

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Bigbury Parish Council held in the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel on WEDNESDAY 9th JULY 2014 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllr S Watts (Chairman) and Cllrs M Baker, T Boys, P Cook, A Klidjian and R Owen. Also present were 2 residents.

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr B Carson and C.Cllr R Hoskings.
- 2 MINUTES OF JUNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING were approved for signature.
- 3 MATTERS ARISING *Minutes in parenthesis relate to June's minutes*
 - 3.1 (2.1) Footpaths: Mrs Ros Davies (DCC Environment Dept) had stated that she did not think it would be necessary for the Parish Council to apply for any extra funding towards the cost of work needed to be carried out on Burgh Island footpaths. The Chairman had asked the Parish Footpath Warden to look at the exit of Footpath 14 onto the road and report back on his findings.
 - 3.2 (4.1) Closure of BoS Post Office Stores: The Chairman had discussed the situation, in the context of having a sustainable community, with councillors and would be meeting with them and Gary Streeter MP at some time soon. The situation is unlikely to be entirely due to there being a high proportion of second homes in Bigbury-on-Sea. The Clerk reported that there were 66 fewer voters on the electoral register of 2013 from that of 1996 - more than a 25% decrease. The Chairman asked the Clerk to check for this same trend over earlier registers.

Action: Clerk

Cllr Cook volunteered to remove the shop sign currently situated in the bus shelter. Agreed
 - 3.3 (4.2) Millennium Steps: Still no further report. **Action: Cllr Cook**
 - 3.4 (7.1) 'Our Plan'. Cllr Watts reported that he had responded to the SHDC consultation questionnaire and had expressed the need to see more comprehensive data before commenting upon future SHDC strategy up to 2031, including the likely effects of change on infrastructure, housing and demographics.
 - 3.5 (8.0) Charterlands Cluster Meeting. Cllr Watts reported that representatives from Bigbury, Kingston, Ringmore and Aveton Gifford had attended the meeting. All parishes were requesting a proportion of the TAP funding for improved Lengthsman services for the Ward. At present, the award is held by Aveton Gifford and will probably be administered by the AG parish clerk. Apart from Kingston, where some mechanical road sweeping is required, the remaining parish councils stated they wanted more attention paid to the clearance of ditches and 'boggle holes'. **Action Cllr Carson**
 - 3.6 (12.1) Swan Man: It was reported that because swans were now getting used to being fed by the 'swan man', they were coming onto the actual road surface. There had been a very nasty accident on Sunday 6th July when a parishioner was thrown from her horse, had broken her wrist, and it had been necessary to have attendance by the fire brigade, ambulance, police, coastguards and a vet. The horse was stuck in mud and had to be sedated whilst enormous efforts were made to rescue it. It is vital that people report any harassment from the 'swan man' to the police on 101 so that it is logged. It was proposed by Cllr Watts, seconded by Cllr Boys and agreed that a notice should be displayed on the Bigbury end of the Tidal Road requesting that people do not feed the water fowl. **Action: Cllr Watts**
 - 3.7 Separately, it was proposed by Cllr Klidjian, seconded by Cllr Baker and agreed that SHDC be asked to introduce a bylaw requesting that people do not feed birds (including seagulls) and to impose a fine of approx. £80 in line with other councils. **Action Cllr Carson**
 - 3.8 Royal Oak Closure update: The Chairman reported he had been supplied with a set of plans from the owners of the Oak, showing a proposal for 2 affordable homes and 4 properties for sale. A formal planning application to SHDC is anticipated. The owners intend to let the Royal Oak via agents. No early re-opening is anticipated.

4.0 OPEN SESSION

- 4.1 A resident asked for clarification of the SHDC 'Our Plan'. The Chairman replied that the outline of this plan, to take the South Hams up to 2031, is explained on the SHDC website and there will be extensive future consultation.
- 4.2 The same resident enquired if any decision had yet been made on the wind turbine application for Mount Folly Farm and for the phone mast at Ringmore. The Chairman replied that there had been extensive consultation by SHDC with advisory agencies about the turbines but no decision had been communicated to the parish. A modified planning application had been submitted about the phone mast, accommodating Bigbury's request for environmental screening (hedging) for the ground station.

