

BIGBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Bigbury Parish Council meeting held in the Memorial Hall, St Ann's Chapel on WEDNESDAY 13th December 7.45pm.

PRESENT: Cllr. B Carson (in the chair), Cllrs: G Rosevear, C Case, S Smith, H Getley and Clerk R Matthews. Sixteen residents were present.

Declaration of Interest

The Chairman read out a statement in respect of Declaration of Interest

1.0 Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were received from D.Cllr. Huntley.

2.0 Minutes of previous meetings held on November 20th 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on November 20th 2017 were subject to an amendment in respect of minute 12 Finance. Cheque for £270.92 payable to R Matthews was in relation to office expenses and NOT salary. The Clerk further stated that salary is paid gross (not net) and the he is personally accountable to HMRC for payment of tax etc. This amendment was accepted and the minutes approved – proposed by Cllr. Carson, seconded by Cllr. Case and unanimously agreed by all Councillors. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

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

Playground project remains active

All other topics are covered in these minutes or included on a future agenda.

4.0 Open session

Resident A raised a concern that the exterior lights at the Golf Club were brighter and contributing to increasing levels of light pollution. **Clerk to contact Golf Club**

Resident B raised concerns in respect of the Sea Front application but before adding the detail, Cllr. Rosevear declared an interest but remained in the room.

Resident B complimented the Architects on the design of the houses but expressed concerns that the ground level had been unnecessarily raised to an unacceptable level. Plot 1 was 2.5mtrs higher than it needed to be and plot 2 was 1.5mtrs higher.

Resident C expressed a concern that this could provide opportunity to extend downwards.

Resident D commented that roof line should be slightly shallower.

Resident D confirmed the evidence had been submitted in respect of the St Ann's Chapel appeal and that as agreed at the prior Parish Council meeting Jubb had provided the professional advice. A decision was expected in January 2018.

Resident D passed on a message of best wishes and good luck from D.Cllr. Huntley in respect of the upcoming appeal hearing –Bay Café.

5.0 County Councillor's report

C.Cllr. Gilbert commented that he had received thank you messages in respect of the Highways work successfully completed on the Easton Road – this had been a long standing issue.

C.Cllr. Gilbert advised the meeting that as part of the budget review process currently being undertaken, there may be a possibility the public toilets in Bigbury-on-Sea could be converted to pay for use as opposed to being free. No decision had yet been taken and further updates

would follow although C.Cllr. Gilbert added the 20p charge had been successfully introduced in Kingsbridge.

C.Cllr Gilbert advised that Central Government 'pot hole' fund was £45million and that Devon had been allocated £1.75million adding that although this was good news, a total of 12,809kms of road had to be maintained.

C.Cllr. Gilbert stated the Highways conference was a success.

C.Cllr Gilbert stated that 20,000 tonnes of salt were available in depots for use across the County.

C.Cllr Gilbert stated that all of the residual waste from South Hams was now being processed in EFW (Energy From Waste) plants, with the Plymouth centre taking 95%. In response to a question from resident C, C.Cllr. Gilbert confirmed that the recycled blue and clear bags were not mixed as they were sent for processing. Resident E added that plastic waste was no longer being accepted by China and C.Cllr. Gilbert confirmed that the income from the sale of all waste was falling, adding to the financial challenges faced by the Council. C.Cllr Gilbert stated that the biggest opportunity for further improvements in re-cycling rates would come from better household segregation of food waste – too much was being included as general waste.

C.Cllr. Gilbert that the new inter-city fleet of trains was being introduced by the GWR franchise which should improve the service both in terms of meeting schedules and passenger comfort.

To conclude, C.Cllr Gilbert shared the following facts relating to mental health:

- 13,000 people in Devon have dementia
- £36million is the cost to NHS in Devon as a result of bed blocking
- Devon mental health budget is £180million
- 25% of doctors and 30% of nurses are due to retire from NHS in next 4 years

6.0 Planning applications and related matters:

Bay Café – oral hearing in respect of the listing as a Community Asset.

Cllr. Carson confirmed his attendance at this meeting on Monday 11th December, although this was in a 'listening' capacity as attendees were not allowed to speak. The outcome will follow although the precise date is not known. Resident D added that the community cannot take any action until the Café comes up for sale and in the meantime asked that community support the cause.

Bay Café planning appeal.

It was confirmed the appeal hearing would be held in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th December. Resident D urged as many residents as possible to attend and anyone who wanted to speak would be given the opportunity by the Inspector, who sets the agenda for the meeting. Residents did not need to stay for the entire two days and could come and go.

3545/17/FUL Seafront, Marine Drive, Bigbury-on-Sea, TQ7 4AS - Demolition of existing building and outbuildings and erection of #2 replacement dwellings including creation of new access off Marine Drive

As previously recorded in minute 4, Cllr. Rosevear re-stated he had declared an interest and left the room.

