

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

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

PRESENT: Cllr S Watts in the chair and Cllrs M Baker, T Boys, P.Cook, A Klidjian and R Owen. Several residents were present together with a filming team from BBC Spotlight.

- 1.0 The Chairman welcomed everybody and explained that this was to be a conventional council meeting but that an open discussion on a planning application for solar panels on Burgh island was to be the first item on the agenda. He alerted the audience to the presence of media representatives.

It was reported that Mr & Mrs Orchard, the owners of Burgh Island Hotel had been emailed twice inviting them to this meeting but there had been no response. The Clerk had also phoned the architect twice and he had telephoned late in the afternoon of the meeting to offer his apologies. The Chairman asked if anyone present wished to speak in favour of the proposal to install 200 x 50kW solar panels covering 335m² of the top tennis court at Burgh Island Hotel. Nobody present spoke in favour but there was some muted support for renewable energy sources. Several residents were concerned that the island is a Listed Building of Art Deco design within an Heritage Coast and AONB, and therefore such an installation was felt to be inappropriate. The Chairman then invited the councillors to express their individual views and all questioned the benefit of such an installation solely for the financial benefit of the hotel. Cllr Klidjian reported that he had spoken to several residents who were all against the application. Cllr Cook felt that great weight should be put on the beauty of the island and that this installation was unjustified. Councillors were unanimously opposed to the application.

The Planning Officer handling this application will be asked to ensure that he inspects all letters submitted for both the application numbers of 2499/14/F and 2500/14/LB as there were only 5 letters on the latter site but many on the former one.

ACTION: Clerk

The Chairman had drafted a response that he would check with councillors prior to emailing it to the Clerk for submission to SHDC.

ACTION Cllr Watts

The meeting's usual format was resumed at this stage.

- 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE D.Cllr.B Carson, CClr R Hosking and PCSO Paul O'Dwyer

- 3 MINUTES OF OCTOBER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING were approved for signature.

- 4 MATTERS ARISING *Minutes in parenthesis relate to September's minutes*

- 4.1 (4.1) Seagulls: D.Cllr Carson had reported by e-mail that there are no SHDC bylaws forbidding feeding of seagulls and it is up to individual parishes to treat the matter and display notices if they wished. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Environmental Health at SHDC to ask for guidance about tackling this problem.

ACTION: Clerk

It was further proposed that there should be notices displayed on all litter bins in the parish indicating that there should be no feeding of seagulls. It was further agreed that a notice be included in the Bigbury News asking homeowners not to feed gulls and also to take measures to stop nesting on rooftops, if possible.