5.0 PLANNING decision notices received:-

- 5.1 05/1579/14: The application is for a window to replace a door and steps to the garden at 2 Bigbury Court.
- 5.2 Cllrs Cook and Owen had attended a Design Panel meeting at Follaton House for an application at Westridge, Warren Road, BoS.
- 5.3 The Cedars, Marine Drive, BoS: Inaccuracies in the original plans had been the topic of an architects' dispute. An amended set of plans had been received by SHDC but councillors felt they could not form an opinion without being able to see the revisions.

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- 6.1 SHDC Questionnaire on playing facilities in the parish: the Clerk had completed and returned the form to SHDC.
- 6.2 Progress report on faster Broadband had been received and forwarded to councillors
- 6.3 DCC Safety Awareness Training – email received and forwarded to councillors
- 6.4 SHDC Role of renewable energy – details of a meeting to be held on 11th July had been forwarded to councillors

7.0 FINANCIAL

- 7.1 It was proposed by Cllr Watts, seconded by Cllr Klidjian and agreed that the following cheques be drawn:-
£30 to Bigbury Memorial Hall for 3 months hire; £50 to Community Council of Devon for subscription which now also includes Devon Playing Field Association subscription; £49 to Kingsbridge Websites; £114 to Mr D Hammett for strimming areas of BoS since September 2013.
- 7.2 Bigbury Golf Club are buying a defibrillator to be sited on the external walls of the clubhouse and had asked if the Parish Council could make a contribution as there is also a public footpath traversing the course. It was proposed by Cllr Owen, seconded by Cllr Boys and agreed to make a contribution of £250 – cheque drawn accordingly.
- 7.3 Over the past 3 years the Parish Council has made a donation of £150 to the Hope Cove Inshore Lifeboat but it was proposed by Cllr Watts, seconded by Cllr Klidjian and agreed to increase the amount to £200 – cheque drawn accordingly.
- 7.4 Burial Ground grant: Cllr Cook reported that the Treasurer had assumed that the Financial Report he had submitted last autumn would be sufficient but it was stated that there is a Financial Report for April 2014 and Mr Walton would be asked for a copy of the most recent document.
- 7.5 The External Audit had been completed and signed off.

- 8.0 EVANS ESTATES LAND The National Trust had launched an appeal for funds to enable it to purchase the estate. However, since receipt of this news, the land has been sold and it is understood a family have bought it and have stated they do not wish to make any changes.

- 9.0 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT
D Cllr Carson not present.

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 10.1 Now that the Bigbury on Sea shop has closed it was agreed to move the parish council's notice board to the bus shelter. Cllr Cook stated he would have a look to see if he would be able to do the transfer.

Action. Cllr Cook

- 10.2 BoS bus lay-by: It was reported that coaches were again parking long-term in the lay-by. It had been agreed last year that some planters would be placed in the lay-by to prevent this happening, especially as the Parish Council had originally been informed by the developer of the car park area that the ground underneath the lay-by was not safe. It was suggested that an old boat placed in the lay-by and filled with plants might be attractive if Mr Craig Worthington would be willing to arrange upkeep. Cllr Watts knew of an old boat which might serve the purpose and the Clerk would inform Mr Worthington of the Council's decision so that he could make arrangements. **Action: Clerk**
- 10.3 C.Cllr Hoskings had again asked if the Parish Council could change the time or date of the meetings so that he could attend. At present our meeting coincides with his attendance at Ugborough Parish Council on which he is a councillor. This would be difficult as many other people would be inconvenienced. The chairman will contact C Cllr Hoskings to discuss alternatives. **Action: Cllr Watts**
- 10.4 Cllr Baker inquired if Mrs Davis had sent copies of the DCC footpath map – as these have not been received by all councillors. The Clerk will contact her again. **Action: Clerk**
- 10.5 Memorial Hall: Cllr Boys had attended a meeting of the Hall Committee. Mr Vanstone had expressed his thanks for the playing field being cut just before the Fun Run football match. The subject of the No Dogs sign at the entrance to the hall's car park had arisen. Councillors agreed that it was up to the Hall Committee to arrange for such signs for the car park and that the Parish Council was responsible only for the playing field and children's play area. Concern had also been expressed regarding possible use of the hall car park if/when the new affordable homes are built at StAnn's Chapel. and also the location of any associated off-street footpath.
- 11.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 10th September at 7.30 pm

Meeting closed 9.07pm