Cllr. Case considered the design to be much improved and wished to acknowledge the efforts of the architect to address the previous issues raised. The views expressed by the public in the 'open session' were also considered relevant by the Parish Council members who wish to see a common design, style and height of all properties on what is effectively the front row of Bigbury-on-Sea. Cllr. Case proposed the Parish Council object to the proposal for the reasons previously expressed. Cllr. Getley seconded the proposal and the Councillors agreed unanimously.

4015/17/HHO – The Old rectory, - Application for conversion of existing store and bedroom over into ancillary carers accommodation, to include new windows and infill of existing up and over door aperture with a new front door.

The Councillors reviewed the application and supporting drawings and Cllr. Case proposed the application be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Smith and the agreed unanimously by the remaining Councillors, although Cllr. Carson abstained from voting.

4066/17/HHO – Long Easton – retrospective application for landscaping and engineering works within garden and entrance to property.

Although SHDC planners had notified the Clerk of this application no further information had been received. It was agreed to defer this until the next meeting (January 2018)

7.0 Neighbourhood Plan

Valerie Scott gave a detailed update on the Neighbourhood Plan and the full detail has been included as an appendix to these minutes. Valerie put forward the following statement as the vision for the future of the Parish.....

'To conserve and enhance the unique and special character of our rural and coastal community retaining its heritage significance and its outstanding natural beauty, whilst considering sensitive enhancements for the benefit of residents and visitors.'

Cllr. Rosevear proposed this be accepted and Cllr. Carson seconded the proposal. The Councillors voted unanimously to accept the statement.

Valerie further identified the need for £10,000 to be sent on fees (see appendix for details). A grant would be applied for to cover this expenditure. Cllr. Rosevear proposed this be accepted and Cllr. Carson seconded the proposal. The Councillors voted unanimously in favour.

Valerie stated there was need to list the Heritage sites within the Bigbury area – these should be documented. In 2018 she will engage with the community and children within the community to undertake this task.

8.0 Layby – Bigbury-on-Sea

Clerk had received five responses to the request for suggestions as to how to re-model the lay-by. All were clearly against making any changes, a view which will be respected by the Council. However, the responses clearly identified a need for more maintenance and upkeep to take place. To this end the Clerk will re-read old e mails and prepare a list of 'tasks' to be undertaken and it was hoped some of these would be completed by volunteers and where this was not possible the Parish Council would employ contractors to undertake the work.

Action Clerk

Resident C raised the issue of where coaches can park, either to drop people off or for longer periods. This needs further discussion with SHDC and will be raised with C.Cllr. Gilbert at the next meeting (January).

Action C.Cllr Gilbert

9.0 Finance: Approval of payments to be made and presentation of finance statement

Clerk presented the following for payment. Cllr. Carson proposed this be accepted which was seconded by Cllr. Getley and all councillors agreed. Clerk was to raise cheques.

£38.28 – BT group – rental cost line and broadband Memorial Hall. Paid by direct debit

£692.24 – B Cole – provision of waste skip

£106.84 – V Scott – expenses relating to Neighbourhood plan

£84.00 – S Smith – re-imbursement of expenditure on hi-viz jackets

£6.00 – IADALC – annual membership of Ivybridge Council group

£1,680.00 – Jubb – professional fees St Ann's Chapel

The re-imbursement of re-cycling credits is to be investigated.

Action Clerk

Clerk showed a slide of the current cash book and bank reconciliation statement showing a balance of £23,252.64 as at November 30th 2017.

Clerk showed a statement of restricted and reserved funding with a balance of £3090.06.

Clerk showed a new slide detailing S106 funds held by SHDC - £97,578 for affordable housing projects and £26,882 for OSSR projects.

10.0 TAP fund

Clerk confirmed an application had been made for a grant to cover the full cost of establishing an air ambulance landing site at Bigbury Golf Club.

Cllr. Carson shared details of the application made by Thurlestone Parish Council in respect of a proposal to improve internet access and broadband speeds, proposing that Bigbury also make an application to the value of £1,500 as a partnership project. Cllr. Case seconded the proposal and the Councillors unanimously agreed. **Action Clerk**

11.0 Correspondence

Full details of all correspondence can be found on the Bigbury Community website but for reference the summary of documents received is as follows:

Letter from Natural England headed Coastal Access. Improvements to public access along the Devon coast between Cremyll and Kingswear.

Devon Communities Together – letter in respect of membership renewal

E Mail from SHDC in respect of review of access to public toilets

E Mail from SHDC in respect of review of Life-Guard cover

Letter from Devon Communities Together – the big energy saving network

Correspondence from Mr Sail – Freedom of Information request (FOI)

Clerk advised that a response had been sent and as requested by the Council Chairman had provided a breakdown of the cost of responding.

Cllr. Rosevear summarised the background behind this request.

E Mail from Devon Highways in respect of broken traffic mirror – St Ann’s Chapel.

16.0 Agenda items for next meeting

It was agreed to add Bigbury News, Playground, Footpath update, Church fund, 2018 precept and calendar of 2018 meetings to the agenda of the January meeting.

Meeting closed 09:50 pm

DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY MEETING - WEDNESDAY JANUARY 10th at 7:30 p.m.

Signed.....Bryan Carson, Chairman, Bigbury Parish Council