residents.

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Klidjian had given his apologies for this meeting at the May meeting and further apologies received from Cllr Boys and C.Cllr R.Hoskings. The latter had asked if it would be possible to change the Bigbury PC meeting to another week as it coincides with his own Parish Council meeting, or alternatively meet earlier. However, it had been felt that this would not be possible as too many other contributors would be inconvenienced. The Chairman took the opportunity to welcome Mike Baker to the parish council and apologised for not having done so at the May meeting. Cllr Baker gave an outline of his background and what he felt he could bring to the council.
- 2 MRS ROS DAVIES (DCC Public Rights of Way) had been invited to the meeting and explained that her department covers the whole P3 (Public Paths Partnership) Scheme. Our parish Footpath Warden, John Simes, liaises with Ros and she praised the survey that he had submitted for 2014. Having spoken with the County Footpath Warden for our area (Peter Guy) she felt that Burgh Island footpaths were of major concern. She stated that a great deal of work needs to be undertaken on Footpath 21 which rises up to the top of the island and talked of action which needed to be taken on other, specific paths. The Burgh Island footpaths will cost in the region of £2,500 to repair and the parish council has already received a special grant from DCC of £1,000 towards this cost but will have to cover the extra amount, leaving about £750 in our P3 'pot'.
Cllr Watts stated that an awkward tree bough hangs over the stepping stones to the Tidal Road on the Avon Estuary Walk (Footpath No. 1) through Milburn Orchard's garden and the stepping stones through the wet ground need to be moved or supplemented with more. John Simes added that there are fallen trees on the path through Doctor's Wood which would be the responsibility of the landowner – thought to be Evans Estates. Cllr Watts would contact the estate manager to enquire. **Action: Cllr Watts**

The Chairman asked Mrs Davies if it was possible to obtain Heritage Lottery funding for the Burgh Island project as this source had been used to fund repairs to the Huer's hut. Mrs Davies explained it would be complicated to organise and would only delay the projected work. Cllr Baker asked if it would be possible to receive copies of the DCC map indicating the footpaths in the parish and Mrs Davies said she would send 7 copies. She was thanked by the Chairman for her attendance and left the meeting.
- 3 MINUTES OF MAY'S PARISH COUNCIL MEETING were approved for signature.
- 4 MATTERS ARISING *Minutes in parenthesis relate to May's minutes*
 - 4.1 (5.0) Closure of BoS Post Office. The owner of a possible alternative location had been approached but the owner was not able to offer his premises. Mr Colin Pound (Post Office) had been notified accordingly. Gary Streeter MP, had written enclosing a copy of a letter he had received from Mr Pound and the clerk had drafted a response but several councillors were unhappy with its conclusions about the impact of second home ownership on the closure. The Chairman wondered what percentage of properties were actually 2nd homes but Cllr Carson explained that as there is now no reduction of council tax for such homes, there is no way of knowing. Cllr Cook is still of the opinion that second homes should pay a higher rate of council tax. The Chairman would consult with councillors outside the meeting about a possible written response or a meeting with Gary Streeter. Since the announcement of the closure of BoS PO Stores, the garage in Bigbury Village had closed down.
 - 4.2 (7.1) Millennium Steps: Cllr Carson would be following this matter up. **Action: Cllr Carson**
 - 4.3 (7.2) Bigbury beach Clean: Cllr Carson will contact the organiser to clarify the date which keeps changing. **Action: Cllr Carson**

- 4.4 (10.2) A laptop had been supplied by TGo Services (invoice in Financial).
4.5 (10.3) Skip: It was agreed that Saturday 9th August should be confirmed with the supplier for the Memorial Hall skip.

5.0 OPEN SESSION

- 5.1 A resident asked if there was a way of requesting for a commercial unit to be included in applications for multiple dwellings construction. The Chairman answered that a full description would have to form part of any planning application.

6.0 PLANNING decision notices received:-

- 6.1 0816/14L Capt. Trumble, The Small House, Easton. GRANTED
6.2 0467/14: Mr & Mrs Lowe, Sunnynook, Clematon Hill, BoS. GRANTED
6.3 855/14: Mr N Sumpter, Durley Dene, Cleveland Drive, BoS. GRANTED
6.4 SHDC Notification of Planning Design Panel meeting about Westridge (Warren Road, Bigbury-on-Sea): Cllr Cook will attend.
Applications received
6.5 Arqiva Services; amendments to previous plans for phone mast

7 'OUR PLAN'

- 7.1 Cllr Watts felt more information was required on the extent of second home ownership, on seasonal infrastructural problems, and on how to improve local input on planning matters. Cllr Baker felt it would be interesting to see how the figures of second home ownership have changed over the years. A response to the preliminary SHDC consultation document would be drafted by the Chairman. **Action: Cllr Watts**

8.0 CHARTERLANDS CLUSTER MEETING

- 8.1 Cllr Carson reported this has been arranged for 2nd July at 7.0 p.m. in the Memorial Hall. He had emailed Mr N Colton (DCC Highways) as he hoped a discussion on the Lengthsman service will take place. TAP funding of Lengthsman services will be on the agenda.

9.0 FINANCIAL

- 9.1 It was proposed by Cllr Watts, seconded by Cllr Carson and agreed that the following cheques be drawn:-
£2.50 to DALC for New Councillor pamphlet Cllr Baker; £1 to CJL Rogers for playing field rent; £385.48 to parish clerk for fee and expenses; £18.85 to Mr D Gay for plants for hanging baskets at bus shelter. And £590.99 to TGo Web Services for supply of laptop and transfer of data.
9.2 It was agreed to accept a SHDC quote for £75 per cut for playing field grass.
9.3 Burial Ground Grant: Cllr Carson declared an interest but agreed to ask Mr Walton to supply a copy of the accounts of St Lawrence Church in order that councillors can consider a request for a further grant. **Action: Cllr Carson**
9.4 The clerk had approached Devon Playing Fields Association to see if it would be possible to receive a grant towards the cost of repairs to play area equipment

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- 10.1 SHDC: 'Lets Talk' – forwarded to councillors
10.2 'Our Plan' Consultation document – forwarded to councillors.

11 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

D Cllr Carson had nothing to report

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 12.1 The Chairman stated that he had received reports from various people expressing concern about the activity of a man feeding the swans on the River Avon. He had spoken to the Bantham Harbourmaster who also stated he has received various complaints.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 9th July at 7.30

Meeting closed 9.35