- 4.2 (4.4) Burgh Island footpaths: Mr Simes (Parish Footpath Warden) was not sure if the work to the footpaths on the island had been carried out. He will contact DCC Ros Davies to obtain an update. ACTION: John Simes
- 4.3 (4.9) Parkdean: a response had been received from the Chief Executive at Head Office regarding transportation of caravans in which he stated that it was not Parkdean's intention to cause severe disruption to the community and he realised that more must be done to minimise the problem. The company management will have it on their agenda and will write back to the parish council in early 2015.
- 5.0 OPEN SESSION
- 5.1 Mr Simes stated that the planning application for lodges at Challaborough had been withdrawn. He also felt the trees screening the SWW treatment works at the top of Warren Road need replanting as all are dying. It was agreed that a letter be sent to SWW asking if they could report back to the parish council with any plans for replacing the trees. ACTION: Clerk
- 5.2 Mr Simes also reported that work to trees in Badgers Walk at end of Cleveland Drive had been completed by the County team. It was also reported that more work is needed on the cliff path between Challaborough and Bigbury-on-Sea. He will contact DCC Environment Dept. to see if the flow of water could be diverted away from the path. Cllr Watts reported that there is still a tree overhanging the path at Milburn Orchard Creek and Mr Simes stated that he will write about it to Mrs Davies at DCC Environment Dept. ACTION: J Simes
- 5.3 A resident enquired about the parish council's conditional approval of the planning application for the houses on the Royal Oak site. He was informed that the applicants could submit an amendment to cover the councillors' concerns regarding the top two houses if SHDC agreed with the parish council's views.
- 5.4 A resident reported that she was disappointed that Bigbury Parish Council's opinion on the phone mast at Houghton had been read out at SHDC but that of Ringmore Parish Council's letter opposing the application had not been read to the meeting. Cllr Baker expressed his concern about the absence of any criteria regarding phone mast applications. He was concerned that many masts would be needed to cover all the 'not spots' in the parish.
- 5.5 Mr Tucker stated it would be useful if people would help to clear the gullies on the cliff path while they were walking it.
- 5.6 Mr Tucker reported that there are 2 stone horse troughs available in Ringmore and wondered if the parish council would like to purchase them for the village green. Cllr Cook will ascertain the price and report back to the councillors. ACTION: Cllr Cook
- 6.0 PLANNING decision notices received (all with 05 prefix):-
- 6.1 0947/13/F: Mr & Mrs Weston for Atlantic House, Marine Drive, BoS: GRANTED
- 6.2 0524/14/F: Arqiva Services: phone mast at Houghton: GRANTED
- 6.3 2217/14/F: Miss J Boatwright: for Westridge, Warren Road, BoS: GRANTED
- 6.4 1477/14/CLE: Mr J Lugar: The Chalets, Challaborough. GRANTED
- Applications pending:*
- 6.5 2497/14/F and 2498/14/LB: replacement external door, window and replacement fire escape Burgh Island Hotel: no objections
- 6.6 2521/14F: Mr Daemi: Sanderling, Clematon Hill, BoS: cliff stabilisation: no objections
- 6.7 2529/14/F: MrnBaker: Kimberley, Ringmore: Replacement of summer house with garden office: no objections
- 6.8 2744/14/F: Mr & Mrs Highley: Spring Bank, Aveton Gifford: roof windows: no objections
- 6.9 Pre-application for phone mast at Folly Hill, BoS: awaits review by councillors.
- 6.10 Cllr Cook asked if the separate applications for 3 wind turbines and a marquee at Folly Farm had been decided. The Chairman replied that both applications seem to have stalled for different reasons, the former for reasons that are unclear, the latter because a geological report on the cliff's stability was awaited by SHDC.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1 Dog Warden: A complaint had been received regarding dogs fouling Sedgwell Beach. Tracey Weaver had been contacted and replied that she will increase her patrols on the beach. The complainant had been notified.
- 7.2 Local Boundary Commission: A review is to be carried out regarding coverage of the county by up to 60 councillors . It will be identical to that carried out for SHDC. Responses should be made to reviews@lgbce.org.uk or to Review Officer (Devon), Local Government Boundary Commission for England, Layden House, 76-86 Turnmill Streetl, London, EC1M 5LG by 19 January 2015.

8.0 FINANCIAL

- 8.1 It was proposed by Cllr Klidjian, seconded by Clllr. Cook and agreed that the following cheques be drawn:-
£15.50 to Mr Gay for hanging basket plants at bus shelter; £26.91 to Mr Simes for travelling expenses for footpath warden course; £120 to SHDC for payroll services; £100 to Royal British Legion for the Poppy Appeal and £777.82 to South Hams Skips for skip in Bigbury village/Challaborough.
- 8.2 It was agreed that a letter be sent to Rev. N Barker stating that the parish council would be prepared to allocate up to £5000 for repairs to the church gateway, subject to recommendations from a joint PC/PCC steering group. The suggestion will also be made to him that there may be certain grants , available from alternative sources, for such work. ACTION: Clerk
- 8.3 Cllr Watts had expressed concern that the parish council had contributed to a defibrillator for the Golf Club but that it was installed inside the clubhouse and might be unavailable to the public. However, Mr Blenkarne (Director of Golf) had explained there is a sign outside the entrance indicating the presence of the defibrillator and the club is only closed after dark. Cllr Klidjian reported that the Club will be invited to send representatives to the defibrillator refresher course to be held in January.

9.0 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT nil

10.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 10.1 Cllr Watts reported on a meeting about the proposed VHI, affordable housing, site held between John Cullen (VHI site owners' representative) and Mr Chris Rogers of the Rogers Family Trust (owners of the playing field area) to which he had been invited. Following this meeting, it is hoped that some agreement may be reached before too long regarding access to the proposed VHI site for affordable homes that is adjacent to the playing field.
- 10.2 The clerk expressed her concern at the condition of the parish notice boards which are not waterproof. Because there is only one bolt at the top of each notice board door, the doors are letting in rainwater and the back boards are now very damp. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the maker of the boards to see if he can remedy the situation. ACTION: Clerk

11.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING; Wednesday 10th December at 7.30 pm

Meeting closed at 9.22pm