

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Bigbury Parish Council meeting held in the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel on WEDNESDAY 14th December 2016 at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr B Carson (in the chair) Cllrs: R Owen, S Smith, C Case and Clerk R Matthews. C. Cllr R Hosking also attended for part of the meeting and five residents were present.

1.0 Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr B Huntley, Cllr G Rosevear and D.Cllr Ward

2.0 Minutes of previous meeting held on September 14th 2016:

The minutes of the meeting held on November 9th were approved - proposer Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Owen. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

3.0 Matters arising (actions) from last meeting and not covered in this month's agenda:

Cllr Carson advised that Mr. Steve Radford would be attending the January meeting to talk about the transportation of caravans to and from the Challaborough site.

Cllr Owen shared a proposal from NBC Environmental to use hawks as a means of addressing the seagull issue. The following actions were agreed:

Post NBC proposal on the Bigbury Community website for all interested parties to read

Clerk to contact SHDC in respect of NBC's existing contract at Torr Quarry

Clerk to include this topic on the agenda for the January meeting **Action(s) Clerk**

4.0 Open session: The following topics were raised:

Resident A asked for the following note to be added to these minutes as it had been missed from the prior minutes.

Contact Architect / Agent for Bay Café site developers to suggest a meeting with local residents as a means of finding a way forward from the current impasse in the planning approval process. **Action Clerk**

Resident A expressed disappointment that the Parish Council had not objected to the Burgh Island proposed development. Cllr Carson responded that the design process had been open the best architects in the country and in the opinion of the Councillors, there were no valid reasons to object on the grounds on planning rules.

Resident B added that hopefully SHDC planners would take into account the guidelines relating to development in areas of outstanding national beauty.

Mr. John Simes, Footpath Warden, advised he had discussed condition of the path on Clematon Hill with the National Trust who agreed they had not maintained it properly and stated they would address the issues and add more signage. NT apologised for not keeping residents correctly informed. NT asked the council to work with them to submit a proposal for P3 funding. **Action Clerk and Footpath Warden**

Mr. Simes also advised a) the footpath running through the centre of Mr. Tucker's farm was in need of attention and b) the footpath to Challaborough would almost certainly need attention in the spring. Funding requirement is to be calculated. **Action Clerk and Footpath Warden**

Resident C gave an update on the progress with the neighbour hood plan, stating the survey and questionnaire had been circulated to all households and returns were awaited. The deadline was January 8th 2017.

The attendance at the local meeting (December 10th) was poor with just six residents in attendance.

Resident D was concerned that a high percentage of home owners were absent and would NOT therefore contribute to the plan. However, contacting those individuals was not

straightforward. Mr. Watts offered to assist in this process via the Bigbury Community website.

5.0 County Councillor's report:

C.Cllr Hosking provided an update on the timing of the budgeting process and advised of an overspend of £7million this year on adult and child services, adding this was likely to be balanced to £0 by the end of the year.

He advised of a likely reduction in central funding next year and a potential increase in council tax above the 2% mark.

Changes to the funding for schools were in the pipeline although further and more detailed information was awaited.

DCC had signed a seven year deal with Skanska who were taking over the Devon Highways contract. The quality element of the bid was weighted higher than cost although this contract would provide a 7% cost saving.

Devolution was also a current topic and a new bid for devolved powers had been put forward by a consortium including Plymouth, Exeter and Torbay. This proposal included the position of Mayor.

A3121 had been allocated funds for improvements.

B3196 was also being discussed with options to eliminate four traffic pinch points. This was of particular relevance to Bigbury, having previously raised this route as a concern. Businesses and individuals affected by delays on this road would have the opportunity to share their views with DCC and C.Cllr Hosking would provide a point of contact.

Action Cllr Case

The Road Warden scheme would be relaunched in spring 2017 and chapter eight training would be reviewed.

Action Cllr Carson

Phase two broadband would be rolled out and the plan of areas covered would be available on the website around 16th December.

C.Cllr Hosking agreed to take up the issue and condition of the road between Easton and Dukes Mill with the appropriate bodies. This road was now in a dangerous condition.

Action C.Cllr Hosking

6.0 District Councillor's report:

D.Cllr Ward was unable to attend the meeting.

7.0 Planning applications: The following were discussed:

- a. 2879/16/FUL Application for a standalone hotel suite on Burgh Island. This had been discussed in the open session. For the record the decision of the Parish Council was unanimous.

8.0 Statement of finances:

Cllr Carson proposed the following payments be approved and cheques prepared. Cllr Smith seconded this proposal. The payments are:

B Cole - £871.21 – skip hire and waste removal
Bigbury News - £500.00 – annual donation
SHDC CAB - £100.00 annual donation
SHDC CVS - £25.00 annual donation
Villages In Action - £200.00 – annual donation (new addition to the donations list - proposed by Cllr Carson and seconded by Cllr Smith)

A bank statement to cash book reconciliation had been completed as of December 1st and the balance in hand was £18849.47 of which £1228.11 was held in reserve for specific projects.

9.0 Parish Precept 2017/2018:

Cllr Carson advised that the Precept for the current year was increased and that expenditure was below forecast. This 2017/2018 Precept submission was to be an agenda item in January.

Action Clerk

Proposals for consideration were to be sent to the Clerk by January 4th 2017 and in open session the following possibilities were put forward as opportunities:

Renovation of church gates, pillars and walls (previously approved in 2014)

NBC Environmental proposal for seagull management

Assistance for Shrimps

The Warren – possibly a joint project with SHDC – to be followed up by Clerk

Additional funding for Lengthsmen

The Council will make the final decision on items to be included in the Precept calculation.

10.0 TAP Fund:

The Clerk to confirm deadline for submissions but added that projects needed to be of benefit to the community.

Action Clerk

Cllr Carson suggested the layby in Bigbury-on-Sea could be a potential project and perhaps this could be linked with the Warren. Councillors were asked to consider other options and submit them to the Clerk for inclusion in the January meeting.

Action Clerk

11.0 Correspondence:

The Clerk confirmed that a further grant of £200 was being considered by DCC in respect of the hearing loop recently installed in the Memorial Hall.

12.0 Agenda item January 2017

The Chairman asked that the January agenda include an item – removal of Cllr Couper from the Parish Council. Clerk to ensure correct process is adopted.

Action Clerk

13.0 Meeting closed 09:20 pm and the Chairman gave his best seasonal wishes to all those present.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING; WEDNESDAY 11th January 2017 – starting at 7.30 pm.

Signed.....

Bryan Carson, Chairman, Bigbury Parish Council